

**Message:** DOC/17/4863

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Hi

As a reader I have read of deaths related to drunk drivers killing passengers â€” where is that recorded?

Suggestion â€” report accidents correctly â€” eg when a 5yr old girl is killed off the back of a drunk driver of a quad, is it really the quads fault â€” why? When someone forgets they just built a fence and drive through it and kill themselves how is it the fault of the quad?

Suggestion â€” stop penalizing or blaming us for stupidity â€” why should we be paying for someone else's stupidly.

IN the days of old everyone had a Suzuki which is a little ute. The Au Gov decided we werenâ€™t allowed to have them so people were forced to go to quads which needs workers to wear helmets â€” something which is highly user unfriendly in this heat.

Suggestion - Maybe you can do something about making helmets more user friendly in 40+ degree heat although if someone falls badly, they cause damage too especially with a big visor.

Suggest you have ride a bike in 40+ and see how long you can hack it.

Suzukiâ€™s have a cab and seatbelts and so should be much safer and shady although not many things are safe with idiotsâ€”

Suggestion - what about letting people have Suzuki's again although the horse may have already bolted. New Zealand kept the Suzuki for farm use only â€” they are not able to be registered there for road use â€” so still

are main farm vehicles.

With regard to idiots â€” unfortunately as a cattle producer, we have employed hundreds of people over several years and we seem to be getting more and more idiots and I am starting to think they just have no idea of keeping themselves â€” apart from keeping contacts on facebook/email and getting grogged up , shagged or keeping their smokes on them, there seems to be very little mental activity available to put towards their job.

Trying to get people to think is next to impossible and this year, I have even been told by 2 employees that they shouldnâ€™t have to think or bother to know what is going on around them.

I have explained that this is a life skill and they just donâ€™t get it. So how can employers keep these people safe? I think it is time to start blaming the person doing the stupid thing and fine them instead of always penalizing the little employers while the big employers can get away from penalties by using big lawyers.

Suggestion â€” stop getting driven by worksafe as compo shouldnâ€™t be available for stupidity. Until they pay, they arenâ€™t going to try to be responsible. This is a two way street not a one way because you can get at the employer.

People simple arenâ€™t getting taught to think â€” is it because they have their heads stuck in some sort of computer? Is it because the parents are too busy to keep them off computers? Are children not getting enough sleep and are growing stupid from it? Are they just bred stupid? Are kids getting more stupid from the damage done to them in utero?? Are kids getting stupid from too much fast foods poisoning their system or drugs frying their brains be it underage drinking/smoking/drugs etc ???

Donâ€™t know but know they are getting so much more stupid that they are dangerous to themselves to their fellow workers and a hazard for their employers.

You want to try to train them â€” got news for you â€” training them is like trying to catch a dream. Today you explain tonight they forget, tomorrow you explain again and by nightfall they have forgotten. We tie radios on them so they can call back, we give them written instructions

so they can read them, we draw out the instructions so that they can see it if they can't follow written word, and do you know, they still get everything wrong - they put lick in wrong paddocks and kill cattle, they open wrong gates and let out costly mustered cattle. We explain what a heifer is and what a steer is and tomorrow they can't remember yet they know that a penis goes into a vagina/vulva as they practice that every weekend, yet they can't see the connection between a animal with a fanny being a female - this being after a year of being employed by us and I might add after 3 years working in the rural industry and growing up on a rural block with cattle.

I hope you aren't going to think this is a yarn - believe me this is our reality. Good luck trying to train them when after 3 years of handling cattle, they can't remember what the difference between a bull, cow and steer are. This person put a complaint in to the apprentice trainee lady that we weren't teaching her properly and the lady ended up after trying to teach her herself explaining that maybe after this amount of time, it wasn't really a teachable thing.

Well I don't think safety is always a teachable thing. And penalizing us for their stupidity is wrong. Telling us we have to sack someone because they are stupid is penalizing us. Next employee will be just as stupid, cost us more to orientate and be just as untrainable and we are trying to get a job done.

thanking you for reading this, I am tired. We work long hours but I feel we as employers are getting blamed solely

Jenny James