

## The Safety Bicycle: An Enduring Design with Lasting Impacts

### 1. Introduction

- a. The paper will begin by commenting on the surprising timelessness of the design of the safety bicycle despite its invention in the late 1870's.
- b. The paper will then begin introducing the topics to be explored in the rest of the paper, starting with a review of the design decisions that helped distinguish the safety from earlier models.
- c. The paper will continue by foreshadowing the immediate reactions to the safety as well as some of the social effects produced by its use.
- d. The introduction will conclude with a foreshadowing of future impacts of bicycles on health, transportation, and infrastructure.
- e. The thesis of the paper is that the timelessness of the design of the safety can be attributed to its versatility and inherent adaptability to meeting human transportation needs.

### 2. Section One: The Design

- a. The first source, *BICYCLE TECHNOLOGY*, will help explore the history of bicycle, including the first hobby-horse, penny farthing up to the Rover bicycle.
- b. The second source, *THE VICTOR SAFETY BICYCLE*, will provide a more in-depth examination at an American bicycle model whose designs are heavily inspired by those of the Rover.

### 3. Section Two: Immediate Reception

- a. To illustrate the public view of bicycles before the safety, the video of *The Penny Farthing Bike Race (1928) | British Pathé*, will help illustrate the awkward mobility of the safety's predecessor and why it was considered dangerous.

- b. *A Frenchman's Views on the Safety Bicycle as it Now is and its Probable Future* will be used to contrast the negative perceptions of the penny-farthing with the safety.
- 4. Section Three: Social Impacts
  - a. *Rapid Transit to Salvation: American Protestants and the Bicycle in the Era of the Cycling Craze* will be used to illustrate the beginnings of a new zeal for bicycles, thereby illustrating cultural impacts of the technology.
  - b. Both *Built environment determinants of bicycle volume: A longitudinal analysis* and *Bicycling for Transportation and Health: The Role of Infrastructure* are sources that will examine the impact of bicycle technology on changing infrastructure in addition to exploring the way bicycles meet the human needs of fitness and transportation.
- 5. Conclusion
  - a. The conclusion will be a simple restatement of the introduction and will possibly include references to innovations on bicycle designs to attempt to meet the needs of transportation in different ways.