# [***Drivers face lots of distractions***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:4J90-PDP0-TX77-B30K-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Byline:** Norm Laing, The Citizen

**Body**

Dear sir:

Why I think ***cellphones*** should not be entirely banned in automobiles: The claim made is that the ***cellphone*** distracts the driver and can contribute to accidents.

I agree that taking one hand off the wheel to dial up and talk on the ***cellphone*** can take the driver's focus off the road long enough under the right circumstances to perhaps cause one to become involved in an accident.

To alleviate this, I believe a hands-free ***cellphone*** or some similar technology is the answer. While some people would argue that hands-free ***cellphones*** also take focus off the road, I don't believe a hands-free phone takes any more focus off the road than inserting a CD or a tape into the player and listening to it, or the distraction of listening to passengers and talking to them. How many mothers and fathers have leaned over to deal with distracting young children in their cars, thereby losing focus on the road? Are we to ban CDs, tapes and passengers, especially small children, from automobiles because of their distracting influences?

How many accidents are caused by these other three distractions? Let's get real. While steps need to be taken in dealing with ***cellphone*** use in automobiles, let's not go overboard.

Norm Laing

Prince George

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