

Jane Smith  
Dr. Williams  
Eng. 101-A01  
3 Aug. 2016

MLA Format: double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins

Smith 1

### Sample Annotated Bibliography

#### Thesis

Working Thesis: Since current efforts to curb texting while driving through legislation are proving ineffective, activists should focus their efforts on persuading car manufacturers to install safety devices in new cars that prevent drivers from texting while driving.

#### Citation 1

Jones, Joe. "Texting While Driving Legislation Proving Useless." *Transportation Safety*, edited by Frank Harvey, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., vol. 3, Singleton, 2016, pp. 80-89.

#### Summary

This book chapter discusses a study done in 2014 by the National Highway Traffic Safety Agency, a division of the U.S. Department of Transportation, where they looked at the number of car accidents caused by texting while driving in states with legislation banning texting while driving. They compared the number of accidents before and after the law was passed and found that there was no reduction in these accidents, even after the law had been in place for over three years and there had been multiple publicity campaigns to raise awareness.

#### Evaluation

The chapter was written by Joe Jones, who is a law professor at the University of Michigan specializing in transportation legislation. Because of his expertise in the field, he should be a reliable author to write about the subject. The book *Transportation Safety* was published by Singleton, which is a well-respected publisher of reference material for academic libraries. The book was published in 2016 but the statistics all came from 2014, so in my paper, I'll have to consider that the numbers may have changed. The source of the statistics, though, is very reliable because the National Highway Traffic Safety Agency is the government agency responsible for collecting national statistics on car accidents. The source is not biased because they support texting while driving bans, so the fact that they show no improvement helps support their objectiveness.

#### Your Use

This book chapter supports the first part of my argument that claims texting while driving bans are ineffective; this will be the first point I address in my paper in order to convince my audience that car safety devices are a better solution. I will also use the chapter for the statistics and background it provides on which states have texting while driving bans and how the bans were passed, so I can show how much effort has been focused on passing legislation.

### Annotation 1

## Citation 2

Smith, Sue. "New Device May Help Prevent Texting While Driving." *Car and Driver*, 23 Jan. 2015, pp. 12-14. *Gale Power Search*.

## Annotation 2

## Summary

This article discusses a new safety device, currently marketed towards parents of teen drivers, that disables a cell phone's texting, emailing, and phoning ability while the car is on. *Car and Driver* magazine reviewed and tested the product and gave it good reviews on functionality but pointed out the obvious problem with the product: it's optional for people to buy, and it can be unplugged by a driver at any time, which renders it useless. However, they also report that the maker of the device is working on a system that will alert parents whenever the device is unplugged, which should make it more effective at curbing teen texting while driving. This

## Evaluation

article was written by Sue Smith, who is a staff journalist with *Car and Driver*, a well-known car-enthusiast magazine that primarily focuses on reviews of cars and car-products. Because the car industry is the magazine's area of expertise, and they have over fifty years of experience in reviewing car products, they should be a reliable source for a review of a car product. This

## Your Use

article provides information on a product that I'm arguing could be part of a better solution to prevent texting while driving. I will use this article as my basis to argue that having car manufacturers install this device would eliminate the weaknesses in the product pointed out by this article: that it can be unplugged and that an individual has to decide to purchase and install the device.

### Format for English 101 & English 102 Annotated Bibliography

1. MLA Header: Include a standard MLA header in the top-right corner of every page with your last name and page number.
2. Standard MLA Format: Double space the entire annotated bibliography, and use a standard 12-point font such as Times New Roman. Use 1-inch margins.
3. Standard MLA Heading: Begin with the normal MLA heading (your name, instructor's name, course section, and date (in the top-left corner)
4. Title: On the next line, title your paper Annotated Bibliography and center it in the middle of the page
5. Working Thesis: Then include your working thesis statement that you're going to use in your research paper (and your annotated bibliography).
6. Bibliography: List MLA citations for at least 5 sources and arrange them in alphabetical order.
7. Annotations: Under each citation, write a paragraph about each source that includes:
  - a. Several sentences **summarizing** what the source said. **Hint**: Ask yourself what the main point of this source was and what conclusions the author came to.
  - b. Then several sentences **evaluating the credibility** of the source - more info at [Annotated Bibliography website](http://library.sccsc.edu/SubjectGuides/english/annotated-bibliography.asp#evaluating) (<http://library.sccsc.edu/SubjectGuides/english/annotated-bibliography.asp#evaluating>).
  - c. Finally, a sentence or two about **how you are going to use** this source to support your thesis when you write your research paper. **Hint**: Ask yourself how this work is useful or relevant to your topic? What did you take away from the source that you could use in your argument?