

**Jason Francis**

Junior Division Behavioral & Social Sciences

*Texting Trouble: True Or False ?*

The purpose of this experiment is to determine if talking and texting on a cell phone will affect an individual's reaction time. The data showed that reaction time was affected by these activities. Talking on a cell phone decreased reaction time. Texting decreased reaction time to a significant degree. The procedure that was set up first included safety verification by the school nurse, since human subjects were being used. Parental consent forms were also completed. For the experiment the student was asked to complete a reaction time test of 5 trials as a control. The subjects were then asked to hold a cell phone and answer question orally while taking the reaction time test for 5 trials. Finally subjects were asked to reply with text messaging to questions that were texted to them while taking the reaction time test. All data was charted and then graphed. In analyzing the data, it was discovered that both talking and texting on a cell phone cause a decrease in reaction time. This should be considered when participating in other activities at the same time, such as driving. In conclusion, my hypothesis was correct. Talking or texting on a cell phone does affect reaction time.