

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

Are Facebook & Twitter To Blame For Car Accidents?

By **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on July 18, 2011

Is it really necessary to tell your friends where you're driving? Or, what about the fantastic new Lady Gaga song? What about the spicy hot dog with cheese you had for lunch?

Maybe I'm a bit out-dated (though you can still following the [Child Injury Laws Blog on Facebook](#)), but I really don't have any urgency to share my instantaneous thoughts with the world-- particularly when I'm on the road.

Apparently, I'm in the minority. A recent Medill Report Chicago, [article](#) by Jeff Beck, "Facebook status: I'm in the car" detailed how many car manufacturers are adding "in-car connectivity" to their new models previewed at the Chicago Auto Show. As if driving is not enough stimulation, the new products allow drivers to access social networks, e-mail and text while driving.

Even if some of these functions can be carried out via voice commands, it seems as though the new features are simply an invitation to interact as we drive. I mean, what fun is it to announce to the world that you're 'stuck in traffic' if you can't access the responses from others showing compassion for your situation via responding to your update or tweet?

Frankly, I find the new technologies to be more of a distraction to drivers and a real threat to others on the road.

Jonathan Rosenfeld offers legal services relating to: birth injuries, medical malpractice, day care abuse, foster care abuse, swimming pool injuries, automobile accidents, school bus accidents, dog bites, food poisoning, product liability, amusement park accidents and clergy abuse. For more information please visit Child Injury Laws Blog (<http://www.childinjurylaws.com/>) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757. (www.rosenfeldinjurylawyers.com.)

Ironically, within minutes of reading about this new auto-technology, I saw an article in the Chicago Tribune about a recently filed lawsuit that alleges that a driver struck and killed a pedestrian as she was updating her Facebook page with her cell phone! According to the lawsuit, a man exited his car and called 911 to notify them of an auto accident he was involved in-- at the exact same time the driver posted her Facebook update!

Surely, social networking has its place and utility, but we all must remember that no update is worth jeopardizing the safety of yourself or those around you.

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