The National Road Safety Foundation, Inc.
18 East 50th Street
New York, NY 10022

SPEED & AGGRESSION TOOL KIT

Aggressive Driving Kills
CAGE THE RAGE

Cage the Rage – 6:42 minutes
A community program developed in 2003, by an association of traffic safety leaders on Long Island, NY to reduce aggressive driving. We’ve all seen instances and road rage - there is a thin line between the two.

Central discussion themes include: Personal responsibility, recognizing escalating risks, how to avoid potentially dangerous situations.

In outline for student discussion section:
Ask students if they are or know an aggressive driver? Examples would be if you:
• Express frustration. Taking out frustrations on fellow motorists can lead to violence or a crash.
• Fail to pay attention. Reading, eating, drinking or talking on the phone, can lead to a major crash.
• Tailgate. This is a major cause of crashes which can result in death or serious injuries.
• Moving in and out of lanes, especially at higher speeds is a danger to other motorists.
• Do not enter an intersection trying to beat the yellow light.
• Going faster than the posted speed limit or going too fast for road conditions.

Countermeasures to discuss:
When confronted with aggressive drivers…
• Get out of the way. VERY important to avoid escalating an aggressive behavior into an even more dangerous situation.
• Put your pride aside. Do not challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold-your-own in your travel lane.
• Eye contact can further enrage an aggressive driver.
• Gestures. Ignore gestures and refuse to return them.
• Report serious aggressive driving. Pull over at a safe location and call the police.

source NHTSA.gov

ONE SECOND IN TIME

One Second in Time - 13:47 Minutes
Gresham, OR, 2001, an impulsive, “seemingly everyday” challenge to race spun out of control. The split-second choice cost a young girl her life and two young men imprisonment for criminally negligent homicide. Edgar Islas-Moran shattered the family he loved and Matthew McAfee fled the tragedy he instigated. Neither meant it; now both must live with it.

Central discussion themes include:
personal responsibility, unintended consequences, recognizing clues of escalating risk, how to intervene in personal situations.

1. Show “One Second In Time”
2. Concentric Circle Game for student discussion:

Half the Students arrange their chairs in an inner circle facing outward. The other half arranges their chairs in an outer circle, facing inward. Everyone should have a partner. Inner circle students get a slip of paper with a character name & quote. They read the quote & ask the outer circle partner:

1. Who are you?
2. What was your role?
3. What were your feelings?
4. How could you have changed the course of events?
5. How Quickly can thing Go Wrong?

Allow 5 Minutes for discussion. Then, everyone in the outer circle stands & moves clockwise one chair so all have new partners. Repeat the process. Continue as time permits. The inner circle can also move counterclockwise.

1. Has there been a drag-racing crash or fatality in your community?
2. What situations have students been in, what would they do?
3. How quickly can emotions, adrenaline and hormones over-ride judgment?
4. What steps can you take to protect yourself before and when they do?
5. Is there a race track near you with an off-street racing program?
AJ Pomante
“Edgar was like a big brother to me and I really liked him a lot until he did this to our family. It really made us all sad.”

Officer Durbin
“The driver was dazed, very upset. There were still three kids inside. The back of the car was basically obliterated. I slipped my hand behind Kristal’s head and I thought what I was holding onto was a bun of her hair or ponytail.”

Edgar Islas-Moran
“It’s pretty hard to deal with this. It’s the first time I’ve ever been in trouble. It never came to mind that it could happen that quick. I lost pretty much everything in that one second.”

Mathew McAffee
“Every night I lay in bed and think about what I could’ve changed. It’s a good program, for self-discipline, confronting behaviors, which destroy your life and family.”

Mrs. Pomante
“We got a phone call. My dad said, ‘Your kids were in an accident. You need to come home because Krystal needs you.’”

Jenni Pomante
“Never take your life for granted. Don’t ever think you don’t have a say in what happens to your life. If you have a feeling that something bad could happen, tell him to stop or tell him to drop you off and get out of the car. Your life is too precious to risk over something stupid, like racing.”

Judge Baker
“This problem is with people who do not think before they act. Is it worth it? You’re going to carry with you, for the rest of your life, that feeling inside that you can’t get rid of, of what you’ve done to another human being.”

Mr. Pomante
“This kid did not do drugs, did not drink, did not smoke. We felt very safe that our kids were with him. I know he’s hurting very much inside.”

District Attorney
“It’s often easy for people who know they’re sorry to think, ‘Gosh, please don’t punish me.’ Then I have the victim’s family. To them there’s no amount of jail that’s enough, oftentimes. These are very difficult cases and everyone seems to lose.”
We are delighted you have chosen our program to help reduce auto accidents. We are pleased to send you the material you requested free of charge, however, to continue our efforts in this direction we would welcome your contribution of any amount. We remain committed to reducing carnage on our roads and we commend your efforts to reach that goal.

--- Fraydun Manocherian, Founder of The National Road Safety Foundation, Inc