**Safety-oriented On-road Practices of Adult Bicycle Riders in Brooklyn, New York USA**

**Interview Questions**

**#4, Sheephead Bay Cycle Shop, recruited 7-28, interviewed 7-30-2018.**

**TO116E02.mp3**

*Background Questions:*

1. What is your age? (Were you born prior to this month and day in the year 2000?)

**30**

1. What is your race or ethnicity?

**White**

1. What is your gender?

**Male**

1. What is the highest level of education that you completed?

**Master’s**

1. How long (in months or years) have you been riding bicycles?

**About a year consistently**

1. How long (in months or years) have you been riding bicycles in Brooklyn?

**A year**

1. Compared to most other bicycle riders you have observed, are you more careful, less careful, or about the same?

**About the same**

1. Have you been in any bicycle crashes that involved other vehicles or pedestrians?

**Not a crash but a scuffle.**

[Do you mind describing what happened?]

**I hit the sideview mirror.**

During the past 12 months…..

1. What have been the main reasons or purposes for going bicycle riding? (Commute? Errands? Transportation to other locations? Exercise? Recreation? Part of your job? Other?)

**Workout and leisure and commuting to work.**

1. On average, how frequently have you ridden your bicycle?

**3-5 times a week.**

1. On average, how long (in minutes) did you ride each time you go bicycling?

**Usually it’s about 30 minutes.**

1. How much of your bicycle riding took place when there was a lot of motor vehicle traffic?

**All the time.**

1. How much of your bicycle riding took place in darkness or low light conditions such as dusk?

**Less than half.**

[Would you say more than a third?]

**I’d say a third. About a third.**

*Primary study questions:*

1. From the perspective of safety, what is it like to go bicycle riding in the streets of Brooklyn?

**Crazy on any – on any – what is it? Two-way, two-way street -- two-way double street – so, like Avenue P, Coney Island Avenue, Ocean Avenue, the ones that are -- have lots of lanes.**

[f/u Q: do you do a lot of riding on those double-lane …..?]

**I do enough. I do -- Half of my bike ride to work is on Avenue D, and then I go down – and then I go down Bay Parkway, I go down 77th -- 78th, where it’s just one lane.**

[f/u A: You used the word “crazy” – can you tell me more specifically what you experience?]

**In those kind of lanes, there’s lots of lane switching without proper guidelines –** [I’m sorry – without proper - ?] **Without proper – there are -- cars are switching lanes without doing proper traffic laws? I don’t know the word is I’m looking for here -- They’re not following traffic laws.**

1. For a bicycle rider in Brooklyn, what are the most common dangers or hazards that confront a bicycle rider? Are there particular things you do while riding to avoid them?

**I mean – so -- Cars switching lanes without looking. UPS trucks – the UPS trucks, the Fedex trucks, the USPS trucks creating dangerous on the road – more than trucks.**

[f/u Q: Can you describe what they do that makes them especially --]

**They speed – they speed a lot. Especially UPS.**

Are there things you do to avoid them?

**Depending on the street, I either take a detour or I go on the sidewalk if I really have to. I also let them go ahead of me. If that’s a thing. But I like to – I mean -- half the reason to ride on the street is to not go as slow as on the sidewalk.**

[I’m sorry – I missed that. Can you say that again?]

**Sure. Half the reason I – half the reason I go on the street is because it is much faster than going on the sidewalk.**

1. Are there dangers or hazards that are difficult or impossible for a bicycle rider to see and react to?

**People opening doors without looking. It’s mostly people not looking before they are doing something – people opening doors, cars switching lanes, people trying to cross the street not at a crosswalk without looking.**

Are there particular things you do while riding to avoid them?

**I have my hand on the brake all the time. I actually got my brakes fixed on Sunday just in case of that.**

1. Please describe things you have seen other bicycle riders do that you consider to be dangerous.

**One second – let me think about that.**

**Not wearing a helmet, in particularly the really dangerous roads. Going in the opposite of traffic. Cell phone usage on – while bike-riding.** [I’m sorry – say that again.] **Cell phone usage while on bike. I think those are probably the biggest – yeah.**

1. If it were your job to teach other adult bicyclists how to stay safe while riding in the streets of Brooklyn, what particular instructions would you give them?

**Pay attention to the road, that is your main thing. Be prepared to stop at any – at any notice. Do not race a car. And let trucks pass – very important, trucks always have to pass.**

[f/u Q: Anything else you want to add to that?]

**If you have to ride on the sidewalk, go slow – pedestrians have the right-of-way there. Don’t ride in the rain if you don’t have to. I would say that’s it.**

1. Imagine for a moment that, right now, you are riding on a Brooklyn street along with other traffic. Tell me all the different things you are doing to keep yourself safe and avoid a crash or collision as you ride.

**I mean -- Keep my hand on the brake. Keep both arms on the steering. Look – depending where you -- Depending which side of the road you are on, look at the car that is moving with you -- and watch for a turn signal.**

**What else do I do? I know I do more things. I can’t think of anything other than what I have already said.**

1. Now I would like to throw out a few words or phrases and ask you if they trigger any additional thoughts about how to ride safely:

* **Intersections**

**Stop at red, go on green.**

* **Traffic signs and signals**

**Imagine that you are a motorcycle.** [I’m sorry – say that again.] **Imagine that you are a motorcycle, so follow the same rules.**

* Right-of-way

**Pedestrians have right-of-way, trucks have right-of-way by size.**

* Pedestrians

**Just be careful and go slow around them.**

* Speed

**Try to go as fast as you can while being safe.**

* Respect

**I mean – Just respect people and respect the machines next to you.** [I’m sorry – say that again.] **Sure -- Respect people and respect the machines next to you.**

* Trucks, buses

**Avoid at all costs.**

* Parked cars

**Be careful for their sideview mirrors.**

* “Taking the lane”

**I don’t know – normal?** [Say again?] **Normal practice.** [I’m sorry – I didn’t get that.] **Normal practice.**

* Pet peeves

**UPS trucks. And I would actually say minivans as well.**

[f/u Q: And minivans because - ?]

**It’s the same thing for me. It’s all Avenue P – UPS trucks and minivans are probably the worst drivers. They make me take a detour on West 6th at Quentin Road and go up to East 13th.**

1. Please feel free to offer any other thoughts about the topics we have discussed today.

**I mean, I think I’m good – I got most of my beefs out. It’s just -- I don’t think cars and trucks respect bikers in the lane. I think that’s a big thing.**

[f/u Q: Anything else?]

**No, I think that’s it.**

Thank you very much for participating in this research study and especially for taking the time and effort to complete this interview with me.