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

**Interview Questions**

**#22, Dean & Classon, recruited November 4, interviewed November 5, 2018.**

**TO219E01.mp3**

*Background Questions:*

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

**37**

1. What is your race or ethnicity?

**African-American**

1. What is your gender?

**Female**

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?

**Since I was 7 – so 30 years.**

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

**I’d say, about 5 years.**

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

**I’d say I’m about the same.**

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

**No.**

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?)

**It’s just my general way of getting around – for transportation.**

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

**I’d say, at least, like, 6 times a week.**

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

**I’d say, like, an hour.**

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

**I would say most of it, maybe like 90%.**

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

**A lot less, ….. like maybe 15%.**

*Primary study questions:*

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

**I think, just in general, its – now, if I have, like, a regular, like, path that I take, I feel relatively confident, because I can usually -- it’s usually around the same time so I know, like, what the traffic patterns are going to be like. It’s more when I ride in different neighborhoods where it gets a little bit tricky because there’s a lot of people who, like, double-park or, you know, cars won’t necessarily give you the right-of-way if someone’s double-parked, so I think that’s where the difficulty lies.**

1. For a bicycle rider in Brooklyn, what are the most common dangers or hazards that confront a bicycle rider?

**Yeah, I would say definitely, double-parked cars, and also, like, pedestrians who aren’t paying attention, and, like, delivery men who have, like, the motorized bikes. Yeah.**

For those things you mentioned, are there particular things you do while you’re riding to avoid them?

**Just to be, like, extra cautious, making sure, like, when I’m going around the double-parked cars that, like, I’m not going, like, riding into traffic coming on, and always – just like, same thing you would do when you’re driving a car – kind of anticipate what other people are doing, especially with pedestrians, so even if they don’t have the right-of-way or the light but if there are not cars coming, then they tend to cross the street anyway, even if they see a bike, so kind of anticipating that.**

[f/u Q: Are there any particular things you do while you’re riding to avoid the delivery guys on their electric bicycles?

**No, there’s not much you can do about that, unfortunately.**

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

**No, I don’t think so.**

NOT ASKED: Are there particular things you do while riding to avoid them?

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

**I think, kind of, like, weaving through traffic often is a thing. Or – and I mean, I’m guilty of it too, like, I don’t always stop at red lights. But I’ve seen people, like -- usually it’s, like, I’ll do it when I feel, like, super confident it’s clear, but I’ve seen people kind of chance it – (*some garbled stuff)* Yeah, just like, not stopping at stop signs, or going through red lights without really checking to see if it’s clear.**

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?

**Yeah, actually I just thought about his now – also people who, like, listen to headphones – which, again, I’m guilty of, but I usually put it just, like, in one ear, so it’s not, like, completely -- noise isn’t completely eliminated. So I would say definitely, like, if you’re doing that, do that or don’t listen to music at all. Wear your helmet, of course. When it’s dark out, put your lights on, for sure. And just really just be as cautious as you would be in a regular motor vehicle.**

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.

**So I am – stopping at stop signs, stopping at red lights, I’m also being super cautious if cars are double-parked, and I’m not going into the regular car lane. Just basically, like, checking my surroundings at all times – (*unintelligible 1-2 words*) -- you know, kind of anticipate what other people are going to do. *(unintelligible)***

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

**Always stop.**

* Traffic signs and signals

***(unintelligible*) got a ticket two weeks ago for not stopping completely at the red light, so everyone should do that, yeah.**

[Sorry to hear that – that’s an annoyance.]

**Yeah, it was, like – it was ridiculous, it was, like, a whole thing, and they, like, put on their sirens and put on the loudspeaker, it was just over the top for no reason.**

[Anything you want to add before we go on?]

**Nope – we’re good.**

* Right-of-way

**Yeah – don’t always assume that folks really follow that.**

* Pedestrians

**Always be cautious – they can come out from any direction.**

[I’m sorry, what was the last thing you said?]

**I said, they can just come out from any direction.**

* Speed

**Try not to concentrate on that. Safety is more important than, you know, trying to beat a light or a car or get to your destination. You just don’t know – like, New York is not just cars and, you know, pedestrians -- you have to be careful also because there are a lot of potholes, even in the bike lanes, so just proceed with caution.**

* Respect

**Yeah, as much as it’s frustrating to be a cyclist, because if you feel like people don’t necessarily consider you or respect you, it’s important to have that reciprocity, so, you know, you do the same thing for pedestrians and cars as well.**

* Trucks, buses

**Are scary. I’d be very careful, just -- I don’t know if they – it’s, like – I don’t know if they have, like, huge blind spots because it’s a smaller, like, vehicle but -- yeah, just -- I feel like whenever I’m riding next to them, even in the bike lane I feel like they’re very close and with very large tires and very scary.**

* Parked cars

**Yeah – there -- again --- always there’s double-parking, especially when it’s, you know, opposite side parking and in the morning and folks are moving back and forth, you have to be really cautious of that, and then at nighttime, especially, like, on dark streets, you just have to be really aware of that as well – because really, you’ll run into them.**

* “Taking the lane” [provided a definition]

**Yeah, I think it’s, you know, potentially dangerous. Unfortunately, there aren’t necessarily, like, bike lanes everywhere, and I’ve had that where I’ve commuted into the City a few times and a bike lane will just turn into, like, a regular street lane, and you have kind of, like, no other option but to do that, and, you know, if you can avoid it, definitely do; if you can’t, just be as cautious as you can until you can get, like, on a proper bike lane.**

* Pet peeves

**I think, just people who just aren’t – you know, using the word respect again – respectful of cyclists, who clearly can, like – they see that there’s a car that’s double-parked and you need to get around it, and they’re, like, beeping, or they won’t let you go in front of them, and it’s just really frustrating. Because you’re trying to, like, obey the law, but if other people aren’t, then it makes it difficult. You know, I think that’s kind of the nature of New York City, too – everyone’s trying to get somewhere.** [I’m sorry – say that last part again.] **(*unintelligible*) that’s the nature of New York City – everyone’s just trying to get somewhere (*unintelligible 1-2 words*).**

[Just to make sure that I understand, what do you feel is the best thing to do with regard to -- when you’re around people who you feel don’t respect you as a bicyclist?]

**Sorry -- can you give me that one more time?**

[In order to be safe, what do you feel is the best practice around people who you feel don’t respect you as a bicyclist?]

**Oh – Yeah -- of course, practically, like, wear your helmet. Also, have some patience. Try to, you know, obey the laws as much as you can, by, you know, riding in bike lanes when they’re there, stopping at stop signs, stopping at red lights, just basically following the rules and the law.**

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

**I don’t think I have anything else – I think it’s great……**

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