

# Example of Debate Speech Text

## **Debate: Are cell phones dangerous?**

I believe that cell phones are dangerous. They pose a threat to safety, to family life, to social behavior, and to people's attention on the road.

In society today, cell phones are common among everyone—every gender, every age. Each year, more and more kids get cell phones from their parents, and the average age at which kids receive cell phones gets lower and lower. As teens start driving, cell phones become an even bigger threat to safety. Some teens simply cannot resist the temptation of texting while driving, despite the various movements dedicated to preventing that activity.

However, teens aren't the only ones at risk. People of all ages check email, make phone calls, and text while driving. There are a growing amount of deaths each year caused by cell phone use while driving. When is enough enough? When will turning off cell phones be mandatory while driving? Yes, fines are given, but that doesn't seem to keep people from putting not only themselves in harm's way, but others as well.

In addition, cell phone use poses a threat to family. Children and adults are constantly on their phones, which causes home life to suffer. Dinnertime is no longer a sacred time for families to sit and catch up on important things in their lives. Now phones are a part of the story: one kid is playing a game, another is texting a friend, and parents are checking email. How can parents have important discussions with their children if everyone is absorbed in their cell phones?

Social behavior also suffers because of cell phone use. We don't communicate the way we used to. Breakups occur via text, and bullying happens the same way. People don't have to talk to each other anymore because they can distract themselves with the latest game. Our society has turned into a society of people with their noses buried in digital devices. Interpersonal interactions are limited by apps that let you order a nonfat chai latte without saying a word to a barista. When will it become completely normal for people to have no communication with anyone but their cell phones? How much longer until we depend solely on our phones for companionship?

Lastly, attention deficit disorders are at an all-time high, and I believe that devices like cell phones are to blame. Children as early as two or three years old begin playing on their parent's cell phones. They become accustomed to touching something and getting an instant, colorful result. It's instant gratification at its worst. This behavior becomes a huge issue later in life when they're in grade school and high school

and they can't focus on reading a history book because it's not giving anything colorful and fun back to them.

In conclusion, I believe that cell phones are dangerous—not just physically, but mentally, emotionally, and socially as well. Limits should be put on cell phone use, and more importantly, they should be banned from cars.