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TITLE: A Controlled Evaluation of Group Driver Improvement Meetings

DATE: October 1961

AUTHOR(S): Ronald S. Coppin

REPORT NUMBER: 09

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FUNDING SOURCE: Departmental Budget

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To describe and analyze the results of an experimental program of group driver improvement meetings.

SUMMARY:

The group meetings appeared to have a greater effect on the older driver than on the younger driver. The group meetings had a significant effect in delaying a group of poor drivers from incurring further moving violations. A significantly greater reduction in convictions was noted for the meeting group as compared to the control group, although no corresponding reduction in accidents was noted. On a 12-month basis, 90% of the subjects who attended a group meeting improved their driving records, while only 83% of the control group showed improvement.

Further research into defining the optimum program was suggested, but group meetings were definitely recommended as one phase of the California driver improvement program.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Group meetings were incorporated into the department's handling of deviant drivers. A follow-up study was done on a larger sample in 1965 (see Coppin et al., Report #17).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Published in *Traffic Safety Research Review*, 6(3), 17-23, 1962.