

Comment from Megan Glover

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Mar 21, 2022

As the driver of a compact car (VW Golf), a cyclist, and a pedestrian, I feel increasingly under attack and unsafe on our roads and highways. While I refuse (for now) to give into this fear by purchasing a Monster Truck, I don't necessarily fault those that do. Our current system feels broken, woefully inadequate at keeping pedestrians and cyclists safe. Adding new ADAS technology to 3 tons of metal does not go far enough. The problem is the vehicles themselves.

All cars can effortlessly double as killing machines, but the increasing size of our collective vehicle fleet - coupled with the growing scale of human anger and impatience on our roads in the pandemic era - is a human health emergency.

Like so many others, I have first-hand experience with the destruction perpetuated by these vehicles. My father was killed by the blunt force trauma of a Dodge Durango hitting his body at 45 mph in 2009. And two summers ago, my Honda Fit was crushed by a GMC Yukon XL accelerating into my right-of-way before I could react. Luckily, there was not a passenger in my car at the time - they would have lost their legs. The Yukon was able to drive away from the scene.

I implore you to dream bigger, here. Other developed countries acknowledge that size kills. And we don't because...? The profit margins are too good? American freedom?

Pedestrians, cyclists, and small car drivers aren't free. We're under siege. Do more.