Education and compliance

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Attractions of education

- Popular with those who receive it
- Popular with those who deliver it
- Politically uncontroversial
- Authorities seen to be acting

But

- No convincing evidence it works

See McKenna FP Education in road safety are we getting it right?

Counterproductive effects

- Re-offending increased
- Skid pad training
- Schools program

Counterproductive mechanisms

e.g.

- Raising awareness – normalising antisocial behaviour
- Education induced exposure to risk

Assumptions of many educational interventions

- People do not have the information
- Information alone changes behaviour

Should we abandon educational interventions?

Potential indirect effects

- Justifying punishment?

Why punish

- Deterrence – general and specific
- Retribution

Deterrence theory

Deterrence increases with

1. Severity
2. Certainty
3. Imminence

of punishment

Education may?

Have a role in

- Defining right and wrong
- Enabling legislation
- Legitimising enforcement