

Raising the minimum age for a driving license:  
Necessary or useless?

The question about raising the minimum age for a driving license has been pushed to the headlines because of the growing amount of automobile accidents. Whether it would reduce or even prevent accidents of this sort or will simply do no good is the heart of this argument.

Some would say that raising the minimum age for a driving license will clearly reduce the amount of car accidents in Israel. There will be fewer drivers on the road, and this means fewer accidents, mathematically speaking. Young drivers aren't mature enough to drive. They can not comprehend the responsibility that is given to them by letting them sit behind the wheel of a potentially lethal machine. It is risky to hand them the access to this sort of transportation which can be misused in the form of car races and speeding. The excessiveness of this age might be expressed in the form of violence on the road, a sure recipe for an accident.

Others could argue that there is no direct connection between this age and car crashes. The only logical reason for the fact that young ( new) drivers are much more involved in car crashes is that they are inexperienced, that fact will not change whether new drivers are 17 years old or they are 27 years old.

The minimum age for a driving license has been raised and reduced but the amount of deaths on the road has only increased. Until this epidemic is stopped this debate will probably exist.

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