

Does the Type of Exposure to a Roadside Sobriety Checkpoint Influence Driver Perceptions Regarding Drunk Driving?

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Objectives: To determine if the type of exposure to roadside sobriety checkpoints is related to vulnerability of being stopped by the police for drinking and driving. **Methods:** Random household telephone surveys were conducted over 3 years. **Results:** Personally exposed drivers had lower perceptions of vulnerability than did drivers who knew a family member who had been stopped. Exposed drivers who

also had a family member and an acquaintance that had been stopped had higher perceptions of vulnerability. **Conclusions:** Direct exposure to a checkpoint appears to lower perceptions of risk than if one has had only indirect exposure (ie, family or friends).

Key words: sobriety checkpoints, drinking and driving, public awareness

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