

TITLE: The California Motorcyclist Safety Program-A comment on Billheimer & Mayhew and Simpson

DATE: July 1997

AUTHOR(S): Raymond C. Peck

REPORT NUMBER: Unnumbered (NRN89)

NTIS NUMBER: None

FUNDING SOURCE: NA

PROTECT OBJECTIVE:

To clarify some research design principle relation to California Motorcyclist Safety Program (CMSP).

SUMMARY:

This paper is a critical review of a report by Billheimer (Systan Corporation) on the effectiveness of the CMSP and a subsequent critique of that report by Mayhew and Simpson (1996) of the Ontario Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF). The paper concludes that the majority of the study limitations addressed by Simpson & Mayhew were appropriate and valid comments of the methodological limitations of the Billheimer study, many of which were acknowledged by, or beyond control of, Dr. Billheimer. Nevertheless, the bottom-line conclusions reached by Simpson and Mayhew warrant serious attention: the observed accident reductions reported by Billheimer cannot be attributed with scientific confidence to the CMSP.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

N/A

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This commentary was published in the Summer 1997 (pp. 11-12) issue of the American Driver Training Safety Educators Association Chronicle.