



Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

GRADES 9-12 | LESSON 6

STUDENT JOURNAL

PEER INFLUENCE BEHIND THE WHEEL

ABOUT THIS JOURNAL: We often think peer pressure is something we notice and resist. In reality, the most powerful social influence happens gradually, feels natural and doesn't announce itself. This journal asks you to think honestly about the social dynamics of driving.

REFLECTION PROMPTS

PROMPT 1

Have you ever been in a car where you felt uncomfortable with the driver's behavior — speed, phone use, recklessness — but didn't say anything? What stopped you? If you could go back to that moment, what would you actually say? Be specific — not just "I would say something," but what words would you use?

PROMPT 2

Have you ever encouraged — even subtly — a driver to do something that wasn't fully safe? Maybe a comment about speed, a request to run a light or just laughing at risky behavior? What role does a passenger play in vehicle safety, even when they're not the one driving? What responsibility do passengers have?

PROMPT 3

Design a pre-planned response for each of the following social driving scenarios: **(A)** Your driver starts speeding because friends in the car are cheering. **(B)** An aggressive driver cuts you off and your driver wants to retaliate. **(C)** You are the driver and you're tired, but passengers are pressuring you to keep going. Write out the actual words — not just the strategy.

MY COMMITMENT

MY PEER SAFETY COMMITMENT: