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The classic sight of teenagers texting while walking, talking and just about at any stage in their waking day is one with which we are all familiar. It turns out that the average American teenager sends up to six texts an hour for every hour that they are awake. That's a lot when you think about it, and underscores a study undertaken in 2008 that showed teenagers (32%) chose a phone on its texting ability as opposed to any other. Given the abilities of modern day phone; with maps, apps, and just about anything you can imagine, to have the old fashioned short message service as the number one item for tech savvy teenagers, well that's an astonishing figure.

It's great that teenagers are so connected to the world (albeit the world that contains their friends) around them. We now live in the information age, and the ability to hook into that seems to begin with linking into your social network. It is also closely linked with the classic teenager need to be within the loop of what is going on with their friends.

It should also mean being alive to the possibilities of recycling the technology that has them so plugged in. Teenagers, like all kids before them, are concerned with their own world first and foremost, but we should teach them about the valuable materials that are contained within the powerful device that they use hourly. By recycling their phone at any of the many centres and phone shops that allow old phone returns, they can not only raise money, but awareness for the drive to make the world in which we live in a more sustainable one.

While there are many positives about teenagers being so clued into the world of telecommunications, there are those who believe that it is having a less than beneficial effect on a group that already has its fair share of problems. The rate of texting that occurs within this social group means that they are likely to be distracted by the constant need to check and answer their phones. There is also the need for kids, teenagers in particular, to gradually become independent of their parents, whereas with a phone, one study has shown, some kids can be in contact with their mom or dad, up to fifteen times a day.

I'm sure though, that most parents are happy with this!

Article Source:

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