



ECTRI – FEHRL – FERSI

Young Researchers Seminar 2015

# Perception of young risk drivers

**Pavel Řezáč**

Transport Research Centre  
CZECH REPUBLIC

**YRS 2015, ROME 16. – 19. 6. 2015**

# Period of live AGE 17 – 25:

- Behavior testing (society is usually more tolerant for specific behavior in this period of life – than in adulthood)
- Needs of sensation seeking (looking for dangerously experience)
- Lack of individual behavior limits (no limits during family nurture)
- Frequent discrepancy of manifested and experienced behavior (self – esteem, expression of emotions etc.)
- Specific needs (agency and communion)
  - Agency – to do something – to act...
  - Communion - to be in close contact with peers group

# Risk taking behavior:

- **Appear in many expressions (dangerous driving, uses high amount of drugs or alcohol, breaking rules – criminality, risk sexual behavior, adrenaline sports etc.)**
- **Usually appear as syndrom – dangerous driving AND uses high amount of alcohol, criminality AND uses drugs...)**
- **Usually is realize in peer groups (not alone)**
- **Usually starts in pubescence or early adolescence as the effect of testing something new (new experience...)**

## Qualitative research (sample):

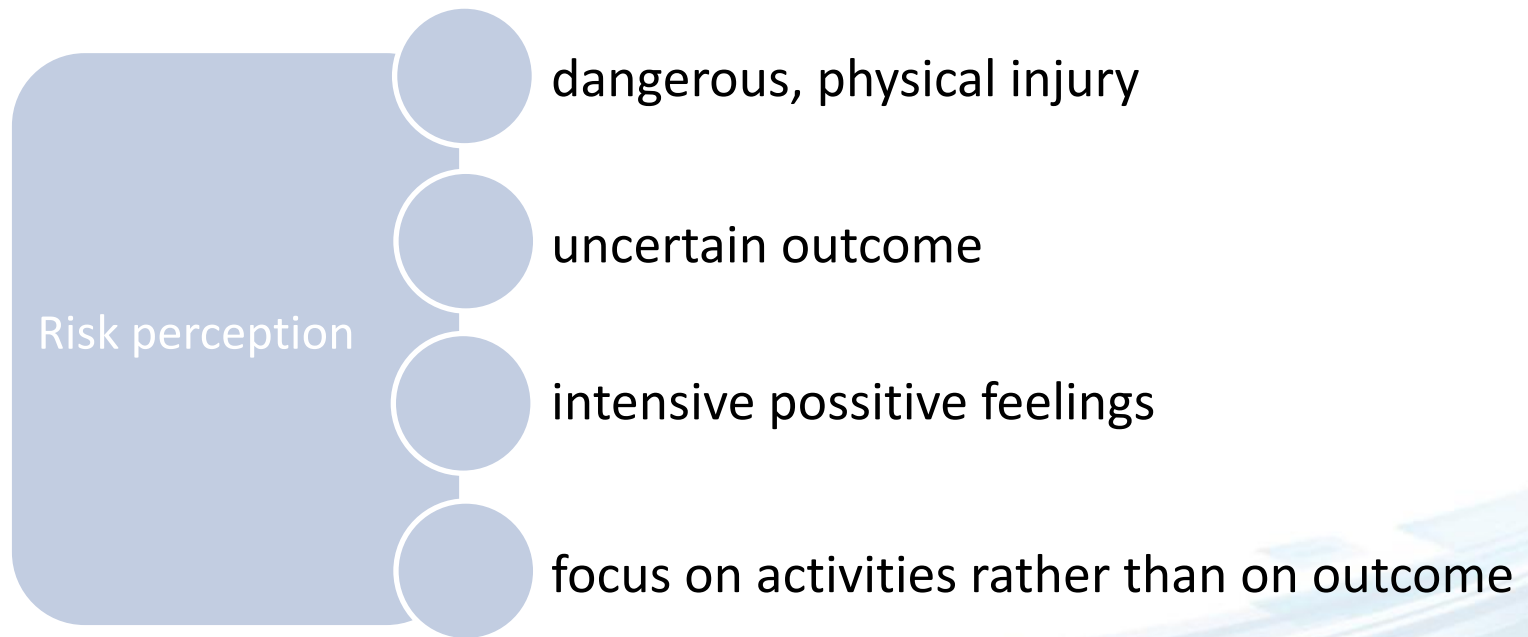
- **The sample consisted of a total of 11 male adolescents and young adults aged 17 to 25 years. The sample were under supervision of a probation officer because of Problematic driving (motorcycle, car driving, alcohol/drugs use and driving).**

# Methods and data analysis:

- Phenomenological qualitative semi-structured interviews, 45 minutes long.
- The main focus of the interview was the theme of risk and experiencing actors themselves.
- 1) Characteristics of the risk. (eg. What is risk behaviour? How would you describe him? How do you engage risk driving? Do you engage any other risk behaviour?).
- 2) Reasons for engaging risk behaviour. (eg. What does risk driving give you? Do you follow risk behaviour during longer period? Why do you engage risk driving even if it's risky?
- 3) Experiences that are associated with risk behaviour. (eg. What leads you to driving in a risky way? How do you feel during risky driving?).
- 4) Alternatives to this activity (eg. Could you feel the same during another activity?).

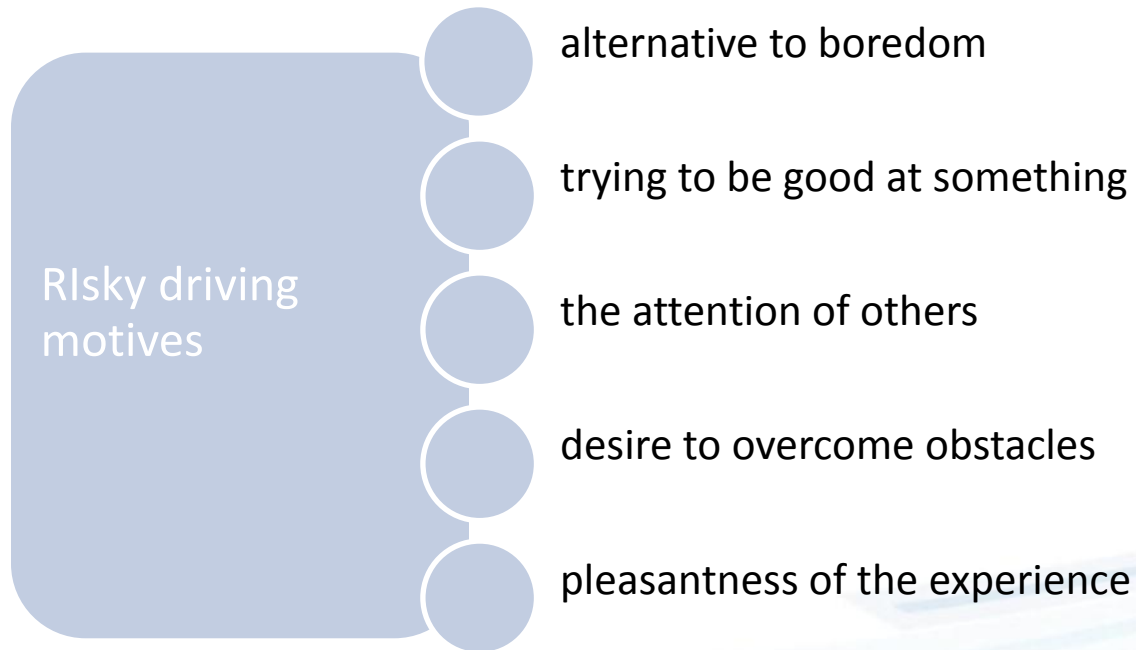
# RESULTS:

## RISK PERCEPTION



# RESULTS:

## MOTIVES BEHIND RISKY DRIVING



# RESULTS:

## EXPERIENCE DURING RISKY ACTIVITIES



# RESULTS:

## SIMILAR EXPERIENCES IN OTHER AREAS

- **We tried to determine whether actors imagine something similar experience in other areas (other activities) which have been identified as areas - "unrepeatable nature of this experience and repeatability of experience in the context of other risk activities".**
- **The surveyed persons from disclosing that similar experiences can't be experienced in any other activity, or that it is possible to experience something similar in other "risk" activity.**

# Discussion:

- **RISK AS PHYSICAL HARM**

- This risk is perceived only as a short-term perspective of the impossibility of continuing risk activity. The fact that adolescents and young adults are aware that risk behaviour can bring some physical harm, but they perceive only the short-term perspective, it may be age-related. In this developmental period, adolescents do not think in the long term, but they are important to the contrary, short-term perspective.

- **RISK AS A FACTOR OF OBTAINING PLACE IN PEER GROUP**

- Another result of the analysis is that risk behaviour is evaluated positively by peers, respectively, with admiration for the actor. Risk behaviour is the peer group considered admirable peers is valued very highly.

# Discussion:

- **RISK AS PLEASANT ACTIVITY**

- When defining risk categories described more focused on action and not the result associated with the pleasures of experiencing. This could be related to the areas to focus on the business and focus on relationships. For a detailed examination of the results of research shows that people surveyed described the importance of the process and not the outcome (which would suggest focusing on activity). Further, they reported the presence of vital necessity peers (focus on relationships).

- **RISK AS A FACTOR OF GROWING SELF – ESTEEM**

- Other results concern motives operate hazardous activities. The results show that the examined person often considers risk behaviour for the area in which they are good. The question remains whether, on the basis of this one area to think about higher or lower national level of self-esteem.

# Thank you for your attention!

Contact Information:

**Pavel Řezáč**

**pavel.rezac@cdv.cz**

**Transport Research Centre (CDV)**

Líšeňská 33a, 636 00 Brno

Czech Republic

email: pavel.rezac@cdv.cz

**www.cdv.cz**