

4. Select words from the headline and subheading that create a sense of alarm or urgency in the reader. Why have these words been chosen? Do they affect the objectivity of the article?
5. Comment on the effect of the image.

News report

DEADLY DELAY

**SIX KIDS IN THIS ONE CAR ... 48 YOUTHS KILLED IN ONE YEAR ...
ANOTHER FOUR MONTHS TO MAKE A DECISION – P PLATE DISGRACE**

By Angela Kamper,
Samantha Williams

THIS is what was left after a drunken teenager piled five of his mates into his car – one of them in the boot – for a night of skylarking that the State Government has the power to prevent.

But as parents demand action to limit P-plate drivers to just one passenger, the Government is lazily insisting that nothing can be done until next March at the earliest.

This means the young people of NSW face a long summer without the protection of toughened P-plate laws covering passenger numbers and driver education.

Carol Hopkins, whose son Tim was killed in a 2004 crash, said the Government must act now to stop any more families suffering the heartache she has.

"If they put restricting the passenger limits off until after the election then it's disappointing. Something as simple as this law could save many lives," she said.

Fred Bianchinis, whose son Joseph, 15, died in a car driven by a P-plater with three mates on board, said "enough is enough".

Even the P-plate driver responsible for this crash – which he and his mates survived, but which left a female pedestrian in hospital – is urging the Government to act.

Archibald Guy Walter, 19, used his court appearance yesterday



to urge the Government to make driving training part of the HSC.

He was behind the wheel with five of his mates in his Volvo when the accident occurred in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs. The former Scots College student and talented rugby union player failed to negotiate a turn going past a red arrow on New South Head Rd, Edgecliff.

Walter was disqualified from driving for three years and given a nine-month suspended sentence requiring him to serve weekend detention when he appeared at Waverley Local Court.

It comes as a 12-member panel yesterday met for the first time to tackle the rising P-plater death toll.

The panel included Robert Wells, the father of Bryce Wells, who

was killed with four of his friends.

Mr Wells yesterday said the Walter accident showed exactly why the Government needed to act to restrict the number of passengers P-platers carry.

"We have to look at the big picture because the kids don't realise. They think they can do anything at that age but they can't," he said.

In the Walter case, despite disobeying the road rules, the teenager was only charged with drink driving after recording a blood alcohol reading of 0.115 and pleaded guilty.

The accident occurred about 5.50 am on August 4.

The Daily Telegraph 30 November 2006