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### [OT] The importance of hearing (Score: 1)

by oneiros on Saturday February 14, @05:46PM ([#67364](#))  
[User #4216 Info](#)

It's not just an issue with iPods.

I've been complaining for years about the sound proofing of vehicles -- people turn up their volume to the point where they can't hear emergency vehicles coming up behind them.

[Or, they just don't care, and can't be bothered to notice why everyone else is getting out of their way].

I would assume that emergency vehicles, however, are loud enough to be heard, even if you did have your headphones in, if you're not in a vehicle. [I've been known to be wrong, though].

If you're not paying attention to your environment, I'd have to wonder if you could be held at fault if an accident occurred, or at the very least, I vaguely remember a legal defense in which someone injured is argued to have been partially responsible for their injury because they didn't take the necessary care to avoid injury. [eg, you were struck by a vehicle, but you didn't cross at the crosswalk. You slipped and fell, but there were wet floor warnings, so you could've gone around. You were injured in a car accident, but you hadn't been wearing your seat belt.]

Personally, I rarely wear both headphones. At work, I can't hear other people, or the phone ring. On the metro, I can't hear the stops being called out. The only time I wear both is when I'm annoyed at being distracted at work -- as a sign that I really don't want people to talk to me.

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