A6 OPINION

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Road rules overruled by rude and unruly drivers

ONE of those strange truths about Chinese traffic is that the better the car the worse the driver.

The car driving the wrong way up a bicycle lane is invariably a big black Audi.

The car crashing in a residential driveway must have caused a woman a million dollars, it’s a Boxa.

The car that crushes through the intersection regardless of the red light must be a T动力.

Considerate isn’t quite associated with many Chinese drivers, fast cars are fast, but, as a Chinese friend pointed out, the considerate driver is the this-American-Mathematician type.

That makes a sort of sense. Giving way is an alien idea, especially to the Aborigine.

It involves much the same mentality as queue-jumping, another plague of modern times, for yourself, for yourself, or for order - no waiting is fine.

Another friend pointed out that the guys with the flash cars were too busy earning the money to buy the car to take proper lessons.

That doesn’t wash as an answer of waste. First, many of the drivers are ex-cadre drivers who made good, kind “cadremen” who don’t care.

Which in itself begs the question: Who is the passenger in the back, probably the boss, too busy running a business to notice whether job is being done.

A ragging, horrid task.

Second, is not Western drivers the most important? What involves not interfacing with the traffic flow.

In the US practical test, if another driver has to brake because the car in front of him, then you are to step on the brake, roll the car towards the fence in front of them, then the test is failed.

In China it’s absolutely normal. Whether the other car is in my way, he does it, and quickly made a huge difference to the dimension area.

Could it be the same problem be implemented? It makes stop, no exceptions, it’s really not our road side.

A public information program followed by spot fines might work, it did for the UK.

It’s more than an interface thing, it’s a complete lack of consideration and it’s rude.

A stand like that in one of London or LA’s autonomous could lead the offending driver in a whole world of trouble - I just don’t know what the driver turning right on a red light is thinking as they intimidate their way through the pedestrian crossing en masse.

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