

News

Are FSU Students Slaves To A Cellie?

There might be a more common sight on the Fayetteville State campus than a CIAA FSU Championship football T-shirt. For some students, talking on a cellular phone is just as much a "necessity."

Cell phone use among college students is rising, said Jennings Bryant, director of the Institute for Communication Research. Bryant said nationwide, 60 percent of college students own a cell phone.

Some students have noticed the prominence of cell phones on campus and the effect they have on their users.

"I have a couple of friends who are like cellular slaves," said Keith Barnes, a senior.

Andrea Roberts, a freshman, said she is aware of the wide use of cell phones on campus and their association with personal image.

"I have noticed everybody here has one," Roberts said. "It's weird if they don't."

Bryant said studies show the three main reasons



Cell phones have become essential tools for most students

college students use cell phones are to stay in touch with their families, to have a sense of security if faced with a dangerous situation, and to keep in contact with their peers.

Barnes said the main reason he uses his cell phone

is to stay in contact with his parents.

"I got a plan where I can call home, and it won't cost anything, so I don't have to worry about keeping a phone up here."

However, communication by cell phone is also

becoming a fashion statement.

"You have to have the right cell phone," Bryant said.

Some students are attracted to cell phones because of the various accessories available to personalize a cell phone.

Hampton Smith, a sales associate at a Verizon Wireless store, said, "People are always coming in asking for faceplates and headsets, too."

Smith said phones with colored screens and the ability to download rings and games are also popular.

Roberts said her friends joke about the size of some other students cell phones and even compare them to the large cell phones used on the 1980s television show "Saved by the Bell."

"Some people still have big phones. My friends call them 'The Zack Morris cell phone,'" Roberts said.

Both consumers and distributors of cell phones said the small, portable phones could become addictive in nature.

"You become so

dependent on it," Smith said. "A lot of people now are doing away with their home phones."

The average college student pays \$40 per month for cell phone service, Bryant said.

"College and high school students go over more and are constantly upgrading their receivers," Bryant said. "They are heavy users of any type of communication device. The other thing is that they tend to not think of the dollars."

One factor facing college cell phone users is cellular etiquette.

"College students have not necessarily thought through the etiquette issues," she said. Such issues include loud talking while on a cell phone, ringing of cell phones in class and invading the space of others.

Roberts said she is bothered by certain ways students talk on their cell phones.

"I think being in class and talking on your cell phone is very cheesy."

Should Parents Give Allowances?

By Garrett N. James
Editor-In-Chief

I listened to an interesting conversation between a man and woman in the elevator at my job several months ago. The woman was telling him how her 8 year old son wanted an allowance.

I'm thinking, "What's an 8 year old going to do with money? How's he getting to the store anyway?" I kept my two cents to myself.

The lady continued talking about how she would give her son a few dollars for putting the dinner dishes into the dishwasher or for cleaning his room.

What? When I was growing up, all of my siblings had their own night to clean the entire kitchen. There was no, "Mommy, will you give me a dollar if I put these in the dishwasher?" We didn't even have a dishwasher! I actually don't know how

popular dishwashers were then, but to this day, my mom refuses to get one. She used to say she had four dishwashers - my two sisters, my brother and me.

The man in the elevator commented on how he pays his son to mow the lawn. I can remember slaving in the hot sun for hours with a push mower-for free!


It sounds harsh maybe, but I honestly view those times as the good ol' days. Those household chores just seemed as though they came with living.

There was never the notion of having a choice or even being compensated for the work. It was just a part life. What is the message that is being sent from parents that pay their children to do chores.

But then again, maybe I'm over reacting. Maybe

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