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Re 13-301

I oppose vehemently the use of cell phones on commercial airplanes. I fly economy class and am already in closer contact with my fellow passengers than I would like to be. I find it very disruptive to be forced to listen to the conversations, banal or otherwise, of other passengers who often are speaking at a louder volume than is comfortable for those around them. I realize they might feel the need to catch up on news with a friend sitting with them, but they usually do not realize that those around them are uninterested and would appreciate the conversation being done in modulated tones.

The thought of passengers trying to make themselves heard on a cell phone above the din of conversation, carts, etc. is horrible to contemplate. Flights are not a particularly relaxing experience these days as it is; the added confusion of multiple conversations on topics of interest only to the person engaged in them will lead to frustration and perhaps anger on the part of other passengers.

I think most people who have to be in contact with a business associate or the caregiver of a loved one can do that quite well with the electronic devices that are already allowed to be used during a flight.

Another concern to me is the lack of attention to addresses made by aircraft personnel that already exists. I do worry that in an emergency situation, people using cell phones would ignore directions given. If that person were sitting next me, and s/he had to finish a call or put away their device, there is a concern that they would not follow evacuation procedure or other safety procedures in a timely manner. The difference of minutes could make a difference to my safety.