## A stop sign means stop

TOP. The Pocket Oxford Dictionary defines it as "Prevent passage of, prevent motion or action of, cease, discontinue".

ROLL. Is defined as "Move or send or go in some direction".

TICKET. Something you will get if you combine the two.

There is no such thing as a "rolling stop", and it certainly cannot be used as an excuse for not coming to a complete halt at

a sign.

Sometimes a complaint is made to the police about a particular intersection where people are not complying with stop signs. When I was a patrol officer, I was often sent by my supervisor to enforce these signs. I would sit, in a marked police car, and watch the intersection. When someone would do a "rolling stop" I would pull them over and write a ticket. Many times the driver would insist that they had come to a complete stop.

Try a little experiment: stand for five or 10 minutes near a busy intersection that is controlled by a stop sign. Count how many cars come to a complete stop. There won't be many.

I receive many calls and e-



mails from parents who are concerned about their children walking to school. A child should be able to cross at an intersection that is controlled by a stop sign without any difficulty, but there are times when they step out into the crosswalk only to find that a car is not stopping at the sign.

Please help to make the community safer (and save yourself \$110 and three demerit points!) by obeying all traffic signs.

If you have any questions about this or any other police issues, contact me at laurel.barnett@hrps.on.ca or 905-878-5511 ext 2120.

-Const. Laurel Barnett is the community support officer for District 1

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