Mandy Lucy 3/24/10 Social and Rhetorical Essay Mr. Kuhn

A couple weeks ago I went to go grocery chopping with my mom at Wegmans. I went through the cereal aisle to look for my favorite brand of cereal. As I was about to pick up my box of cereal a women creped right next to me and started yelling. I was very confused and said “What?” But then I noticed she had a bluetooth in her ear, and I realized that the person she was yelling at was not me, but it was the person she was talking on the phone with. She grabbed her cereal and walked away, never even noticed that I spoke to her. This is a very serious issue because it’s rude and impolite. The Collected Cell Phone Letters concludes the growing number of cell phone usage has changed societies’ manners and disrupting the lives of others.

I agree with the tone of these messages, cell phone users have brought so much aggression to today’s society. In the last letter the person starts his aggressiveness saying- “It’s really annoying when I go to the bathroom to (privately) number two, if you will, only to hear someone yapping on the phone!” And ends with a proper- “Thank You” at the end. The person who wrote the letter wants some privacy when doing his business in the bathroom. He doesn’t want to be disturbed by others with their own business. He sincerely puts “Thank You” at the end telling that there are people with some decency who respects the privacy of others around them. The tone of the writer is sarcastically enough to tell that he is bothered by the rudeness of the person talking on their cell phone.

I have the same opinion that cell phone users must be told at a different angle to know they are being rude in today’s society. For example in the second letter the writer uses words like “Cordially” and “Refrain.” The big words show a manner of politeness and proper. As- “The people on the other side of the counter” are being kind and courteous, they want customers in return to be polite and proper back to them. They do not want to be working for a customer who is busy talking on the phone about personal matters. This manner is to be considered rude and disrespectful. The message reminds customers to be respectful even if they have “busy schedules.”

Cell phone users appear to show their rudely manner in most of the public places where these messages are taking place. In the first letter the setting is seemingly to be located at a fast-food restaurant where there is a counter to place orders. The message requests- “I would love to take your order, As soon as you get odd your Phone.” From the writers tone it is surely to be sarcastic. The writer misspells the word thanks as “thanx,” which shows the syntax and that the writer chooses to use improper diction because he does not respect the customer who is talking on the phone. From the different locations these letters are taking place in, it shows whether in a restaurant or restroom that people must be courteous and respectful to others when using the cell phone. The theme in which all messages share show and important problem that is happening in today’s society. In the third letter the writer states- “We *promise*… we won’t interrupt you while you are on your cell phone.” And ends with a passive aggressive tone- “That would be *rude* of us.” With the flip meaning of this message, the writer wants cell phone users to know that it is rude to be talking on the phone while another person is trying to have a conversation with them. For example, a customer is talking on their cell phone about personal matters, and the cashier is ringing his out. The cashier greets the customer but the customer fails to respond back to the cashier. This matter is very critical to today’s society. More and more cell phone users are becoming rude and impolite towards the public.

Cell phones serve as a useful purpose. But unfortunately, some people use their phones at a point where they’re disturbing the lives of others. Cell phone users must be respectful and courteous around others when talking on the cell phone. If more and more cell phone users use their cell phones at a right time and place, the society would be much happier and people would not feel so much left out and ignored.