

## Safer just by signing up?

By Jim Roberson

It sounds illogical doesn't it? All you have to do is sign up and you will be a safer motorcycle rider. Well, it's true. Studies have been done that show that if you sign a pledge to do something then you are a third more likely to do it than if you just verbally promise to do it.

That's what the Rider Education Program is all about; making your riding experience safer for you and your co-rider. Level I is as simple as making the pledge to ride safely and to wear proper protective clothing; **Safety by Commitment**. Believe it or not, you are 33% more likely to ride safely by signing the levels application. It becomes a commitment to both yourself and the group that you are safety aware and will make your best attempt to ride safely.

Of course riding safely just doesn't mean obeying all of the traffic laws, it also means that if the weather turns foul and the speed limit is 65, then you should make proper adjustment to your speed. It means that you take the time to prepare mentally for the ride and concentrate on your surroundings. One of the most important safety things you can do is to wear proper riding gear. Better be a bit warm than covered with a nice film of road rash.

So think about it. It doesn't cost you anything to sign up for the Rider Ed program Level I. You get the patch and a rocker for rider or co-rider and there is no requirement to proceed further in the program. But you should; it will make you a safer rider and possibly save your life or a friend's life someday.

Ride Safe!!