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001. note	re: CPSC meeting (1 page)	07/11	P5

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Domestic Policy Council
Heather Howard (Subject Files)
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FOLDER TITLE:

CPSC [Consumer Product Safety Commission] Kids in Danger

2012-0254-S

rc683

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



Public Affairs Office
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20207

Date: 8-23-00 Time: 10:00 (C) a.m./p.m.

To: Amy Boom

Organization: _____

Voice: A Fax: 802-456-2878

Subject: Press Release

From: _____

Voice: (301) 504-0580 Ext. _____ Fax: (301) 504-0862 or (301) 504-0399

Pages (including cover sheet): 6

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NOTE:

News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release
August 23, 2000
Release # 00-168

Fisher-Price Recall Hotline: (800) 343-1502
CPSC Contact: Nychelle Fleming
(301) 504-0580 Ext. 1192
Fisher-Price Media Contact: Laurie Oravec
(716) 687-3395

CPSC, Fisher-Price Announce Recall of Swings and Toys

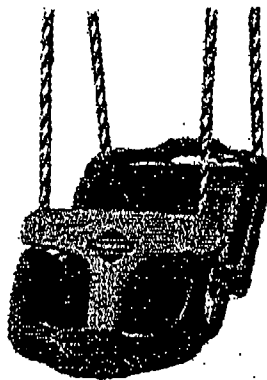
WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Fisher-Price, of East Aurora, N.Y., is voluntarily recalling about 2.5 million Lift 'n Lock Swings, and about 246,000 Get Up & Go Walkers, which are push toys.

Recall of "Lift & Lock Swings"

The Lift & Lock Swing is an outdoor swing for children 9 months to 3 years. The swing has a plastic "T"-shaped restraint shield to hold children in the seat. Children can maneuver out of the restraints and fall out of the swings, resulting in serious injuries.

Fisher-Price has received 110 reports of children falling out of the swings, and 38 children suffered injuries. Eight children suffered serious injuries, including a fractured skull, leg, arm and two collarbones; two concussions; and stitches to the forehead. Thirty children received minor injuries including bumps, bruises and scrapes.

The Lift & Lock Swings have red or purple plastic seats, yellow "T"-shaped restraint shields and blue ropes. "Fisher-Price®" is written on the front of the restraint shield. The swings have model numbers 2092, 75960, 75970, 75973 or 75980 molded into the back part of the seat.



-more-

(Fisher-Price)

-2-

Mass merchandise, juvenile products and discount department stores sold these swings from January 1991 through August 2000 for about \$19.

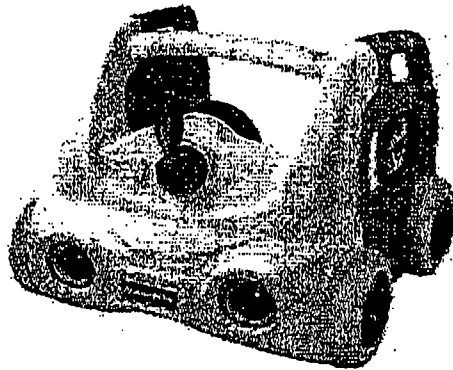
Consumers should stop using the swings immediately. Fisher-Price will provide a free repair kit with a supplemental waist and crotch restraint belt.

Recall of "Get Up & Go Walkers"

The Get Up & Go Walker is a three-sided push toy, which looks like a car, designed for children to support themselves as they are learning to stand and walk. Young children leaning forward on the front of the toys can tip them over and fall. Also, the windshield wipers on some of the toys, which stick out, can injure young children when they fall.

Fisher-Price has received 330 reports of children falling while using or near the product. A total of 132 children received injuries such as bumps, bruises, scratches and cuts.

The Get Up & Go Walker is white with blue sides. It has activities such as a rotating mirror/phone, toy windshield wiper and steering wheel with yellow horn. The back wheels of the walker can be locked into place to prevent rolling as babies learn to stand. The Fisher-Price logo is located on the outside of the toy between the headlight decorations. Models with a front bar for babies to grasp and/or a green windshield wiper are included in the recall. Fisher-Price will help consumers determine if they have a recalled product.



-more-

(Fisher-Price)

-3-

Toy, mass merchandise and discount stores sold these push-behind toys from July 1997 through August 2000 for about \$30.

Consumers should stop children from using the toys immediately and call Fisher-Price for a free repair kit that will eliminate the front bar and windshield wiper.

To participate in either one or both of these recalls, or for more information, consumers should call Fisher-Price toll-free at (800) 343-1502 anytime. The product remedies are available only through Fisher-Price. Consumers also can visit the Fisher-Price website at www.fisher-price.com for more information.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html>. For information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call the above numbers or visit the web site at <http://cpsc.gov/about/who.html>. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and other free recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>. To establish a link from your web site to this press release on CPSC's web site, create a link to the following address: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml00/00168.html>.

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Editor's Note: To access a full-color version of the product photo in JPEG (JPG) format, go to <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml00/00168.html>

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VIDEO ALERT

A Video News Release showing b-roll of the recalled products and repairs, and a sound bite from CPSC Chairman Ann Brown will be broadcast at the times and coordinates indicated below.

Satellite Broadcast Coordinates (C-Band)

August 23
2:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. ET
Galaxy 3, Trans. 15
Downlink 4000
6.2 & 6.8

August 24
2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET
Galaxy 3, Trans. 15
Downlink 4000
6.2 & 6.8

For technical questions about the satellite feed, contact Tom Hessemer at (212) 704-9134

This feed is sponsored by the Fisher-Price and is for your free and unrestricted use.

News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release**August 23, 2000****Release # 00-167****Kids Line Recall Hotline: (866) 532-7235****CPSC Contact: Nychelle Fleming****(301) 504-0580 Ext. 1192****Kids Line Contact: Rick Locker****(212) 391-5200**

CPSC, Kids Line Inc. Announce Recall to Repair "Le Cradle" Bassinets

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Kids Line Inc., of Los Angeles, Calif., is voluntarily recalling for repair about 46,000 Le Cradle bassinets. Infants can become entrapped in an opening between the bassinet's side and mattress platform and suffocate. Additionally, fabric can separate from the metal frame. Infants can be injured when they scrape against or become caught in the frame.

Kids Line has received one report of a 3-month-old boy in Oakland Park, Fla. who died when he suffocated after becoming trapped between the bassinet's side and mattress platform. Three other infants were scraped and bruised from contact with the metal frame that became exposed when the fabric separated from the frame.

Kids Line is offering a free in-home repair kit, designed to secure the fabric around the bassinet to prevent entrapments and exposure to the metal frame.

The recalled bassinets were sold under the name "Le Cradle Bassinette." The bassinet has a white metal base with wheels and a removable canopy. The oval bassinet itself is made up of a metal wire frame and a wooden base board that rests on the metal base. A sticker on the mattress platform gives instructions for use of the bassinet and says, "Le Cradle, Kids Line, Los Angeles, California." A fabric-covered foam mattress covers the wooden board. Matching fabric covers the bassinet frame, and comes in various colors and designs.



-more-

(bassinets)

-2-

Children's products stores nationwide sold the bassinets from January 1989 through May 2000 for between \$100 and \$200.

Consumers should stop using the bassinets immediately and contact Kids Line for a free in-home repair kit. Consumers should call Kids Line toll-free at (866) LECRADL (532-7235) anytime.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html>. For information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call the above numbers or visit the web site at <http://cpsc.gov/about/who.html>. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and other free recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>. To establish a link from your web site to this press release on CPSC's web site, create a link to the following address: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml00/00167.html>.

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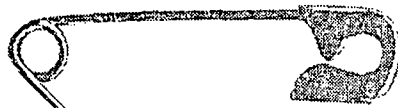
Satellite Broadcast Coordinates (C-Band)

August 23
3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET
Galaxy 11, Trans. 8
Downlink 3860 (V)
6.2 & 6.8

August 24
3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. ET
Telstar 5, Trans. 7
Downlink 3840 (V)
6.2 & 6.8

For technical questions about the satellite feed, contact Eric Duran at (212) 684-4086.

This feed is sponsored by the Kids Line and is for your free and unrestricted use.



KIDS IN DANGERSM

A nonprofit organization for the protection of young children from dangerous juvenile products

Mike Solander

CPSC

paper

Pris. Mem.
- Kids prod.
catalog
100
- recall notices
- code of conduct
- registry



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A nonprofit organization for the
protection of young children from
dangerous juvenile products

Linda Ginzel
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Boaz Keysar
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● local heroes

further from the truth. And the realization that Danny's death could have been prevented was enough to turn his grieving parents into dedicated activists who have vowed to do everything possible to prevent any recalled toy, crib or stroller from ever killing another toddler. "We're talking about children's lives," says Keysar, 41, whose efforts have led to passage of a law to that effect in their home state of Illinois. "We knew we had to do something."

Ginzel and Keysar's unwelcome education began the day after Danny's funeral, when an article in the *Chicago Tribune* revealed that Danny had been the fifth victim to strangle in a Playskool Travel-Lite Portable Crib manufactured by Kolcraft Enterprises of Chicago—a model that had been officially recalled five years earlier after causing the deaths of three children. At least 11 other children had been killed by similar products from various manufacturers, and there were as many as 1.2 million such cribs still in circulation. "We couldn't *not* react," says



"The system is ready to be changed," says Ginzel (with State Sen. Tom Walsh, appearing before the Illinois Senate last month).

Ginzel. "My sense of calm turned to a focused goal."

Within days of Danny's death, Ginzel and Keysar, with the help of friends, sent out more than 5,000 e-mails warning parents about the crib's dangers. That was only the beginning. The couple also learned that days before Danny's death, state daycare inspectors had visited Sweet Tots but had not checked for dangerous products because they weren't required to. "We were shocked to learn that even state inspectors didn't have information about recalled

products," says Ginzel. "If they *had* known, Danny would be alive."

That June, using \$20,000 in personal savings, Danny's parents established the nonprofit Kids In Danger (Web site KidsInDanger.org), dedicated to protecting young children from unsafe products. To that end, the couple testified last September before the Illinois House Children and Youth Committee, proposing a plan to eliminate deadly recalled products from licensed daycare facilities—recom-

mendations that the state's Department of Children and Family Services adopted on the spot.

Today, with a corps of some 30 regular volunteers, Ginzel, daughter of a U.S. Army master sergeant and his Korean wife, a factory worker, and Keysar, the Israeli-born son of an electronics technician and a kindergarten teacher, spend evenings and weekends handling fund-raising and publicity campaigns out of their Lincoln Park row house. On May 13, exactly a year and a day after Danny's death, Ginzel received a phone call from Illinois State Rep. Carol Ronen telling her that the bill Ginzel and her husband had championed—the Children's Product Safety Act, which requires that licensed child-care facilities be inspected for unsafe products and prohibits any business from selling or leasing them—had passed unanimously in the state senate. "With this legislation in place," says Ginzel, "no other family in Illinois will have to suffer this needless tragedy."

Ginzel and Keysar have earned praise from the likes of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission chairwoman, Ann Brown, who calls them "amazingly courageous. They've done an incredible job in raising the consciousness of the public." But the couple, who intend to expand their crusade, see their work as far from finished. "We do this in Danny's honor," says Ginzel. "He's still with us every day."



"Persevering, you accomplish things," says Keysar (with his family at a local playground).

- Susan Schindehette
- Barbara Sandler in Chicago

Total Recall

A child's death spurs his parents' fight to see unsafe products taken off the market



"We're dealing with our grief by working for this cause," says Linda Ginzel (at home with her husband, Boaz Keysar, and son Ely).

On the afternoon of May 12, 1998, Linda Ginzel, a business school professor at the University of Chicago, picked up her 4-year-old son, Ely, at his Hyde Park preschool and continued on to Sweet Tots daycare to retrieve her 16-month-old, Danny. But as Ginzel rounded the corner, she saw a swarm of police cars. Thinking there had been a robbery, she made her way to the door, only to be told by a policewoman that she needed to go to nearby Children's Memorial Hospital. "I have to go to the hospital?" she asked in disbelief. "It's *my* child?"

At the emergency room, Ginzel

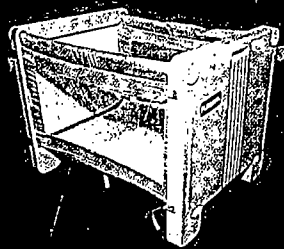


"He had a way of engaging people," Keysar says of Danny (two days before his death).

was met by a doctor who spoke the simple words, "We tried everything we could." Ginzel fell into the arms of her husband of nine years, Boaz Keysar, an associate professor of psychology, who had already been told by doctors how a portable crib at Sweet Tots had collapsed inward, strangling Danny in the vise formed by the crib's folding top rails. "I was numb, but I also had this amazing calm," recalls Ginzel, 40, who took locks of Danny's soft brown hair as a keepsake. "I thought this was some tragic, freak occurrence that couldn't have been helped."

In fact, nothing could have been

Last May, a portable crib collapsed in a Lincoln Park day-care center, strangling 16-month-old Danny Keysar. His grieving parents deemed it a freak accident—until they learned that the crib had been recalled by the manufacturer five years earlier. Struggling to understand what had happened to their son, they uncovered a flawed system ill prepared to prevent another tragic death



How Danny Died

ON

HER WAY HOME FROM WORK ONE DAY LAST spring, Linda Ginzel steered her car toward the Sweet Tots daycare center in Lincoln Park, where her son Daniel had spent the day. The date was May 12, 1998, and there were several hours of sunlight left in what had been a beautiful afternoon. The moment she turned onto Wrightwood Avenue, Linda noticed five or six police cars. The closer she got, the more she worried.

Linda stopped, got out of her car, and walked up the steps. Before she could knock on the door, a police officer greeted her.

"What's going on?" she asked.

"A child has been involved in an accident."

"Here? In *this* house?" she asked, her voice jumping almost an octave.

"Yes, and you need to go to the hospital."

"I need to go to the hospital? *I* need to go?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"It was *my* son?"

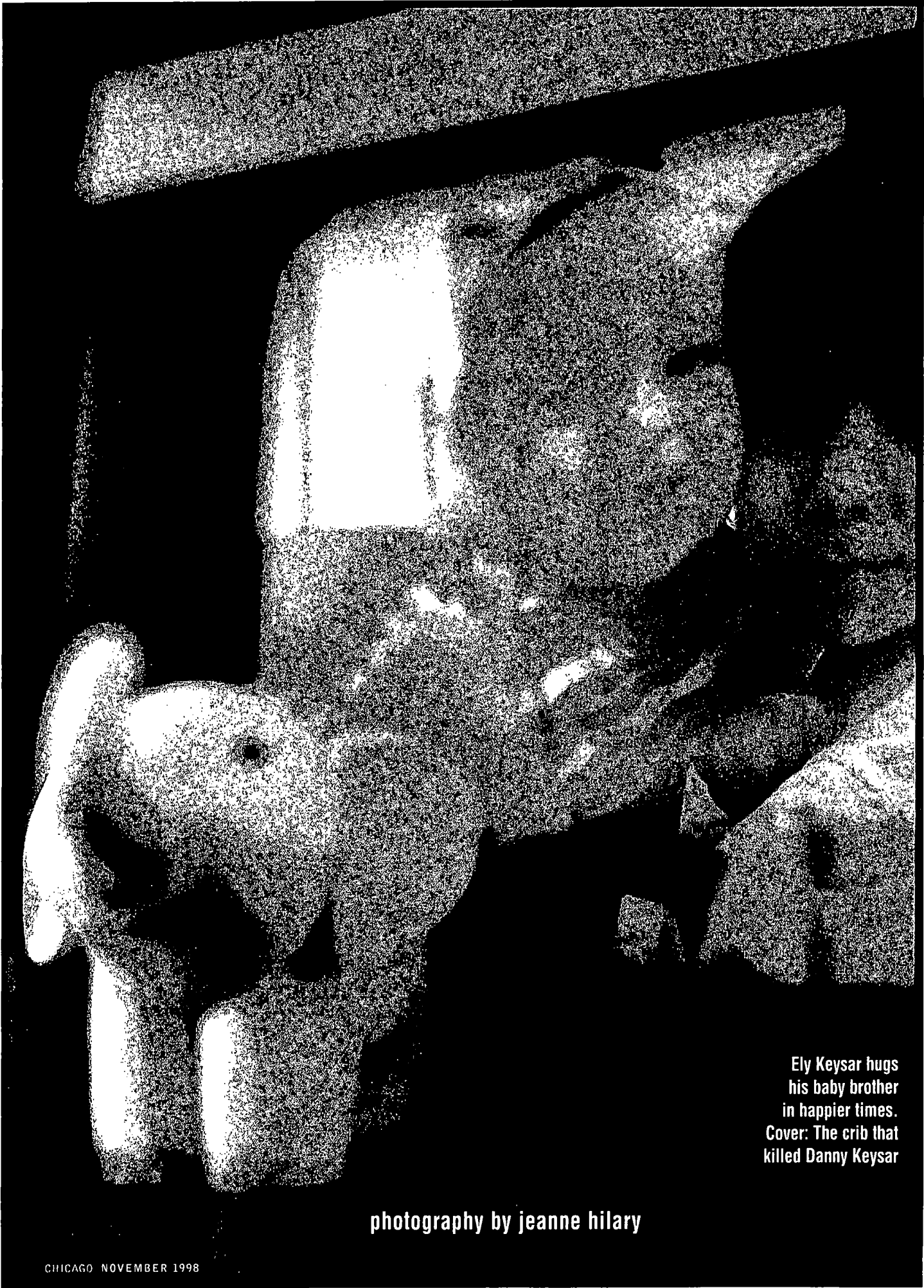
Another officer put his arm around Linda's shoulder and asked if she wanted a ride. She said OK. The first cop said Linda's husband, Boaz Keysar, was waiting at the hospital. The short drive to Children's Memorial seemed surreal, as if it were unfolding in slow motion. The officer made small talk in an effort to distract Linda and keep her calm. "So, you teach at the University of Chicago, huh?" he asked.

The next thing she remembers is the voice of the doctor: "We did everything we could," he said.

"Can I see my baby?" she asked.

by Jonathan Eig





Ely Keysar hugs
his baby brother
in happier times.
Cover: The crib that
killed Danny Keysar

photography by jeanne hilary

How Danny Died



Boaz Keysar, Linda Ginzel, and their son, Ely

A nurse led her into a room with a long table, a rocking chair, and a heat lamp.

"You can hold him as long as you like," the nurse said, handing her Danny's body in the same kind of pink-and-blue-striped blanket in which he'd been wrapped 16 months and 12 days earlier, when he was born. Boaz stood nearby.

Linda took the nurse at her word when she said she could hold her baby as long as she liked, and she decided she would spend the night, if not longer. She unwrapped the blanket and rubbed the lint from between Danny's toes.

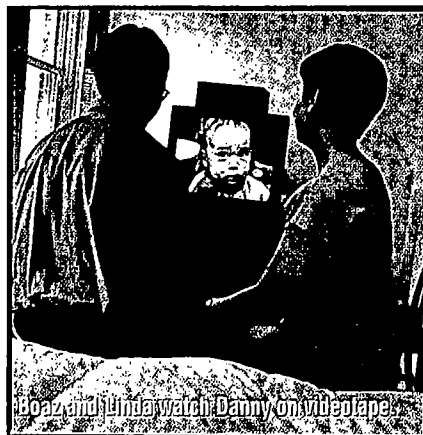
"Oh, I should have given him a bath last night," she thought.

She caressed his legs and rubbed his belly and lifted his hand to her cheek. For half a second she thought she felt his hand move against her skin. She spoke to him. She told him she was sorry he would never get to grow up, that he wouldn't get to see his brother, Ely, again, and on and on, until the nurse finally interrupted.

"You can hold him as long as you like," she said, "but soon you'll need to say goodbye."

Linda hadn't thought about that. The heat lamp had done its job for a while, but

Linda is haunted by two babies—her own, and one who has not yet died.



now Danny's body was growing cold and hard, and his fingernails and lips were turning blue. She would have to say goodbye. So Linda wrapped him back up in the blanket. The nurse cut a lock of Danny's hair and gave it to her.

"That was his first haircut," she told the nurse. And she cried.

Linda and Boaz made the short walk home from Children's Memorial and picked up Ely, who had been at a neighbor's

house. They spent the rest of the evening trying to explain to the four-year-old that his brother had died.

"At least he won't bite us anymore," Ely said.

When Linda and Boaz asked if he wanted a bedtime story or a song before he went to sleep, Ely said he wanted a story. A story about how Danny died.

Linda and Boaz told the story many times that night, not only to Ely, but also to their friends, their parents, and their brothers and sisters. It had been a freak accident, they said. Danny had spent the day with Anna, his daycare provider. He had somehow strangled when his portable crib collapsed, turning the horizontal side rail into a V-shaped wedge that squeezed his throat.

"It was just an accident," Danny's tearful parents repeated to everyone they talked to that night. "No one knows why it happened."

But the next morning, the story became more complicated, and, if possible, more painful. Boaz was out making arrangements for the funeral. Linda answered a knock on the front door of their home and

found a television crew on the steps. The reporter asked her if she wanted to comment on the death of her baby.

"And why is this news?" she asked.

"It's an unusual incident," replied the reporter.

Linda told the reporter to come back later and gently closed the door.

Later she would learn that it wasn't so unusual—but it was news: The crib in which her child died had been recalled by the manufacturer and the government five years earlier after it had killed four children. Danny was number five.

In Jewish tradition, when someone dies, the family sits at home for seven days of mourning, and for seven days their friends and relatives bring food and keep the mourners company. They refer to this process as sitting shiva. In some cases, sitting shiva can be redemptive, fulfilling, and even warmly amusing. Families spend long hours together telling stories about the deceased, remembering his favorite

How Danny Died

jokes, and poking gentle fun at his more amusing character flaws.

But there was nothing amusing about Danny Keysar's shiva, and there were not enough stories to fill seven days. Linda had already described the memories beautifully at the funeral when she read a brief eulogy, describing how Danny loved eating crayons as much as drawing with them, had already learned to hum "Twinkle, twinkle, little star," and had begun imitating his big brother's love for basketball. She had already described how he barked in Hebrew ("How-how!") instead of English ("Bow-wow!") when he saw a dog, how he liked to brush his hair with a toothbrush, and how he loved the scratch of his father's day-old beard when they kissed goodnight.

So the people who attended the shiva found themselves talking not so much about Danny's life as about his death. As it happens, Linda and Boaz are both professors at the University of Chicago, and most of the friends who surrounded them during their seven days of mourning were fellow business school and psychology faculty members whom they had met over the course of their academic careers. The visitors came from the best schools in the country—the U. of C., Princeton, and Stanford, among others—because Linda and Boaz had studied and taught at those schools. The friends and scholars sat around a coffee table in the living room and they began to piece together more information about how and why Danny had died.

They had already read in the newspapers the child had been strangled by a Playskool Travel-Lite crib, which was manufactured by Kolcraft Enterprises, of Chicago. Three children had died before the crib was recalled, and two more, including Danny, had died after that. Products made with the same design but manufactured by different companies had killed another seven children. More than 1.5 million cribs had been manufactured with the same or a similar design, and no one knew how many were still in use. They also discovered that state inspectors had visited Sweet Tots a week before Danny's death and hadn't checked to see if any recalled products were being used. That wasn't part of the inspector's job. The daycare center's operator, who had impeccable credentials, also had no idea the Travel-Lite had been recalled.

The more they talked, the more the professors began to sense that they had

tragically, accidentally, come upon an important issue they had never heard about, never researched, and never taught in their classrooms. They began framing Danny's death in terms of profit-and-loss, corporate ethics, government regulation, and brand marketing. Why was the product badly designed? Why didn't the recall succeed in getting the crib out of the daycare center? Why didn't users know this crib was dangerous? How many more children's products had been recalled—and how many of them were still in use, still threatening the lives of children?

As the discussion continued, pushed on by Linda's urgent tone, it became clear that the professors were no longer talking about hypothetical solutions. Something good had to come from Danny's death. Something had to change. Boaz turned on a tape recorder to capture some of the ideas being kicked around. At one point, Linda's voice, calm but forceful, can be heard on the tape: "What can Boaz and I do—without any money, without anything, just us?"

Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar

met at Princeton, where they were each pursuing doctorates in psychology. They fell in love quickly.

Boaz grew up in Jerusalem. At 40, he has short brown hair, big brown eyes, and a gently reassuring smile. Boaz, who researches and teaches cognitive psychology at the University of Chicago, also has the perfect temperament for academics. He is even-tempered and sharply analytical, and finds rewards in the small details of hard work well done. Perhaps it is not so surprising, considering that he studies the way people use language, that Boaz stays mostly quiet during interviews, listening as Linda does the bulk of the talking. When he does speak, it is usually in short sentences, and usually to support or amplify something his wife has said. If he begins to get emotional, he sometimes gets up and walks away until he can gather himself again.

If Boaz's voice represents a straight line, Linda's is a roller coaster, capable in one brief sentence of quick climbs and sudden drops, always moving purposefully. She is 39, a Colorado native, the daughter of a disabled Vietnam war veteran and a mother who worked on the assembly line in an electronics factory. She has a disarming smile and a gentle manner that nicely complement her ambition. She is currently the director of the U. of C. business school's corporate education program.

When Linda became pregnant with Danny, she prepared for his birth as if he were the most important start-up company ever built, or at least the most important since Ely had been born. She read and reread books, she attended child safety classes, and she began keeping meticulous journals. Memories, she says, are not just lived but made, and she wanted to preserve the memories of her children until they were old enough to start doing so themselves. In May 1996, she pasted a small photo of Danny's ultrasound exam in her journal and added the caption "First Photo of You."

Danny was born on the last day of 1996, so Linda used a 1997 calendar to chart the tiny details of her son's life: how his eyes turned from green to slate to brown; how he always woke up smiling; how he liked to bite everybody when he started teething. On May 12, 1998, less than halfway into her second calendar, Linda drew an "X" through the date and wrote "Danny died today." As if she would need the calendar to remember.

DANNY LOVED ANNA. HE SPENT HIS FIRST day at Sweet Tots when he was eight months old, and eleven months after he was born, he made "Anna" his first word—followed shortly thereafter by "Mama" and "Abba," the Hebrew word for "father." Anna declined to be interviewed and asked that her last name not be used, but she has told Boaz and Linda's lawyers the details of how Danny died. On the morning of the 12th, Anna set up the Travel-Lite in one of her bedrooms and tested the support rails to see that they were firmly locked. Later that day, three bigger children were napping on mattresses in her living room, and she put Danny in the crib. She left him alone for about 15 minutes. When she went back, the crib had collapsed, Danny was trapped, and he was not breathing. The medical examiner attributed his death to asphyxia and called it an accident.

Though he wasn't there, of course, and never saw his son trapped in the nutcracker grip of the Travel-Lite, Boaz remains haunted by the image. He still sees it in his head. He shakes his head and begins to lose his voice as he talks about it, and then he stands up and walks to the kitchen.

Linda, meanwhile, is obsessed by a more complicated image. Sometimes she sees a giant lead ball rolling behind her, not quite threatening to run her over, yet always pushing her on. At other moments, she sees the lead ball in her lap, like a load she's been saddled with, something she must care for so that the ball isn't passed

How Danny Died

on to another set of parents. The lead ball represents death. Or at least the threat of death. If another child dies in a Travel-Lite, the ball catches up to Linda; maybe it crushes her, or maybe it falls into the lap of another innocent mother.

"There will be another death," she says. "I don't know how I'm going to feel when that happens. Part of what keeps me going is the belief that we can help other children and keep other parents from going through what we're going through. I don't know how I'm going to deal with that."

THE CRIB THAT KILLED DANNY SITS IN STORAGE

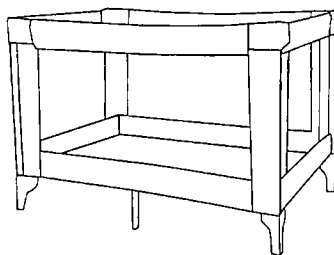
at the law offices of Schwartz, Cooper, Greenberger & Krauss on La Salle Street in the Loop. Its collapsible blue handrails have turned dull and lightly brown from who knows how many children grabbing and pulling on them over the years. The crib was bought in 1991 or 1992 at a Toys "R" Us store in Chicago. When her child outgrew it, the original owner passed the crib on to a friend, who eventually gave it to Sweet Tots, where she sometimes left her child. These days, the joint where Danny's neck was trapped sags a bit, but the rail remains firmly locked and doesn't collapse, even when an attorney from the firm pushes and pulls harder than an infant ever could.

Stephen Senderowitz, an attorney at Schwartz, Cooper, has filed a lawsuit against Kolcraft on behalf of Linda and Boaz; his co-counsel on the case is former U.S. attorney Dan Webb. The suit also seeks damages from Hasbro, the Rhode Island-based company that licensed the Playskool name that appears on the crib's side panel. (Officials at Hasbro failed to return several phone calls, and Kolcraft declined to answer questions.) Linda and Boaz will seek compensatory and punitive damages that could run into millions of dollars, the attorneys said, and they have vowed to dedicate a portion of the money to Kids In Danger, their new nonprofit organization.

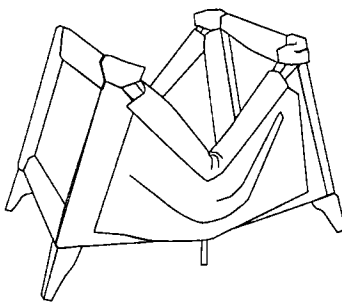
Kolcraft—a 50-year-old family-owned business with headquarters on the South Side and more than 400 employees in Chicago, California, North Carolina, and Georgia—manufactured and sold about 11,000 Travel-Lite cribs (models 77101 and 77103) from 1990 to 1992. The sky-blue box of plastic and nylon folds up small enough to slide behind a sofa and weighs only 26 pounds. When the crib was unveiled in 1989, the Juvenile Products

Manufacturers Association called it one of the year's ten most innovative products, and marketers hailed it as a terrific advance for parents of the cellular phone age. But Kolcraft had the product on the market only three years before recalling it.

Federal officials at the Consumer Product Safety Commission said that the crib's horizontal side railings were prone to collapse, though the government has never specifically said that the crib was badly built or designed. Thomas Koltun, Kolcraft's president, declined to be interviewed, but, in a pair of letters to *Chicago*, he maintained that the crib collapses only if it has not been set up properly. The company has not publicly admitted to a specific design flaw, saying only that the crib poses a "potential danger." According to the company's pretrial response, Kolcraft "specifically denies that the crib 'collapsed unexpectedly' as a result of any



If improperly locked, the horizontal railings of the Travel-Lite crib are prone to collapse.



defect in the crib." Attorneys for Linda and Boaz believe Kolcraft will likely argue in court that Danny died because the Travel-Lite had not been set up properly. Linda and Boaz say they are certain Anna set up the crib properly, and they don't blame her at all for Danny's death.

According to an independent test commissioned by the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, Danny's crib would not collapse so long as the knob at each end of both rails was turned to the locked position. Shaking would not cause the rails to unlock, the lab reported. But the rails could come unlocked when they were rotated, and tests showed that it took as little as five pounds of

torque to turn the rails and cause the crib's collapse. Lawyers for Linda and Boaz say that Danny could have easily rotated the rails.

"Even if the [Travel-Lite] crib was not set up properly," Senderowitz says, "the penalty should not be death." Kolcraft, he says, should have designed a crib that protected a child's life even when set up improperly, or else it should have designed one that could not be set up improperly at all. Now, he says, the company should pay damages not just for designing the crib badly, but also for failing to conduct a successful recall: At last count, only about 30 percent of the cribs that were sold had been recovered.

NEARLY A DOZEN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

have the power to order recalls. The one with the most responsibility is the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which was established in 1972. "But far from being the powerful product safety watchdog it was supposed to be," wrote *Consumer Reports* in 1994, "the CPSC of today is more of a gerbil." The agency's budget and staff were cut in half during the 1980s, and now, with a \$45-million annual budget and 480 employees, it is one of the smallest entities within the federal bureaucracy.

As a result of these drastic budget cuts, the CPSC usually relies on manufacturers to recall faulty products voluntarily. The CPSC doesn't have the legal authority to test products before they go on the market, so it usually waits for accident reports and lawsuits to alert its staff to an unsafe product. Manufacturers are required by law to report safety problems with their products, but the CPSC receives relatively few reports. The agency can also fine companies that do not report faulty products, but, once again, the small staff generally doesn't have time to pursue many investigations. Last year, it collected only \$1 million in fines from 11 cases. Critics of the agency say the CPSC goes soft on corporations because it can't get much done without their cooperation.

In 1997, the CPSC handled 362 product recalls. Of those, 239 were toys and children's products. Most of the manufacturers cooperated, but even that doesn't guarantee effective results. The average recall, according to the CPSC, results in the return of only 30 to 40 percent of defective products.

On big ticket items, such as cars and refrigerators, manufacturers can usually track down consumers, because many of them mail in warranty cards after making

How Danny Died

purchases. But there were no warranty cards on the Travel-Lite. Making matters more difficult, cribs are usually recycled many times. They are handed down to friends and relatives, sold at flea markets, and purchased used at resale shops.

Successful recalls are possible without the cards, even on hand-me-down products, but they are expensive. In one well-known case, Black & Decker recalled 750,000 fire-prone coffeemakers, spending millions of dollars on advertising and offering customers free repairs or new coffeemakers at a 70-percent discount. Black & Decker acted after receiving 45 claims of property damage but no serious injuries. But many companies prefer to roll the dice, gambling that lawsuits and fines won't cost as much as a thorough recall.

Critics say that the CPSC doesn't have the power or the funding to require companies to make more aggressive recall efforts. Some companies do agree to pay big bounties—up to three times the original cost of the product—even though the CPSC can't force them to do so. In fact, the CPSC has such a low profile that some manufacturers are not aware that they are required to report their faulty products. "I find companies sometimes that don't even know about the commission," says Dotty Drago, an independent product safety consultant and a former CPSC staff member.

"Our government has a friendly attitude toward the recallers," says Dirk C. Gibson, an assistant professor of communication and journalism at the University of New Mexico and an expert on the recall process. "They try to help them out a bunch. They give recallers every opportunity to appear that they're willing participants in the process."

Gibson says companies should spend more on recalls even if the government can't force them to. He says a good recall effort, combining heavy advertising and a strong public relations campaign, can actually boost the economic performance of a corporation. If a company, such as Black & Decker or Tylenol, can show consumers it is making every effort to ensure their safety, their customer base will grow in the long run, he says.

But David Messick, a professor of business ethics at Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and a friend of Linda and Boaz, says there isn't much economic incentive to improve the recall process. The federal government doesn't want to impose too many

restrictions on manufacturers because it doesn't want to hurt their profits. The manufacturers want to follow the law and make safe products, but they also want to make the biggest profits possible. Messick says that some companies withhold money from product testing and rely on lawsuits to inform them when a product turns out to be dangerous. "The problem is built into the way the system works," he says. This year, he'll be asking his students how they might redesign the system. Unfortunately, the answers will be hypothetical.

Critics say that manufacturers spend far too little advertising their recalls. And to make matters worse, the CPSC has no advertising budget at all. Russ Rader, a CPSC spokesman, says successful recalls depend heavily on the cooperation of the news media. In the case of the Travel-Lite, the agency issues new press releases every time a child dies in the crib. The crib is also included in the agency's "recall roundup," an annual news release that lists some of the most dangerous recalled products. Rader says that the CPSC issues hundreds of press releases every year, including video news releases for television stations, but the agency can't persuade most mainstream media outlets to run the reports. "The news media is a public servant, and they have a very important responsibility here when it comes to public safety," says Rader, who is clearly frustrated by the lack of response.

Actually, says Gibson, the news media are not public servants. They operate independently of government, they are privately owned, and they are not under any obligation to print what the government wants. "Unless there's a lot of blood or it's weird—like the doll that ate hair—it's not going to become news," says Gibson. "I don't think it's the media's fault. The media won't run stories that don't meet their criteria for news."

Kolcraft officials have boasted in press releases that they have done everything possible to recall the cribs. The company has, in fact, written directly to pediatricians and to all J. C. Penney catalog customers; mailed posters to stores that carried the cribs; set up a toll-free telephone hot line; and offered consumers \$60 for the return of each crib (the cribs originally sold for about \$89 each). But Kolcraft bought no advertising, and company officials declined to say how much they actually spent on the recall. Hasbro was not required to participate in the recall because the company neither manufactured nor distributed the Travel-Lite. The recall was announced by the CPSC and Kolcraft on February 18,

1993, after the commission received its third report of an infant death, and even then the CPSC struck an accommodating tone. "While it is still unclear why the crib side rails folded," said the government news release, "Kolcraft is recalling all Travel-Lite cribs in an effort to prevent any further risk of injury to infants using these cribs."

When *Chicago* used the federal Freedom of Information Act to request details on the Travel-Lite recall—details that might show when the defect in the product was first detected, how quickly the recall took place, and how much money Kolcraft had spent—the agency stalled. Rader said the agency was required by law to send the file first to Kolcraft for review to make sure it didn't contain any proprietary information before releasing it to the press. The process usually takes several months, he said.

In his letters to *Chicago*, Thomas Koltun said Kolcraft voluntarily recalled the cribs and removed them from store shelves "immediately upon learning of the potential hazard presented by the collapsing side rails." He wrote that the company offered refunds and urged that the products be destroyed "despite the fact that our investigation of the incidents involving the Travel-Lite confirms that the side rails of the portable crib collapse only if both of the two side rails are not properly rotated to a fully locked position."

Koltun wrote that he first learned in July 1991 that a child had suffocated in a Travel-Lite, but the child's mother refused to participate in an investigation, and Kolcraft was never able to determine how the child had suffocated. In January 1993, when the company got word of the second accident, it launched an investigation, Koltun says. One month later, Kolcraft was informed by the CPSC that a third death had occurred in November 1992. Only then, Koltun writes, did the company learn that the Travel-Lite's side rails had collapsed in the second and third incidents. Later reports by the CPSC indicated that the side rails had not been locked when the child died in November, but may have been locked when the next child died, in July 1995. Koltun says the company's own investigation suggests the rails were not locked in either incident. Officials at the CPSC would not comment on the details of the case. Nevertheless, within days of receiving the CPSC report in February 1993, Kolcraft recalled the Travel-Lite. The company also paid settlements to three of the first four families that lost children, but Koltun declined to say how much it paid.

How Danny Died

Senderowitz believes that Kolcraft is avoiding any admission of error to protect itself in court. He also insists that Kolcraft could have conducted a more effective recall if it had offered more money for returned cribs and spent more on advertising. If it is found that the company knew the product was not safe and dragged its feet on the recall, punitive damages could be very high. But even if the recall had run smoothly and effectively, he adds, Kolcraft should pay for having made a crib that was not reasonably safe for its intended use. "If you send it out and it's bad, you're liable," he says.

ONE DAY LATE LAST SUMMER. LINDA AND Boaz sat at the foot of their bed and watched a videotape with some of their favorite scenes from Danny's life, beginning with his delivery and ending shortly before his death. The videotape shows Danny in the bath, Danny crawling on an electronic keyboard, Danny playing peekaboo, Danny starting to walk, Danny dancing to the Beatles, Danny biting Linda, Danny biting Ely. Danny is definitely cute. By the end of the tape, he has red, crab-apple cheeks, an eight-tooth smile, and big brown eyes that seem to want to make friends.

Less than six months after his death, Danny remains a constant presence in their home, and his legacy is growing. Linda continues to think of new ways to spread the word about recalls, and she continues to be haunted by the image of a giant lead ball chasing her, pushing, falling into her lap. She is haunted by two babies—her own, and one who has not yet died.

"I was thinking about the depth of this story," she says. "There is something at the core of the story about public policy and the forces of commerce and politics, and what's caught between them is the children—my baby. What is it about the dynamics between commerce and politics that is allowing this to happen over and over and over again?"

When Danny died, Linda began almost immediately to concentrate her attention on the recalled cribs. She spent sleepless nights at the computer, researching recalls and learning why they failed, looking for ways in which a grassroots campaign might make a difference. She learned that, in a recent 12-month span, at least 52 children under the age of five had died while using toys or nursery items, and at least 137,000 children were hurt. She

wondered why, in all her parenting preparations, no one had warned her which products were dangerous, and she wondered what she could do to spread the word. The research, she knew, was in many ways a distraction from the grief. But she didn't want to analyze her motivations. She wanted to act.

"If the government can't do this, and the manufacturers don't," she says, "then we will. We'll tell everyone we know to tell everyone they know, and we'll get word to the level of the users."

"There's a lot to change," adds Boaz.

It began as simply as that. First, they sent an e-mail message to almost everyone they knew ("Subject: Prevent death of next child"), as well as a lot of people they didn't, and they asked everyone who got the message to pass it on again. The letter described Danny's death, warned about the Travel-Lite, and listed some of the other deadly children's products that had been recalled. The message also told parents how they could get up-to-date information on all recalls (www.cpsc.gov, or 1-800-638-2772). Within 11 days, the message had reached more than 5,000 people and had more than 300 responses, including several saying they had been using the defective cribs and would no longer do so. A few weeks later, their fledgling organization had a name, Kids In Danger, and its own Web site (www.kidsindanger.org).

In the beginning, Linda and Boaz almost felt as if they could reach every parent on their own, and Linda, in particular, went about trying to accomplish the task all at once. She composed a two-page flyer that warned parents of the danger of the Travel-Lite and instructed them on where to get information on other dangerous products. The flyer included a frightening drawing of a partially collapsed crib squeezing a child's throat—the precise image that haunted Boaz. Everywhere she went, Linda carried the pages in her purse and handed them out to parents with small children.

"I think Ely was a little embarrassed that I would walk up to complete strangers in airports and tell them my baby just died and I wanted to warn them about the dangerous product that killed him." She takes a long pause and fights back tears. "But I couldn't help it."

Early on, Ely got involved, too. He suggested handing out the flyers to every house on Burling Street. So he and his mother knocked on every door and told everyone they met what had happened.

One day Linda was watching *Mad About You* on television, and though she

thought she had taken her mind off Danny and the crib, she nearly jumped out of her seat when she realized that the set of the show included a recalled portable crib. Kids In Danger hopes to contact one of the show's stars or directors.

Soon the campaign grew more efficient. Linda and Boaz had a well-connected group of friends, and before long they had spoken to officials at the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Ambulatory Pediatric Association, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. DCFS distributed an alert to licensed day-care providers statewide. At City Hall, Caroline Shoenberger, the commissioner of consumer services, got angry when she heard what had happened. She had the city payroll department print a crib warning on the pay stub of every city employee, and she published alerts in several newsletters. Shoenberger also wrote to the American Association of Retired Persons and asked it to inform baby-sitting grandparents who might be using recalled cribs.

"Linda's a wonderful woman," says Shoenberger, "and no one should have to bear this. I have no question that the dedication that inspired her to go into teaching will also give her the drive to do something about this horrible situation. Maybe the point of Linda's story is that if everyone does a little bit, it can make a difference."

Some of the people who sat shiva with Linda and Boaz have also begun working on the issue. One of them, a journalist, is writing an article for a parenting magazine. Another, an expert in marketing, is helping Linda improve the flyer that she circulates.

"Sometimes I look at this issue and I get overwhelmed," says Marla Felcher, a former senior lecturer at Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and a friend of Linda's who joined the team. "I think it's never going to work. Then I talk to Linda and get back to work."

At some point soon, Linda says, she would like to start looking at big issues. Last summer Kids In Danger won a 1998 Allstate Safety Leadership Award for the Illinois region. Kids In Danger has already hired a part-time communications consultant. Before long, Linda and Boaz hope to expand their board of directors and hire a full-time executive director.

Then the organization might begin pursuing some of its long-term goals, such as working with parents and caregivers to establish a reliable network for the communication of lifesaving information; working with manufacturers to develop strategies for designing safer products; and working

How Danny Died

with government to craft better legislation to protect children from defective items. Linda and Boaz say they would like to see companies pressured to spend more money advertising recalls. In September, Linda testified before the Illinois House Committee on Children and Youth, suggesting that the state provide recall information when would-be daycare center operators apply for licenses, and that the state send newsletters containing recall lists to all licensed daycare providers. State officials vowed to implement the recommendations.

"In a bizarre way, it's been an incredibly optimistic thing, to see the depths of people's caring and compassion," Linda says. "It really gives me hope that something good can come out of this tragedy."

JUST WHEN LINDA AND BOAZ WERE BEGIN-ning to feel as if they were moving steadily ahead, beginning to get the nonprofit in

gear, and beginning to cope a little better with their anguish, the moment they had been dreading arrived. The big lead ball caught up with Linda.

Late one day in August, while he was at his baby sitter's house, ten-month-old William Curran, of Fair Haven, New Jersey, was strangled when a Travel-Lite crib collapsed and crushed his throat. William's baby sitter had bought the crib in 1992 and used it ever since, never learning that it had been recalled.

Kolcraft issued another press release, much like the one when Danny Keysar died. "This is a terrible tragedy we had hoped to prevent when we voluntarily recalled the Playskool Travel-Lite in 1993 and immediately began extensive public awareness efforts to urge consumers to stop using the products," Thomas Koltun said in his written statement.

When Russ Rader of the CPSC got the news, he blamed the media. "It breaks everybody's heart [when these accidents occur]. They're deaths and tragedies, but

they're preventable. We got the call the other day from the local newspaper [in New Jersey], but it turns out that newspaper had never printed anything about the recall roundup earlier this year, and they didn't print our reannouncement after the Chicago death. Of course, now they're doing front-page stories. Maybe if they had printed something when they had two opportunities this year, it might have changed the outcome."

Linda got the news two days after William Curran's death. She had left work early and driven home, where she found the message on her answering machine.

A few minutes later, she had a hard time expressing her feelings. "I'm in shock," she says. "We had so little time. Our whole campaign was to prevent the next death and we..." She never finishes the sentence.

"William Curran," she says softly, and then gathers herself and goes on.

"Now we'll just have to prevent the next one." ■



KIDS IN DANGER

A non-profit organization for the protection of young children from dangerous juvenile products

Kids In Danger, a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization, was created in the memory of Danny Keysar and all victims of deadly nursery equipment.

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:
Kids In Danger, PO Box 146608, Chicago, IL 60614-6608

Thank you for helping us save lives.

safety warning

what every parent and caregiver must know about recalls to keep children safe.

BY ELLEN LIBERMAN AND MARLA FELCHER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTINE ALICINO

There was nothing in the bright day in May 1998 to foretell the tragedy that would define the lives of Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar of Lincoln Park, Illinois. As he did every morning, Boaz got out of bed at 5 a.m. to kick-start the day's routine for his family of four. He prepared breakfast and read

5-year-old Ely and 17-month-old Danny a story,

stealing a moment to tickle his younger son. When Linda left Danny at Sweet Tots daycare a little later that morning, his babysitter was tickling him in his favorite spot, right under his ear. Danny's infectious laugh was ringing in his mother's ears all the way to work.

When Linda next saw her son, that afternoon, he was silent and still, bundled in a receiving blanket by the emergency room nurses at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He was dead—asphyxiated by a portable crib that appeared to have collapsed when Danny grabbed the top rails as he tried to stand. His neck was trapped in the V-shaped wedge of the folded rails.

Their grief seemed bottomless, but Linda and Boaz could find no villains in the events that led to Danny's death. His babysitter had been caring for him in her home daycare setting since he was 7 months old. His death had devastated her, too. State child-welfare workers had inspected Sweet Tots just eight days before the tragedy.

But Linda and Boaz's sorrow turned to horror when, the day before they buried Danny, they discovered from a newspaper article that their son's death was not an isolated incident. The portable crib in which Danny died had been implicated in four other fatal accidents since 1990, when the manufacturer, Kolcraft Enterprises, Inc., of Chicago, began selling the Travel-Lite crib under the Playskool brand name. And portable cribs with similar designs had been associated with the deaths of seven other children.

The dangers of these portable cribs had been so well documented that since 1993, federal regulators from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) had recalled 10 models of portable play yards and cribs manufactured by five different companies, including the Travel-Lite, which was recalled in March 1993. In the past eight years, Evenflo, Century, Draco, Baby Trend, and Kolcraft sold more than 1.5 million of these portable play yards and cribs. (This is in addition to last November's recall of almost 10 million playpens. See "Recall Alert" booklet, *opposite page 33*, for specifics.)

In response to the recalls, some companies (Evenflo, Century, and Baby Trend) offered free repair kits to prevent the cribs from collapsing; another (Kolcraft) offered a \$60 refund (the crib's original price was \$89), which in November 1998 was increased to \$120; and one company (Draco) went out of business, leaving its customers no recourse.

THE PROBLEM WITH RECALLS

Yet, the very people who should have been informed about those recalls—the daycare center staff, child-welfare workers, Danny's parents—were clueless. The cribs were still out there, despite two recall announcements by the CPSC.

Kolcraft officials emphasize that "the company is committed and dedicated to the safety of children. We are doing all we can to get the word out about the risks associated with the Playskool Travel-Lite."

Given their experience, Linda and Boaz aren't convinced that Kolcraft has done enough. The recall was ineffective, they contend. "We knew we had to do something,"

Danny Keysar (top left) died in a portable crib that had been recalled five years earlier. Any product you buy today can be recalled tomorrow, so be aware.

In one year, more than 137,000 infants and children were rushed to hospital emergency



Top left: courtesy Keysar family

rooms due to injuries received from faulty nursery equipment, supplies, and toys.

10 commandments to ensure your child's safety

REVIEW PRODUCTS IN YOUR HOME and at your child-care provider's to make sure no toys, products, or equipment being used have been recalled. Use our "Recall Alert" booklet (opposite page 33), and check the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Web site (www.cpsc.gov) for the most up-to-date recall information.

IF YOUR CHILD IS INJURED while using a product, immediately call the CPSC hot line (800-638-CPSC) and the manufacturer.

CALL THE CPSC (at the 800 number listed above) and ask to be put on its automatic mailing list (the CPSC does not sell this list to any third parties). Each week the agency will mail you free updates on recalls. Ask whoever cares for your child (daycare center director or childcare provider) if she is on the CPSC mailing list, too. If not, add her name to the list, and make sure she reads a copy of this story.

IF YOU HEAR OF A RECALL, spread the word (try e-mail) and ask those you tell to do the same.

IF YOU RECEIVE A HAND-ME-DOWN PRODUCT from a relative or friend, do not use it before finding out if it has been recalled (check our "Recall Alert" booklet and

the CPSC Web site or hot line). Do the same before you pass along a used baby product to another family.

IF YOU SHOP at garage sales, yard sales, or flea markets, be sure that any item you're considering hasn't been recalled (check the CPSC Web site before leaving home for the latest recalled products, and when browsing refer to our "Recall Alert" booklet).

DO NOT ASSUME that a product that failed to harm your first child will be safe for subsequent children. Before you reuse any item, be sure that it has not been recalled.

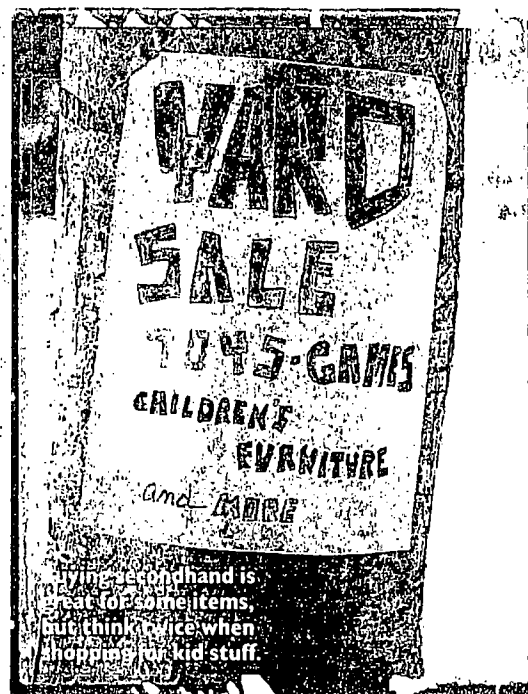
IF A PRODUCT COMES WITH A WARRANTY CARD (including one is now voluntary except in the case of car seats), fill it out and return it. That way, the manufacturer will be able to get in touch with you if necessary.

PUT A FRIEND OR A RELATIVE on the CPSC's automatic mailing list as a baby or shower gift.

PAY ATTENTION to whether or not your local newspapers and radio and TV stations report recall news. If you don't think they are as vigilant as they could be, call and tell them so.

consumers, and oversees recalls when product defects are discovered.

Ideally, the CPSC's work on safety standards should prevent a dangerous product from reaching the marketplace. But unfortunately, design flaws are often discovered only after consumers have bought and used a product, even though most manufacturers carry out extensive safety testing before bringing a product to market. "Having a product recalled can destroy a company overnight," claims Peter Reynolds, president of Brio, a manufacturer of juvenile products in Germantown, Wisconsin. "You certainly don't want to be associated with an unsafe product."



Boaz says. "We realized that [the crib] was a time bomb that would kill again—and it did." In August, two months after the CPSC issued a third recall notice on this same portable crib, 10-month-old William Curran of Fair Haven, New Jersey, became the sixth child to die in a Playskool Travel-Lite crib.

Linda and Boaz are now on a mission to prevent any other child from dying because of an unsafe product. Within days of their son's death, they sent an urgent e-mail to everyone they knew, plus friends of friends, warning them about the danger of the Travel-Lite crib. Hundreds of people wrote back to thank them, some saying that they literally pulled their babies from the recalled crib as soon as they got the message.

But Linda and Boaz, both professors

at the University of Chicago, needed to do something more. Within just three weeks of Danny's death, they founded a nonprofit organization, called Kids in Danger, to spread the word about product recalls more effectively.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PRODUCT IS RECALLED

Congress established the CPSC in 1972 to protect the public from potentially hazardous consumer products. Today, the agency monitors more than 15,000 types of products, from highchairs to gas grills. The CPSC works with manufacturers to develop product safety standards, enforces regulations on products over which it has legal jurisdiction (fireworks, clackers, lawn darts), educates

Yet, in fact, from October 1996 to September 1997, more than 70,000 children under 5 visited emergency rooms nationwide due to injuries from faulty nursery equipment and supplies. In that same period, another 65,000 children under 5 were injured by toys.

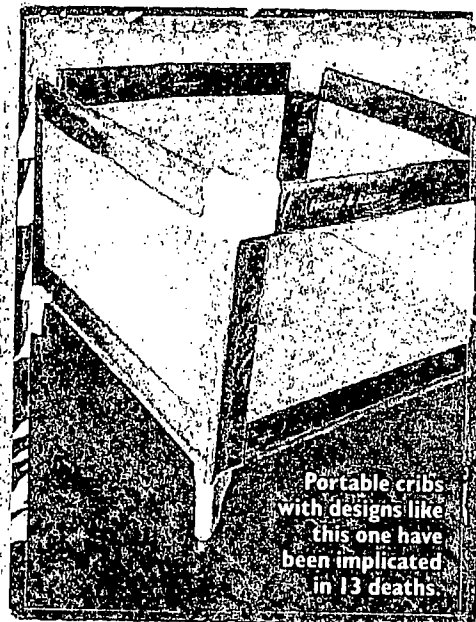
Who initiates a recall? By law, U.S. manufacturers are required to report hazards to the CPSC as soon as they become aware of them, but sometimes they don't. (In 1997, the CPSC received 250 such reports.) When a manufacturer contacts the CPSC with a plan to recall a product, this initiates what is called a Fast Track recall, and the

Car seats are the only juvenile product required to have a warranty card

message can usually get to the public within 20 business days. "Shock waves go through a company when a product gets recalled," says Brio's Reynolds, whose company tests its products in its own laboratory during the prototype phase and, once they're in production, with an independent lab.

But there are other ways products get recalled. Emergency room visits trigger recalls. Police and medical examiners file reports with the CPSC. The agency searches out news stories that implicate products in injuries or deaths. Sometimes, consumers help the CPSC identify hazardous products by phoning in complaints to the CPSC's toll-free hot line (see "10 Commandments to Ensure Your Child's Safety," page 30).

If the CPSC establishes that a product is dangerous, its representatives meet with the manufacturer to decide



and sent it to 700 TV stations nationwide. But only 140 stations aired the tape. And not one station where Danny or William lived—in Chicago or New Jersey—showed it.

"We can't go into every home and pass out recall notices," says CPSC spokesperson Russ Rader. "But the media has access to homes daily." Yet even if every media outlet played or printed every recall notice, it would be hard to inform every consumer.

SECONDHAND: HOW SAFE?

Many parents rely on hand-me-downs from friends and family or purchase used products because of the high costs associated with having a baby.

But that may not be the safest route to take. Bridget Reuter, a spokesperson for the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association, warns parents especially against the dangers of buying secondhand car seats. "Safety standards change frequently," she says, "and it's often impossible to tell by looking at a car seat if it has been in a crash. Imperceptible cracks can be lethal. I'd caution parents to never use or buy a car seat that is more than six years old."

The older the product, the greater the chance that it is no longer in the original owner's hands. The Danny Foundation (no connection to Danny Keysar), a California-based organization dedicated to crib safety, estimates that 3 out of every 4 newborns sleep in used cribs. A study comparing registered births with new crib sales suggests that as many as 30 million secondhand cribs are in use or in storage.

So what's the message for parents? Be vigilant about the products with which your child comes in contact. "We didn't know the extent of the danger kids are put into every day by unsafe products," Boaz Keysar says. "We were living our lives in ignorance." When it comes to recalls of children's products, many parents are. ■

Ellen Liberman is a reporter at the Providence Journal in Rhode Island. Marla Felcher is a freelance journalist.

If in doubt, buy new, but still keep informed about recalls and check the items in your home.

how to solve the problem. With few exceptions, manufacturers agree to some sort of voluntary action (the CPSC can require a manufacturer to offer a free repair kit, a product replacement, or a refund), and a press release is sent out to the media to warn consumers.

INFORMING PARENTS

Rounding up recalled products is not as simple as it might seem. The CPSC is good at getting a dangerous item—say, a stroller—off store shelves, since the manufacturers know which stores are carrying them. But once a parent has bought a stroller and is pushing a 2-year-old through the park in it, recalling that stroller becomes tricky.

Dangerous children's products stubbornly resist recalls for two reasons: parents' tendency to pass along baby equipment to family and friends, and manufacturers' and the CPSC's dependence on the media to inform the public about hazardous items.

A media announcement, typically prepared and issued jointly by the manufacturer and the CPSC, explains the nature of the hazard, the injuries and deaths (if any) the product is suspected of having caused, and the consumer's best course of action. The notice is sent to newspapers and radio and television stations in the hope it will become part of the day's news. Press releases are also sent to magazines such as this one.

But there are no guarantees that the information will reach parents. These are often one-time messages that a parent can easily miss. Or the recall can fail to get any media play. That's what happened in Danny's and William's cases.

Last April, a month before Danny died, the CPSC included the Travel-Lite in its annual roundup of major children's product recalls. The CPSC produced a video news release of the recall roundup

Resources

To become further educated on children's product safety issues, contact:

- **Kids in Danger** (www.kidsindanger.org), the Chicago organization that was started by Danny Keysar's parents, for information on the recall process.
- **The Danny Foundation** (www.dannyfoundation.org) for crib safety news.
- **The CPSC Web site** (www.cpsc.gov) or hot line (800-638-CPSC) for the most up-to-date recall information.

Last November, 9.6 million playpens were recalled due to a strangulation risk.

OUTFRONT

INTERNMENT CAMPS | MURDOCH UPDATES | HELLRAISER | COMPAQ IS WATCHING YOU

Silent Recall

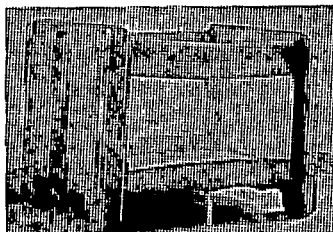
DANIEL KEYSAR DIED ON May 12 at his babysitter's home when his portable crib collapsed and strangled him. It was a freak accident, his parents, Boaz Keysar and Linda Ginzel, were certain. The Chicago couple didn't blame the babysitter: Only eight days before, state child welfare workers had inspected and approved her Sweet Tots daycare center, and she had loved the 17-month-old toddler like one of her own.

So there was only sorrow when Ginzel held her son for the last time in the Children's Memorial Hospital emergency room. "I touched his little toes and rubbed his belly," Ginzel says. "I was very calm." [Reporter E. Marla Felcher is a personal friend of the Keysar-Ginzel family. —Eds.]

The day before Danny's funeral, Ginzel's calm evaporated when she learned that the Playskool Travel-Lite Portable Crib that killed Danny had been recalled five years earlier by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). In three incidents, toddlers apparently collapsed the crib's top side rails, wedging their necks inside the folded V of the rails and suffocating.

Keysar and Ginzel were stunned. Why hadn't anyone, not even the state inspectors, known it was dangerous?

A *Mother Jones* investigation shows that, too often, the recall system fails. While manufactur-



Last spring, 17-month-old Daniel Keysar died, caught in the collapsed rails of the Travel-Lite Portable Crib (above). The crib had been recalled five years earlier.

ers make use of their resources and marketing savvy to sell a crib, they do not always make the same effort later to tell consumers that the same crib could be deadly. The CPSC, the federal agency charged with overseeing recalls, can't make them. Underfunded, understaffed, and buffeted by political forces, the CPSC depends too heavily on the news media to warn consumers about potentially dangerous products.

"Consumers have a sense that the product wouldn't be sold if it weren't safe, that the government is...actively checking," says Mary Ellen Fise, product safety director for the Consumer Federation of America (CFA). "This is simply not true."

The CPSC and Kolcraft Enterprises, the manufacturer that

made the Travel-Lite crib under Hasbro's Playskool brand name, initially announced the recall in 1993, again in April before Danny died, and a third time in June. The message still failed to reach some members of the public. On Aug. 19, 10-month-old William Curran of Fair Haven, N.J., died at his babysitter's house, reportedly trapped in a collapsed Kolcraft portable crib. (The CPSC is investigating the incident.)

"We have been doing all that we can to get the word out," Kolcraft president Thomas Koltun said in a statement released to *Mother Jones*.

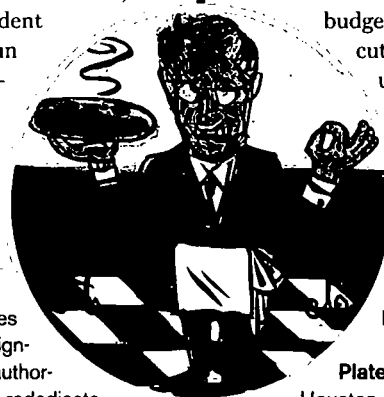
Yet getting "the

word out" can be particularly difficult with infant products (a \$4.42 billion market in 1997). Even while new products keep coming, used ones remain in circulation as hand-me-downs and yard sale staples.

Since 1993, more than 1.5 million portable cribs have been recalled. Kolcraft sold nearly 12,000 Travel-Lites before recalling them and now offers consumers a \$60 refund for the crib, originally priced at about \$89. How many have actually been recovered or discarded is impossible to tell. While the CPSC may know, it cannot legally release this information; Kolcraft declined requests to answer specific questions.

THE CPSC OVERSEES THE safety of 15,000 different types of consumer products, but operates at a fraction of the budget it had 24 years ago. The commission suffered severe

budget and staffing cuts in the '80s under the pro-business thumb of Ronald Reagan. Its 1997 budget of



Lodge Ridgedale, Mo.
George Bush
Plate Otto's BBQ, Houston, Texas

President Bush's Pizza (artichoke hearts, pepperoni, Canadian bacon, Italian sausage, green peppers, mushrooms, onions, and black olives), Fuzzy's Pizza, Houston, Texas

George Bush Bonefish Tournament Cheeca Lodge, Islamorada, Fla. —Jennifer King

Not Ready for Rushmore

George Bush can't seem to emerge from the shadow of his old boss Ronald Reagan, who's been getting all the choice namesakes (e.g., the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C., and Reagan Washington National Airport). But President Clinton could lend some much-needed gravi-

tas to Bush's list of namesakes this winter by signing legislation authorizing the CIA to rededicate its Langley, Va., headquarters in his honor. The list already includes:

George Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston, Texas (dedicated in 1997)

George Bush Elementary School Midland, Texas
Bush Cabin at Big Cedar

OUTFRONT

\$42.5 million is still 60 percent lower than the \$90 million (adjusted for inflation) it had in 1974; staffing levels are 43 percent lower.

Politics also seems to influence the CPSC's enthusiasm for regulating manufacturers. In 1989, the Danny Foundation, a California-based nonprofit organization dedicated to crib safety, petitioned the CPSC to recall all cribs with finials (decorative corner posts). The finials represented a clear danger, says Jack Walsh, the foundation's executive director. Since the mid-'70s, more than 30 children had died from being caught in them, and Canada had already banned the corner-post design. But after two years of review, the CPSC turned the petition down—the result, Walsh says, of an anti-regulatory political climate. "It was outrageous. If there was ever a clear case for a recall, this was it," Walsh says.

To its credit, the CPSC has greatly increased its watch over products and manufacturers under its current chair, Clinton appointee Ann Brown (who declined *Mother Jones'* request for an interview). In 1997, the CPSC issued 266 recalls of defective products, compared with 105 in 1990.

The CPSC depends on several methods for identifying potentially dangerous products; still, the recall process has fundamental flaws. Consumers can complain to the CPSC's toll-free hotline; last year, the agency received 3,555 reports of unsafe products (fewer than 10 a day).

The CPSC gathers independent statistical information from a patchwork of sources, including emergency room data, newspaper articles, medical examiner and police reports, and field inspections. The commission describes itself as "data driven," but its information on product-

related injuries is "often sketchy," according to a 1997 General Accounting Office report.

Finally, the agency relies on manufacturers, which are legally obligated to notify the CPSC within 24 hours when they learn of a product defect that could cause injury or death. CPSC officials concede that underreporting is a serious problem.

In 1997, the commission negotiated a total of \$695,000 in civil penalties with companies that

"The media should be a party in some of these lawsuits that are going after manufacturers."

broke this law. For example, the CPSC charged Century Products with failing to report problems with certain cribs and strollers even after 560 consumer complaints, including 29 injuries. While Century denies any wrongdoing, in February it agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$225,000.

IDENTIFYING DANGEROUS products is only the first step.

How the CPSC notifies the public is also controversial. Although companies rarely dispute the need for a consumer alert, manufacturers worry about how their brand name is perceived and negotiate the terms of a recall with federal regulators in closed-door meetings. "We are always looking for new and innovative ways to do a recall," CPSC spokesman Russ Rader says. "We negotiate notification measures; it's not a cookbook."

Both the CPSC and manufacturers rely heavily on the news media. Increasingly, the CPSC has put a lot of faith in the power of video news releases: graphic demonstrations of product hazards that the agency sends via satellite to local and network news stations. CPSC officials complain, however, that unless

somebody has died, the media ignores recall notices. "The media prints lottery results, but not recalls," Rader says. "The news media should be a party in some of these lawsuits that are going after the manufacturers."

A month before Danny Keysar died, the CPSC highlighted the Travel-Lite's faulty design in its annual "Recall Round-Up," a video news release of high-risk products the agency believes are still in people's homes. Nationwide, 140 stations picked it up, but not one station in New Jersey or Chicago—where William Curran's and Danny Keysar's babysitters live—aired it.

Regardless of impact, manufacturers don't like videos, says David H. Baker, a lawyer in the Washington, D.C., office of Thompson, Hine & Flory, a firm that represents manufacturers. "You can't consistently be in the consumer's face saying, 'Sorry, we made a defective product.'"

Indeed, bad publicity from recalls can be bad for the bottom line. Paul Rubin, an economics professor at Emory University and former chief economist for the CPSC, estimates that a company loses up to 7 percent of its net worth after a recall.

Consumer advocates believe the CPSC should place more of a burden on manufacturers. While the CPSC requires companies to document a recall's progress, such as whether it was men-

tioned in any news media, its regulations do not require companies to meet specific numerical goals for recovering recalled products. The CPSC doesn't even ask companies to report how much they spend on recalls. CPSC compliance officials estimate that the average manufacturer spends at least \$250,000. A Hasbro spokesman said his company spends between "several hundred thousand to millions" on any given product recall.

"The reason [manufacturers] go into this is to make a profit," the CFA's Fise says. "In exchange, they have the responsibility not to injure or kill someone. Manufacturers have this enormous responsibility, yet the CPSC can't force them to take it. In most cases, the CPSC doesn't have the resources to litigate every case."

A MONTH AFTER DANNY'S death, Ginzler and Keysar established Kids in Danger, a foundation that informs parents and caregivers about recalled nursery equipment. In June, they filed a wrongful death lawsuit in Cook County Circuit Court against Kolcraft and Hasbro. "I'd so much rather be playing with Danny," Ginzler says, "instead of trying to save the next child." —E. Marla Felcher and Ellen Liberman

CPSC Consumer Hotline: 1-800-638-2772,
www.cpsc.gov; Kids in Danger, P.O. Box 146608,
Chicago, IL 60614, www.kidsindanger.org.

UPDATES

TOBACCO-FRIENDLY MEDIA

In the September/October Editor's Note, we reported the contents of a secret 1985 Philip Morris memo in which former CEO Hamish Maxwell detailed the tobacco giant's strategy to "exploit...ad agencies and media proprietors," noting that "[Rupert] Murdoch's papers rarely publish anti-smoking articles these days."

Since then, *Mother Jones* has uncovered yet another docu-

ment that confirms Philip Morris' media strategy. In another 1985 memo, Maxwell wrote: "A number of media proprietors...are sympathetic to our position—Rupert Murdoch and Malcolm Forbes are two good examples. The media like the money they make from our advertisements, and they are an ally that we can and should exploit." To view the full document, see the MoJo Wire (www.motherjones.com/sideshow/murdoch.html).

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	re: CPSC meeting (1 page)	07/11	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Heather Howard (Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 21195

FOLDER TITLE:

CPSC [Consumer Product Safety Commission] Kids in Danger

2012-0254-S
rc683

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

6/20

CPSC - Kids in Danger.

Barbara Chinn

CPSC - Pamela Gilbert,
gen'l counsel
dir of compliance

Barbara

amplifying recall

Swiftness of recall

effectiveness of recalls -- more explicit info re: effectiveness of recalls

good manufacturers

Pamela - how do you reach consumers once it's been sold

250-300 ^{reports} ~~complaints~~ filed by companies

Fast Track - averages 8 days b/w report & recall - ^{when mfr. wants to recall}
get 60% of products

when mfr. doesn't want to do recall & reports ^(or CPSC initiates investigation)
takes ~ 6 mos. + recall is less effective -
b/c market more saturated

recall - press release, paid ads, etc. video news releases
always indicate what the risk is.
web site.

Recall Roundup - govt states to support - list most imp.
recalls (usually children's)

partnership w/ USPS - "not wanted" products posters

Scavenging of day care centers + Thrift stores + hotels + hotels
- have list of stores + get info + recalls out to

Secondary market

- work up online auction houses - eBay -
get pop up - would you like to check info?
(anything in toy, etc. - cartoon products)

Barbara - What is success rate for recalls?

- depends on price of toy
look at # of people who take advantage of remedy
but people may just throw away

all mfrs have done recalls

mfr - test to mandatory + voluntary safety stds.

Δ then testing reqs?

"Code of Conduct" - Best Practices -?

design safety into product, do human factors testing

testing & "recall card" - also marketing info, etc.

testing of metal, Whisper + Taurus

- car seats are required by law to have

Could we get all the companies to agree to do this?

Internet co's - want to be clear house - consumers register
w/ them + to co. dealer of info. + tell consumer
about recall - no charge

A
B
C

6/20

②

CPSC - Kids i-Danger (cont.)

already
doing
§ 38(a)

- ① publish list of recalled products
- eq- help ill in licensing daycare - give ^{new} list
(required to not have any)

already
doing

- ② partnering w/ state + local

- ③ what announcement could ^{should} include - § 38(b)
(repeals § 6(b))
could do

④

⑤

reporting effectiveness -

would breakdown #'s help + hurt CPSC
CPSC claims #'s don't tell much - products
may have been thrown away

Barbara - 100 most dangerous

Code of Conduct - objectives companies
can strive for -
e.g. - effectiveness
recall cards

Share info w/ states - model states

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3208

To amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to improve the way the Consumer Product Safety Commission handles defective products and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 1999

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH (for himself, Mr. BERRY, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. RUSH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to improve the way the Consumer Product Safety Commission handles defective products and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Daniel Keysar Memo-
5 rial and Childhood Consumer Product Safety Act of
6 1999".

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress finds the following:

*Mr. Berry
does most
of these things*

1 (1) On May 12, 1998, Chicago resident Linda
2 Ginzel and her husband, Boaz Keysar, lost their 16-
3 month old son, Danny, when a defective crib col-
4 lapsed and strangled him at a Chicago day care
5 home. Although the licensed day care facility had
6 been inspected just 8 days before the incident and
7 the crib had been recalled by the Consumer Product
8 Safety Commission in 1993, the day care home was
9 not aware of the recall and it never removed the de-
10 fective crib. Danny was the twelfth child to die in
11 this type of defective crib nationwide. Moreover, the
12 thirteenth child was killed in Fair Haven, New Jer-
13 sey just 3 months later.

14 (2) The Consumer Product Safety Commission
15 (CPSC) is an independent Federal regulatory agency
16 created in 1972 to protect the public against unrea-
17 sonable risks of injuries and deaths associated with
18 consumer products. Although the CPSC has jurisdic-
19 tion over about 15,000 types of consumer products,
20 its budget is less than the Food and Drug Adminis-
21 tration's budget for regulating animal medicines.

22 (3) The budget for the Consumer Product Safe-
23 ty Commission has failed to keep pace with inflation.
24 In fact, when indexed for inflation, the Commission's
25 1974 budget allocation of \$30 million would be \$98

1 million today, compared to the current level of \$47
2 million.

3 (4) Although manufacturers are required by law
4 to report safety problems with their products, on av-
5 erage only about 260 reports are filed each year.
6 Yet, annual CPSC inspections of over 2,000 prod-
7 ucts consistently revealed close to half the products
8 in violation of CPSC regulations.

9 (5) On average, the CPSC recalls about 200-
10 300 products each year, the majority of which are
11 children's products or toys.

12 (6) In 1998, 38 million individual units of chil-
13 dren's products were recalled.

14 (7) Although the CPSC is able to have recalled
15 products removed from retail stores, it is more dif-
16 ficult to have recalled products removed from con-
17 sumers' homes, the secondary market, including re-
18 sale stores and child care facilities. On average, only
19 10 to 30 percent of the products recalled are re-
20 paired or returned. The number of products de-
21 stroyed by the consumer is unknown. As a result,
22 children and other consumers are likely to be injured
23 and some killed by recalled products that have not
24 been returned, destroyed, or repaired.

1 **SEC. 3. RECALLED PRODUCTS.**

2 The Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2501
3 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 "RECALLED PRODUCTS

5 "SEC. 38. (a) Within 180 days from the date of en-
6 actment of this section, the Commission shall establish a
7 comprehensive list of all children's products subject to re-
8 call or corrective action under the statutes it administers
9 over the last 15 years and shall undertake to make the
10 list widely available to the general public, State and local
11 governments, and the secondary market, including retail
12 stores and child care facilities through its toll free tele-
13 phone hotline, electronic mail, and web site listings. The
14 Commission shall develop a strategy for partnering with
15 State and local governments to produce and distribute the
16 list under this subsection to individual consumers and the
17 secondary market, including resale stores and child care
18 centers.

*publish list
of recalled
products*

19 "(b) Section 6(b) shall not apply to Commission an-
20 nouncements of corrective actions. All Commission an-
21 nouncements of corrective actions, including press re-
22 leases, shall be identified as 'recall'. The announcements
23 shall, with respect to the product for which the announce-
24 ments are made—

*have to
give co's notice*

1 “(1) state clearly and concisely, in the strongest
2 possible language, the nature and extent of the prod-
3 uct hazard and any potential risk of injury; and

4 “(2) shall include the number of known deaths,
5 injuries and incidents associated with the product
6 hazard being corrected.

7 In stating the hazard and risk of injury, the announce-
8 ment shall use clear and unambiguous language intended
9 to motivate consumers to participate in the recall. In addi-
10 tion, the Commission shall publicly post press releases and
11 other announcements of corrective action, e.g. annual re-
12 port listings in a timely manner.

13 “(c) The Commission shall establish a pilot program
14 to work with manufacturers and retailers to obtain the
15 identity of consumers who purchase specified juvenile or
16 children’s products so the consumer can be notified in the
17 event of a product recall.

18 “(d) The Commission shall report to Congress annu-
19 ally on the effectiveness of the recalls ordered under sec-
20 tion 15(d) for each specific product so that the percentage
21 of products sold and subject to such recall or corrective
22 action and actually recalled or repaired may be determined
23 and made available to the general public through its toll
24 free telephone hotline, electronic mail, and website.”.

warranty?

reporting effectiveness

CPS C
was
ending
this one off

1 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 The first sentence of section 32(a) of the Consumer
3 Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2081) is amended by strik-
4 ing out "not to exceed" and all that follows and inserting
5 "\$100 million for each of the fiscal years 2001, 2002, and
6 2003."

○



A nonprofit organization for the
protection of young children from
dangerous juvenile products

Linda Ginzel

Ely Keysar

Boaz Keysar

Co-founders

(773) 296-9658 Phone/Fax
Email@KidsInDanger.org
www.KidsInDanger.org
P. O. Box 146608, Chicago, IL 60614-6608

HR 3208

The Daniel Keysar Memorial
and Children's Consumer Product
Safety Act of 1999

Copied
Reed/Chou/Howard/Alamy
Podesta

"need to be as
supportive as
possible"

6/2/00

Risks in Danger

Barbara — 1) ^{is there} one good mfr? (there would agree to good code of conduct?)
ie Smith + Wesson + gun control

warranty cards

Car seats — NHTSA

UL equivalent (for electronics)

Independent testing agency

→ require federal day care centers not using dangerous children's products

child bonus

FEBRUARY 1999

RECALL ALERT

A list of the best-selling juvenile products, toys, and more recalled in the past six years. Use it to review items in your home, and keep it handy if you shop at garage sales, flea markets, or consignment stores. Be sure to refer to it when checking out daycare centers and hand-me-downs.

It could save your child's life.

TEAR OUT AND SAVE

CAR SEATS/ CARRIERS

Evenflo Hike 'N Roll child carriers, model #s 522101, 522102, manufactured from 6/96 to 10/97. Strangulation hazard. For free seat insert call Evenflo (800-649-0071).

Evenflo On My Way infant car seats/carriers, model #s 207, 492, manufactured from 12/95 to 7/97. Risk of injury from falling. For free repair kit call Evenflo (800-203-2138).

Gold Bug/Carter infant carrier, style #89200, sold from 6/96 to 3/97. Risk of injury from falling. For free replacement call Gold Bug (800-942-9442).

Graco Children's Products baby carriers and carrier/swing seats, model #s 1300, 1301, 1310, 1350, 1501, 1502, 1530, 1723, 2788, 5510, 8108, 36264, manufactured from 8/92 to 8/97. Risk of injury from falling. For free repair kit call Graco (800-281-3676).

MTS Products J. Mason infant carriers, UPC #s 0-26669-08249-2, 0-26669-08252-2, 0-26669-08253-9, sold from 4/96 to 8/97. Risk of injury from falling. For free replacement call MTS (800-242-1922).

child

Playskool Baby Fold N' Travel infant carriers, model #s 100, 101, 102, 103, sold from 4/91 to 1993. Risk of head injury from falling. For refund call Playskool (800-447-7707).

CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES

Toy jewelry from Almar Sales/Expressions (style #s NB110, NB112, NB124, NB129, NB137), A.A. of America (Fun Time Party Favors), and Mermaid International (style #s NB2490, NB2492, NB2491, NB2493), sold through 3/97. Choking hazard. For refund call Almar (800-251-2522), Mermaid International (800-876-7581). Destroy and discard A.A. of America items.

Almar Sales/Expressions children's jewelry sets, style #s NB104, NB113, NB114, NB118, NB136, sold from 1/94 to 6/98. Choking hazard. For a refund return to Almar Sales, 17 West 37 St., NY, NY 10018 or call Almar (800-251-2522).

Catton Brothers Disney Babies romper sets for boys and girls, style #s 1168, 1169, sold from 10/96 to 2/97. Laceration risk from snap's sharp prong. For refund call Catton (800-357-6343).

Catton Brothers Minnie Mouse nautical outfits for girls, style #s 16500, 18500, 19500, 17214H, sold from 11/95 to 4/96. Choking hazard. For refund call Catton (800-357-6343).

Charming Shoppes heart-shaped medallion necklaces, sold with blouse-and-pants sets at Fashion Bug stores from 10/96 to 1/97. Lead poisoning hazard. Destroy and discard.

Creative Products toy jewelry sets (necklace/hair comb and necklace/bracelet), sold from 8/95 to 11/95. Choking hazard. For refund call Creative Products (800-366-6686).

Deckers Outdoor children's Teva sandals, styles Abstract Bright, Abstract Pink, and Frog Blue, sold from 12/97 to 8/98. Tripping hazard. For refund information call Deckers (800-781-9928).

Gymboree children's umbrellas in compact, golf, and beach styles, model #s 27000025, 27000033, 27000041, sold from 9/96 to 5/97. Lead poisoning hazard. Destroy and discard.

Kid's Patrol Athletic Team zippered vests, sold at Wal-Mart from 6/97 to 10/97. Choking

hazard. For refund or credit, return to any Wal-Mart store.

Kmart infant rompers, RN# 42000, style #1832, sold from 1/96 to 4/96. Lead poisoning hazard. For refund/exchange return to any Kmart.

Levi Strauss Little Levi's Koveralls for boys (product #s 22028-2891, 290028-2891), Shortalls for boys (product #s 22020-2891, 29020-2891), Koveralls for girls (product #s 38806-0817, 38806-0881), and Shortalls for girls (product #s 39867-0817, 39867-0881, 39867-9281), sold from 11/96 to 12/96. Snaps pose choking hazard. For refund call Levi Strauss (800-USA-LEVI).

Levi Strauss Short Sleeve Western Dress (product #s 39219-0608, 39219-2281, 39619-0608, 39619-2281), Long Sleeve Western Dress (product #s 39220-0608, 39220-1318, 39220-1718, 39620-0608, 39620-1318, 39620-1781), and Long Sleeve Plaid Blocked Dress (product #s 39218-0688, 39618-0688), sold from 4/96 to 2/97. Snaps pose choking hazard. For refund call Levi Strauss (800-USA-LEVI).

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Limited Too children's pajama sets, 100 percent polyester with satin finish, sold from 12/95 to 7/98. Fire hazard. For refund call Limited Too (800-934-4497).

Little Laura of California Sweet Suzana brand infants' shirt-and-pants sets, RN#41601, sold from 1/97 to 3/97. Buttons pose choking hazard. For refund call Little Laura (800-213-1994).

OddzOn Products Starfish children's swimming vests, sold from 5/96 to 3/97. Drowning risk. For refund call OddzOn (800-755-6674).

PayLess ShoeSource children's sneakers, **Coasters** brand, sold from 3/98 to 6/98. Clasps pose choking hazard. For refund call PayLess (800-444-7463).

PayLess ShoeSource novelty purses, product #3659, sold from 2/98 to 5/98. Petroleum distillate poisoning risk. For refund plus \$10 gift certificate call PayLess (800-444-7463).

Shalom International Color-mates jewelry sets, model #s 60074KS, 60328NB, 60331NB, 60332NB, 60334NB, 60339KS, 60340KS, sold from 1/95 to 12/96. Choking hazard. For information call Shalom (800-524-1428).

Speidel My First ID children's identification bracelets, model #s 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2589, 2590, sold from 6/95 to 12/96. Choking hazard. For refund call Speidel (800-672-8934).

Warner Bros. Stores Tweety Water Timer Game Key Rings, sold from 4/96 to 4/97. Ethylene glycol poisoning risk. For refund call Warner Bros. (800-795-9277).

Wear Me Apparel Little Miracles rompers for infant boys, style #s 9448, 9449, sold from 10/96 to 3/97. Lead poisoning hazard. For refund call Wear Me Apparel (800-223-0777).

CRIBS

Baby's Dream Furniture/Generation oak cribs, #s 194 through 1897, sold from 12/94 to 6/97. Folding drop gate can trap and injure fingers. For free repair kit/installation instructions call Baby's Dream (888-866-4217).

B&B Stores mesh-sided cribs, sold from 8/96 to 1/97. Suffocation and entrapment hazard. For refund call B&B (787-878-0980).

Coaster Co. of America full-size metal cribs, model #2364, sold from 6/96 to 4/97, and model

#2368, sold from 1/95 to 4/97. Entrapment and strangulation risk. For refund/replacement call Coaster (800-221-9699).

Cosco full-size cribs, model #s 10T01, 10T04, 10T05, 10T06, 10T09, 10T11, 10T14, manufactured from 10/90 to 9/93. Entrapment and injury risk. For free repair kit call Cosco (800-544-1108).

Cosco full-size metal baby cribs, model #s 10M06, 10M84, 10M85, 10M94, 10T01, 10T04, 10T05, 10T06, 10T08, 10T14, 10T84, 10T85, 10T94, 10T95, and date codes 0195 to 3097, manufactured from 1/95 to 7/97. Entrapment risk if misassembled. For information call Cosco (800-221-6736).

C&T International full-size wooden baby cribs, models **Christine** (item #210) and **Tracy** (item #800), sold from 2/94 to 3/96. Strangulation and falling risk. For free replacement rails call C&T (888-470-1260).

LaNacional cribs, models **Cama Cuna R.N.C.**, **Cama Cuna No. 2**, and **Crib With Drawers**, sold in Puerto Rico from 1/94 to 4/95. Strangulation and entrapment hazard. Destroy and discard.

Okla Homer Smith Furniture cribs, model #s 30562, 80005, 80007, 80010, 80012, 80023, 80029, 80035, 80038, 80054, 80056, 80057, 80068, 80090, manufactured from 4/92 to 12/93. Entrapment risk. For free retrofit kit call Okla Homer (800-647-3876).

W.C. Redmon Cuddle Me Close bedside cradles, sold from 2/98 to 11/98. Risk of injury from tipping. For free replacement legs call Redmon (765-473-6683).

FURNITURE

Baseline Design Division of Crain Industries beanbag chairs, sold from 1990 through 1994. Suffocation risk. Destroy and discard.

Catalina Furniture wooden bunk beds, model #3892, sold from 1990 to 1994. Entrapment hazard. For repair kit call Catalina (714-523-7000).

Consolidated Stores mini-hammocks without spreader bars, sold from 1990 to 1991. Strangulation/entanglement risk. For information call Consolidated (800-877-1253).

Cosco Youth Options metal toddler beds, model #s T22 and T23, date codes 5090 to

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1192, manufactured from 12/90 to 4/92. Entrapment hazard. For free repair kit call Cosco (800-468-0174).

Crate & Barrel toy chests, sold from 9/94 to 3/98. Strangulation risk due to faulty lids. For free lid support call Crate & Barrel (800-352-0688).

El Rancho Furniture/Seffi Industries wooden bunk beds, sold from 5/90 to 10/94. Risk of entrapment or injury from falling. Destroy and discard.

Fine Pine wooden bunk beds, model #s 1010, 1030, 1060 (formerly 32), 1130, 1180 (formerly 56), sold from 1990 to 1998. Potential entrapment hazard. For replacement guardrail call Fine Pine (800-874-5737).

I.E.M. Furniture bunk beds, model #s 2121D, 2121N, sold from 1996 to 1998. Potential entrapment hazard. For replacement guardrail call I.E.M. (800-869-1688).

J.I.M. Manufacturing bunk beds, models Oaxaca, Solid, Spindle, sold in Southern California and Nevada from 1986 to 1998. Potential entrapment hazard. Destroy and discard.

Keysheen children's folding chaise longue chairs, sold from 1994 to 1997. Risk of hand or finger injury. Destroy and discard.

Lexington Furniture wooden bunk beds, brand names Devan, Dixie, Lexington, Henry Link, and Young-Hinkle, sold from 1/80 through 8/97. Risk of injury from falling or entrapment. For information call Lexington (888-463-0111).

New England Woodcraft bunk beds, model #s Bed NE 120, 1020, 1120, Ladder NE 144, 1144, sold from 1994 to 1997. Potential entrapment hazard. For replacement guardrail call New England Woodcraft (802-247-8211).

Now Products foam chairs for children, sold from 1/94 to 6/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Padilla's Furniture bunk beds, model #s 03370, Literas 100, sold in Southern California from 1996 to 1998. Potential entrapment hazard. Destroy and discard.

PJ Toys children's furniture. Circus-theme furniture: Banana Coat Tree (item #097-02-0054), Circus Rover box/cart on wheels (item #097-02-0052), Circus

Table and Chair Set (item #097-02-0053), Circus Wall Shelf (item #097-02-0056), Clown Coat Hook (item #097-02057), Clown Step Stool (item #097-02-0051), Clown Tot Stool (item #097-02-0090), Rocking Elephant (item #097-02-0055), Seal Wall Mirror (item #097-02-0049). Princess-theme furniture: Crown Coat Tree (item #097-02-0064), Crown Mirror (item #097-02-0063), Crown Tot Stool (item #097-02-0060), Crown Wall Hooks (item #097-02-0061), Crown Wall Shelf (item #097-02-0065), Princess Rocker (item #097-02-0059), Princess Step Stool (item #097-02-0058), Princess Table and Chair Set (item #097-02-0062). Sold from 4/98 to 7/98 at Target stores. Lead poisoning hazard. For information call PJ Toys (800-935-5060).

Playskool 1-2-3 High Chairs, sold from 5/94 to 10/95. Risk of injury from collapse. For free repair kit call Playskool (800-752-9755).

Playskool 1-2-3 High Chairs, serial #s TX51321 to TX61442, manufactured from 5/95 to 5/96. Risk of restraint-bar failure. For free replacement bar call Playskool (800-555-0428).

Ridgewood and Charleswood Inc./Cosco Youth Options Chifforobes and Four-Drawer Dressers, model #s 80413, 80813, 88413, 88813, sold from 1991 to 1/96. Risk of injury from tipping. For more information call Cosco Youth Options (800-544-1108).

Step2 Big Storage Chests, model #s 7211 and 7511, sold from 2/92 to 11/97. Entrapment or strangulation hazard. For free repair kit call Step2 (800-347-8372).

MONITORS

Gerry Baby Products Clear Choice baby monitors, model #618, sold from 4/96 to 3/98. Fire hazard. For free replacement battery pack call Gerry (800-273-3521).

Gerry Baby Products Deluxe baby monitors, model #602, date codes 8806 through 9005, manufactured from 6/88 to 5/90. Fire hazard. For free replacement call Gerry (800-672-6289).

Safety 1st Rechargeable Nursery Monitor batteries sold with model #49226 monitors from 6/97 to 8/97. Potential skin irritation. For free battery replacement call Safety 1st (800-723-3065).

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PACIFIERS

Binky-Griptight Newborn Orthodontic Pacifiers, items #2115, 3085, 3086, 3087, sold from 8/94 to 8/95, labeled "Made in Malaysia." Potential choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Gerber Products NUK Orthodontic Pacifiers, date codes 070193 through 063094, manufactured from 7/93 to 6/94. Choking hazard. For free replacement call Gerber (800-4-GERBER).

Lerma Import pacifiers, blue or white plastic with "Jaloma" label, sold in Texas from 5/95 to 5/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Munchkin Glitter Pacifiers in four styles: Hello Kitty, Keroppi, and Pekklee, #72101; and Crayola, #14301, sold from 3/94 to 8/95. Choking hazard. For refund call Munchkin (800-247-2223).

PORTABLE CRIBS/PLAY YARDS/PLAYPENS
Baby Trend Home and Roam portable cribs and Baby Express portable cribs, sold from 1992 to 1994. Potential injury from collapse. For free replacement locks call Baby Trend (800-328-7363).

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Century Products Fold-N-Go Care Centers, model #s 10-750, 10-760, manufactured from 3/98 to 8/98. Entrapment and suffocation hazard. For free repair kit and installation instructions call Century (800-583-4092).

Century Products Fold-N-Go Travel play yards, all models. Entrapment risk. For free repair kit and installation instructions call Century (800-837-4044).

Draco/All Our Kids portable cribs/playpens, model #s 741, 742, 761, sold from 1992 to 1995. Strangulation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Evenflo Happy Camper, Happy Cabana, and Kiddie Camper portable play yards, manufactured from 1/90 to 6/97. Entrapment and suffocation hazard. For free hinge covers call Evenflo (800-447-9178).

Evenflo Houdini portable play yards, manufactured from 1994 to 1996. Choking or laceration hazard. For free replacement push-caps call Evenflo (800-490-7549).

Gerry Baby Products Fold-Away Cribs, model #s 8200, 8300, 8500, sold from 5/94 to

8/94. Risk of injury or strangulation. For crib assembly instructions call Gerry Baby Products (800-525-2472).

Graco Children's Products traditional play yards, manufacturing #s 111395 through 091296, made from 11/95 to 9/96. Entanglement and choking hazard. For free repair kit call Graco (800-423-9078).

Kolcraft/Playskool Travel-Lite Portable Cribs, all models, sold from 1990 to 1992. Risk of suffocation or injury from entrapment. For refund call Kolcraft (800-453-7673).

Pride-Trimble, Kolcraft, Playskool, Graco, Bilt-Rite, Evenflo, Strolee, and Gerry mesh playpens with protruding rivets, made from 1960 to 1998. Strangulation hazard. Stop using and call the CPSC (800-794-4115).

STROLLERS

Century Travelite Sport strollers, model #s 11-171, 11-181, 11-191, manufactured from 2/95 to 10/95. Risk of injury from falling. For free repair kit call Century (800-837-4044).

Cosco Voyager Car Seat/Strollers, manufactured from 9/97

to 10/97. Risk of injury if seat detaches. For repair instructions call Cosco (800-221-6736).

SWINGS

Century Lil' Napper infant swings, model #s 12-344, 12-345, 12-347, 12-475, 12-476, manufactured beginning in 1991. Strangulation hazard. For free repair kit and installation instructions call Century (800-837-4044).

Hedstrom Glide Ride swings, sold with backyard gym sets from 4/93 to 12/97 (more than 220 models). Risk of injury from falling. For free repair kit call Hedstrom (800-233-3271).

Hedstrom Star Cruiser two-passenger swings, sold with metal and wood backyard gym sets from 1994 to 1996. Risk of injury from falling. For free repair kit call Hedstrom (800-233-3271).

Little Tikes Cozy Highback Swings, model #4637, sold from 1/96 to 4/96. Risk of injury from overturning. For information call Little Tikes (800-321-0183).

Playskool 1-2-3 Infant Swing/Chair Swing/Seat Swings, sold from 3/95 to 5/95. Risk of injury from falling. For refund call Playskool (800-PLAYSKL).

child

TOYS

Accoutrements Squeak Kangaroo toys, sold from 3/90 to 11/95, and **Squeak Pickle toys**, sold from 8/91 to 11/95. Choking hazard. For refund call Accoutrements (800-886-2221).

Al-Dan Trading crib toys labeled 76964581715612, sold from 3/96 to 6/97. Strangulation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Al-Dan Trading wooden vehicle toys, UPC numbers beginning with 69658, sold from 6/96 to 6/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

The Americas Company wooden armadillo toys, item #696807, and **turtles made out of dried gourds**, sold from 5/95 to 2/96. Lead poisoning risk. Destroy and discard.

Atico International Halloween Floating Eyeballs and Smiley Face Floating Balls, sold from 6/95 to 10/97. Kerosene poisoning risk and choking hazard. For refund call Atico (800-645-3867).

Brio wooden clown toys, model #30130, sold from 1977 to 9/97. Potential choking hazard. For replacement call BRIO (888-274-6869).

Charpente Div. of Michel & Co. Winnie the Pooh pull toys, item #s 65301, 65302, 65303, 65304, 65305, sold from 1994 to 12/95. Choking/strangulation hazard. For refund call Michel (800-533-7263).

Children's Sewing Boards, sold from 1992 to 11/95 at FAO Schwarz stores. Strangulation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Christmas Tree Shops Engineering Trucks, item #00011-34416, sold from 4/94 to 3/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Come Play Products Junior Pro Basketball Sets, model #2800, sold in 1992 and 1993. Entanglement and strangulation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Dan-Dee International Teddy Precious Indian Girl stuffed bears, sold at K-B Toy & Hobby Shops from 3/95 to 3/96. Choking hazard. Return to store for refund/replacement.

Division Sales Baby Buzz stretch mobiles, sold from 12/95 to 12/96. Strangulation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Division Sales wooden caterpillar toys, item #801, sold from 7/94 to 2/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Division Sales wooden alphabet-block trucks, sold from 10/93 to 11/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Division Sales wooden trucks (dump truck, cement truck, truck with cylinder, truck with crane, ladder truck), sold from 12/93 to 12/95. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Dolgener Corp Kid's Phone Beeper Combo toys, item #63305/7-S, sold from 8/96 to 9/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Effanbee Doll miniature rocking chairs, sold from 6/96 to 12/96. Lead poisoning risk. Destroy and discard.

Etna Products Solid Wood Hand-Painted Old-Time Learning Cars, sold from 1994 to 3/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Everything's A Dollar Big Wooden Trucks, SKU 58188, UPC #059584 05230 1. Product recalled in 2/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

First Years High Chair Gym toys, sold from 1/95 to 11/97. Choking hazard. For free repair kit call First Years (800-533-6708).

Fisher-Price Little People Roadside Rescue vehicle sets, model #72394, sold from 2/97 to 5/97. Choking hazard. For replacement vehicle, call Fisher-Price (888-407-6479).

Fisher-Price Magic Motion mobiles, model #71153, sold from 6/97 to 3/98. Injury risk from falling parts. For free replacement parts call Fisher-Price (888-407-6479).

Fisher-Price Power Wheels ride-on cars and trucks, over 100 models, all with a Power Wheels sticker, sold from 1984 to 10/98. Risk of injury or fire from electrical problems. For free repair information call Fisher-Price (800-977-7800).

Fisher-Price Refrigerator Activity Magnet Sets, date codes 224 through 228, model #71126, sold from 9/97 to 3/98. Choking hazard. For free replacement magnet call Fisher-Price (888-407-6479).

Michael Friedman Hobby Horse Baby Rattles, sold from 3/97 to 5/98. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Gerber Products Flip Fingers Rattles, #76250, sold from 5/96 to 9/96. Choking hazard. For

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refund information call Gerber (800-4-GERBER).

Gymboree GymRattle infant rattles, sold from 7/95 to 11/95. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Hedstrom My Pet Bear ride-on toys, model #2-551, sold from 1/95 to 5/96. Choking hazard. For more information call Hedstrom (800-233-3271).

Ikea stuffed animals: dog, cow, hippopotamus, monkey, small penguin, (all model #27204796), **bear** (model #97192870), **bear neck pillow and dolphin neck pillow** (both model #29311596), **large cat** (model #37211230), **large penguin** (model #97210280), **moose** (model #27217770), **small cat** (model #17211330), sold from 1/97 to 5/97. Choking hazard. For refund/exchange call Ikea (800-455-IKEA).

Imperial Toy Aqua Wind Ups, three styles (**Peppy the Penguin**, **Tammy the Turtle**, **Sally the Seal**), #8180, sold from 1993 to 4/95. Choking hazard. For replacement call Imperial Toy (800-543-6551).

Imperial Toy Cuddles Bottle Feeding Sets, #8233, sold from

1993 to 4/95. Choking hazard. For replacement call Imperial Toy (800-543-6551).

Imperial Toy Mighty Machines Motorized Big Wheel Sparklers vehicles, sold from 1993 to 4/95. Choking hazard. For replacement call Imperial Toy (800-543-6551).

Imperial Toy My Dolly Meal Time toy meal sets, #8327, sold from 1993 to 4/95. Choking hazard. For replacement call Imperial Toy (800-543-6551).

In-Mar Trading plastic squeeze toys (#828-6) and plastic jet fighter toys (#USAF-28), sold from 12/96 to 6/98. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Jade Express Baby Rattle Sets, item #s 1013, 1016, sold from 9/95 to 1/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

K-B Toys Bubble Beauties floating balls, #2801, sold from 5/98 to 6/98. Petroleum distillate poisoning risk. For refund return to any K-B retail store or call K-B Toys (800-877-1253).

Kids II SnackTime Stroller Toy Bars, model #669 without date code, sold from 7/95 to 6/96. Choking hazard. For replacement call Kids II (770-751-0442).

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Klutz Chinese Jump Ropes, sold from 3/97 to 6/97. Potential injury risk. Destroy and discard.

Kmart Splash Club Deluxe Baby Floats, UPC #016438100267, #016438897266, Kmart code #372953-117, sold from 9/96 to 8/98. Potential drowning hazard. For refund return to any Kmart.

Kmart Splash Club Deluxe Inflatable Kiddie Boats, UPC #016438897204 or 0164381-00205, Kmart code #372954-115, sold from 9/96 to 7/98. Potential drowning hazard. For refund return to any Kmart.

Laiko International Free Wheel Racer toy cars, UPC #084036 102204, sold from 11/93 to 12/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Laiko International Knock-A-Block toys, item #785, sold from 8/97 to 6/98. Choking hazard. For refund call Laiko (888-280-0280).

Lexin Flying Boat toys, item #MF 742, and Little Performer toys, item #MS 085, sold from 8/96 to 11/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Little Tikes Toddler Dino-saur Mountain play sets, sold from 6/94 to 12/95. Choking

hazard. For exchange information call Little Tikes (800-321-0183).

Man's Trading Rolling Clock train-shaped toys, #TY-1306, sold from 9/95 to 1/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Mattel Cabbage Patch Kids Snacktime Kids dolls, sold from 8/96 to 1/97. Risk of finger or hair entrapment. Destroy and discard.

Mazel Teddy Precious Indian Girl and Boy stuffed bears, SKU #s 089318, 089334, sold from 7/96 to 12/96. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Nadel & Sons Pajama Bear stuffed animals, distributed from 10/95 to 5/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Nancy Sales beanbag crab toys, sold from 1/97 to 10/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Novi Kids Halloween Bounce Ball toys, sold exclusively in Target stores in 10/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Ohio Art Splash Off Water Rockets, sold from 4/97 to 6/97. Potential risk of injury from shattering. For refund call Ohio Art (800-641-6226).

Oriental Trading wooden beads (OTC item #M-027/653) and

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wooden spinning tops (OTC item #M-027/294), sold from 9/94 to 11/96. Lead poisoning risk. For refund or credit call Oriental Trading (800-228-0045).

Oscar Mayer Wienermobile pedal cars, sold from 6/95 to 5/98. Decals pose lead poisoning hazard. For replacement decals call Oscar Mayer (800-433-9361).

Placo Products Star Wonders dolls, sold from 1/96 to 8/97. Eye injury risk. Destroy and discard.

Playskool Durasport Moon Bouncer toys, sold from 11/94 to 4/96. Risk of injury from falling. For free inflation gauges call Playskool (800-PLAYSKL).

Playskool Weebles Tractor toys, item #5242, sold from 1/96 to 4/97. Choking hazard. For free replacement call Playskool (888-377-3335).

Playwell Toy xylophone mallets sold in KMart Little Ones package; also sold as single item and as part of several musical gift sets under Playwell label, sold from 2/96 to 4/98. Potential choking hazard. Call Playwell for replacement (877-PLAYWELL).

PriceCostco 30" Deluxe Animated Santa with Light and

Music toys, item #63404, sold from 8/95 to 12/96. Overheating hazard. For refund call Price-Costco (800-774-2678).

Radio Flyer Miniature Wood Wagons (12" size), model #6, sold from 6/96 to 9/96. Lead poisoning hazard. For exchange information call Radio Flyer (800-621-7613).

Right Start Baby Play Sets, item #BB1816BU, sold from 9/94 to 8/95. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Rite Aid Cyber Fighter and Flying Angel dolls, sold from 2/97 to 1/98. Eye injury hazard. Destroy and discard.

Safety 1st Bouncing Buggy Cat/stop and Dog/go components, product #45606, sold from 5/97 to 4/98. Bruising, scratching, or choking hazard. For replacement parts call Safety 1st (800-723-3065).

Sanrio Mascot Plushes animal toys: Hello Kitty, item #014388; Keroppi frog, item #014389; Pochacco dog, item #014390; Badtz Maru penguin, item #014391, sold in October 1997. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

STK International Clock Tambourine toys, model #TC-186, sold from 6/95 to 6/97. Choking hazard. For refund call STK International (800-536-7855).

STK International Turning Ball With Whistle baby rattles, #BI-194, sold from 12/97 to 5/98. Choking hazard. For refund call STK (800-536-7855).

Tara Toy Flying Warrior Dolls, styles Blades, Gyro, Rotor, Spin, sold from 4/95 to 12/97. Eye injury risk. For refund call Tara Toy (888-669-7087).

Tonka Soft Walkin' Wheels vehicles, model #90165, serial numbers below 9528 or no visible serial number, sold from 1/94 to 1/97. Choking hazard. For refund or replacement call Tonka (800-524-8107).

Toy-O-Rama stuffed animals, #704-7582, item #s 73025 and 76128, sold from 10/95 to 2/96. Choking hazard. For refund call Children's Marketing Partners collect (310-544-7762).

Toys "R" Us Baskets of Bubbles children's craft sets, #SKN 668192, manufacturer #70, UPC #7-31346-00707-0, sold from 11/97 to 12/97. Fire hazard. For refund return to Toys "R" Us.

T.S. Toys Activity Block Sets, item #38329, sold from 5/97 to 6/98. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

Tuesday Morning wooden cobbler benches, item #PO-418, sold from 10/95 to 12/95. Choking hazard. For refund call Tuesday Morning (800-457-0099).

United Tradeline battery-operated Hot Pet Cars, model #HK-736, sold from 4/97 to 5/97. Choking hazard. Destroy and discard.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bucky Products Baby Bucky pillows, sold from 12/93 to 6/95. Suffocation hazard. Destroy and discard.

Chiquita Brands Sports Blast beverages in sport bottles, four flavors: Freestyle Fruit Punch, Groovin' Grape, Inline Orange, Rollin' Blue Raspberry, sold from 3/97 to 8/97. Choking hazard. For refund information call Sports Blast (800-524-3841).

Direct Source International small plastic Halloween candy buckets, bar code #43748 88014, item #FF-014, sold from 8/96 to 10/96. Lead poisoning

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risk. For refund information call Direct Source International (513-793-9379).

First Alert True Fit Safety Gates, model CSSG1, sold from 10/96 to 11/98. Potential choking hazard. For information call BRK Brands (888-777-5599).

Graco Children's Products stationary entertainers with white plastic seat rings, manufactured before 3/96. Laceration risk. For free repair kit call Graco (800-423-9078).

Graco Children's Products stationary entertainers, model #s 34429, 4118RA, manufactured from 4/98 to 8/98. Choking hazard. For free repair kit call Graco (800-281-3676).

Halcyon WaterSpring Dex Wipe Warmers, model #WW-01, sold from 1/94 to 12/96. Risk of overheating and melting. For refund/replacement call Halcyon (888-735-5585).

Menard "Henry" gym sets, model #68, sold from 7/91 to 8/98. Risk of injury from falling if misassembled. For revised as-

sembly instructions, call Menard (888-215-3349).

Papel Freelance children's pencils with miniature pacifiers, sold from 9/96 to 4/97. Choking hazard. For refund call Papel (800-634-8384).

Penguin USA/Playskool Color 'N Contrast Crib Books, Kitty and Friends (ISBN 0-525-45468-3) and Puppy and Friends (ISBN 0-525-45469-1), sold from 11/95 to 3/96. Injury risk from straight pins. Destroy and discard.

Price Stern Sloan Exploring Nature Funstation science activity book kits, ISBN #08431-3942-0, sold from 3/96 to 8/96. Kerosene poisoning hazard. Destroy and discard.

Shelby Ltd. Division of Wang's International children's paperweights and pens. Paperweights are Antique Car, Floating Eye, Magic Diamond, Ocean in the Box, Water Timer; pen is clear plastic with eyeball in middle. Sold from 10/96 to 12/96. Kerosene and petroleum distillate poisoning hazard. Destroy and discard. ■

Editor's note: These products have all been recalled by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The list is not exhaustive. For more information call the CPSC at 800-638-CPSC or check its Web site at www.cpsc.gov.

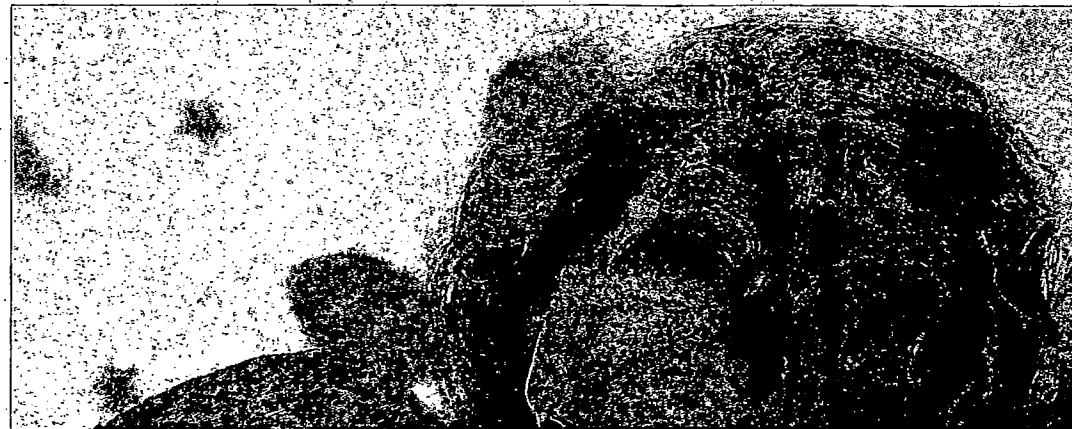
child

Sun-Sentinel

This three-day special report appeared Nov. 28-30, 1999

Defects in the nation's
product recall system are putting

Consumers in jeopardy



A letter from the editor

After writing about dozens of product recalls for the readers of the *Sun-Sentinel*, consumer writer Mitch Lipka noticed a pattern: A lot of people were being hurt by products for years before either the manufacturer or the Consumer Product Safety Commission made the problem public.

The issue of how the federal government deals with dangerous products is vital to public safety, yet it had gone largely ignored. Lipka's series, "Product Recalls: A Defective Process," marks the first time a major newspaper has taken such a comprehensive, critical look at the safety net that is supposed to snag dangers before they hurt you or your children.

Undeterred by restrictive public records laws that apply specifically to the CPSC, Lipka built his own database of all the agency's announced recalls

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Chicago Tribune

Monday, June 5, 2000

Voice of the people

Preventing consumer deaths

CHICAGO—On May 12, newspaper headlines announced that President Clinton had proposed legislation to empower the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to crack down on errant companies that conceal reports on their products that injure and kill consumers. That date—May 12—was the second anniversary of our son Danny's death. In 1998, 16-month-old Danny was one of too many children killed each year by lethal products in our homes, child-care centers and workplaces.

It was not the first time that a headline was so clearly tied to Danny's death. Just days after he strangled at day care when a portable crib collapsed on his neck, we read that this very crib had been recalled years before. Because of the faulty product-recall system, however, few people knew about the recall or the crib's dangers—not his doting family, not his wonderful child-care provider and not even the Department of Children and Family Services worker who had inspected the licensed day-care home only days before.

That news story so shocked us that we set out to prevent other children from dying unnecessary deaths from defective products. As Danny's parents, we founded Kids In Danger, a non-profit organization dedicated to children's product safety.

In our efforts to warn others, we discovered a system fraught with problems. On a national level, the CPSC relies on the good will of manufacturers to report dangerous products and to reach out to customers about recalls. It is hamstrung by a lid on penalties against renegade companies that do not comply. The CPSC is

bound and gagged, an enforcement agency in a straitjacket. We found no state structure to make up for the federal shortfall. In Illinois, there was no system to communicate federal warnings or to prevent identified hazards from claiming more victims.

These flaws are unacceptable. So, with the help of State Sens. Carol Ronen (D-Chicago) and Tom Walsh (R-LaGrange Park) and others, especially the Coalition for Consumer Rights, we worked to pass the Children's Product Safety Act in Illinois. That recently implemented law prevents the sale or lease of unsafe or recalled children's products to unsuspecting consumers, and requires DCFS to check for recalled products as part of its child-care licensing procedure.

But that bill was just a start, a finger in the dike. As long as safety efforts remain hampered on a national level, the market can still be flooded with defective products; 250 to 300 are recalled each year. Most troubling, half of the most serious hazards are uncovered by CPSC investigators rather than reported by manufacturers. The White House legislative proposal announced on the anniversary of Danny's death could change that. It would lift the lid on penalties for failing to report a product danger and give the agency more recall authority.

Absolutely nothing can make up for losing a child. That is precisely why Kids In Danger is committed to protecting our nation's children. Any deaths we prevent are, in a way, Danny's gift to other families—a gift of life.

Linda Ginzel
Boaz Keysar
Co-founders
Kids In Danger



KIDS IN DANGERSM

ACTION

NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2000

INTRODUCTION

Dear friends and supporters,

Last year at this time, we gathered with many of you to honor Danny's loving memory at a fundraising dinner for Kids In Danger. Those of you who were with us know that it was an evening of tears and sorrow about our loss, filled with hope and promise for the future of our cause.

This year, we have chosen to mark the passing of the second year since May 12, 1998 with this commemorative newsletter. We are proud to showcase the many accomplishments of the community of people who comprise the nonprofit organization that we founded: Kids In Danger.

Since Danny died hundreds of people, all very busy with their own professional and personal lives, have devoted many days, weeks and months to do the work of Kids In Danger. This community of friends and supporters maintains the KidsInDanger.org web site, creates informational materials to educate the public about dangerous products, works with government officials to pass city, state and federal legislation,

alerts the media to report on dangerous children's products, does research aimed at improving the recall process, and on and on.

We are incredibly optimistic because we have seen a community of people outside our own circle of friends, who have been touched by our story and compelled to take action. People have put their expertise to work for Kids In Danger, lawyers, accountants, professors, business executives, journalists, public relations people, advertising people, legislators, city government, professional writers, computer experts, researchers. These are the people whose efforts are honored on the pages that follow.

It is rewarding for us to see that the media has begun to highlight the problem with children product safety. Informing the public about the dangers of unsafe products is our short-term goal. Kids In Danger's ultimate goal is to reform the system and work toward a day when dangerous juvenile products don't reach the market to begin with. As such, we are positioning Kids In Danger to attack the root causes of this flawed system. With your help, we raised \$100,000 last year. We also expanded our board of directors,

and are currently recruiting an executive director. In the two years since Danny died, Kids In Danger is already poised to make systemic and lasting change. With your continued encouragement, help and support we know we can do it.

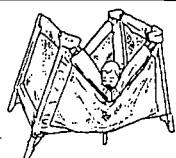
-Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar



THE FACTS

WHAT IS KIDS IN DANGER?

Founded in 1998 in the memory of Danny Keysar and all victims of children's products, Kids In Danger, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, is dedicated to protecting children from dangerous juvenile products.



**DON'T LEARN
ABOUT RECALLS
FROM YOUR BABY**



www.KidsInDanger.org

Nationwide billboard campaign was made possible by the generosity of the Chancellor Outdoor Advertising Group and The Nahser Advertising Agency.

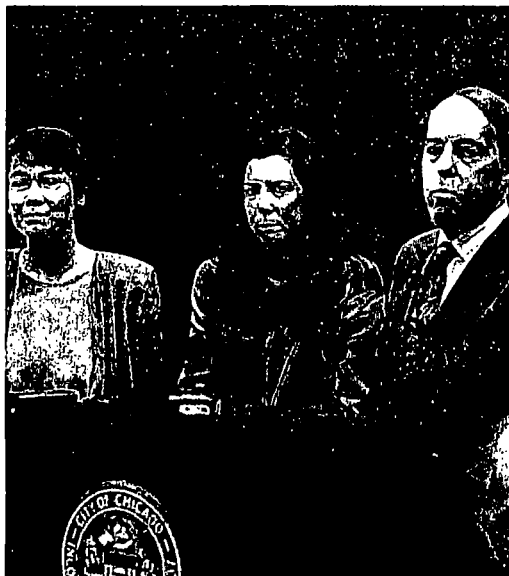
WHY WAS KIDS IN DANGER FOUNDED?

On May 12, 1998, 16-month-old Daniel Keysar was strangled to death at his licensed day care facility, when a Playskool Travel-Lite portable crib collapsed and the top rails closed around his neck. Shortly thereafter, Danny's parents, Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar, discovered that the portable crib was recalled in 1993. Three children died in these cribs before the recall and a fourth died in 1995. Danny became the crib's fifth victim. William Curran, a 10-month-old New Jersey baby, became the sixth child to be strangled to death by the Playskool crib in August of 1998.

Danny's parents launched Kids In Danger in May of 1998, which began with an urgent email campaign to parents all over the world warning them of the recalled Playskool Travel-Lite. In fact, 1.5 million portable cribs/play yards, of similar design by five different manufacturers, had been recalled, and 1.2 million recalled cribs were still unaccounted for. (Chicago Tribune, June 15, 1998).

Realizing the prevalence of dangerous children's products that have been recalled but are still being used by parents and caregivers, Ginzel and Keysar started Kids In Danger, now a nationally-recognized organization dedicated to protecting children from dangerous products.

*Below: "Recall Round Up" March 30, 1999
Caroline O. Schoenberger, Commissioner of the Consumer Services (in center); Eric Ault, Regional Director of the CPSC; Linda Ginzel, cofounder of Kids In Danger.*



SUCCESSES TO DATE

THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Within a few short weeks of Danny's death, City Commissioner of Consumer Services, Caroline O. Schoenberger, began working to initiate a recall program that would serve as a model for other cities to emulate across the nation.

In February 1999, Mayor Richard M. Daley launched the Chicago Recall Initiative and called on city agencies to make recall information more accessible to the public. In September 1999, Mayor Daley introduced legislation in City Council to protect children from recalled, second-hand products. It passed unanimously.

Kids In Danger has gone beyond its native Chicago to implement policies that will impact the lives of children all over the country, including—

THE ILLINOIS "CHILDREN'S PRODUCT SAFETY ACT"

In May 1999, the Illinois Senate unanimously passed The Children's Product Safety Act, the most extensive legislation of its kind. The new law makes illegal selling or leasing a recalled or unsafe children's product. It also requires the Department of Children and Family Services to verify that dangerous children's products are not used in licensed childcare facilities.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (DCFS) INITIATIVE

Danny Keysar died in a licensed childcare home in the city of Chicago. Eight days before he died, a state inspector visited the facility but did not check for recalled products. Doing so was not part of DCFS

protocol. In September 1998, Linda Ginzel testified before the Illinois House Children and Youth Committee proposing five specific actions to eliminate unsafe and recalled products from licensed childcare facilities. DCFS immediately adopted her recommendations and is currently working with Kids In Danger to implement them.

THE "DANIEL KEYSAR MEMORIAL AND CHILDREN'S CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY ACT OF 1999"

Rod Blagojevich, along with 6 Congressional colleagues, introduced a bill: HR 3208 in November 1999. Named in honor of Danny, this legislation amends the Consumer Product Safety Act in order to make a number of improvements in the way that the CPSC handles recalls of defective children's products and to make information about these recalls more accessible to the general public.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS (AAP)

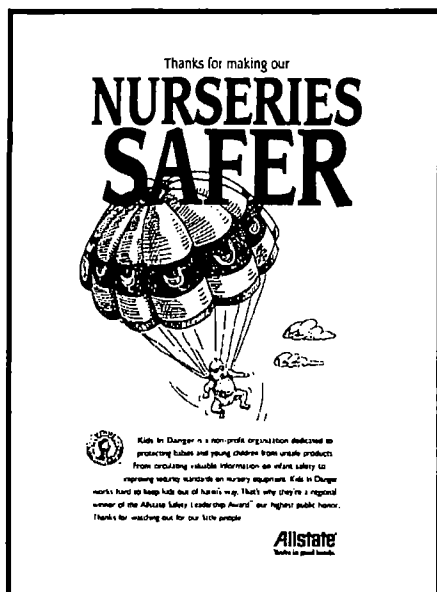
Kids In Danger's board member Dr. Robert Tanz drafted an AAP resolution to determine the impact of previously recalled products on the risk of injury to young children. In addition, the resolution calls on the CPSC to work with the AAP to develop more effective systems for informing parents about the potential danger and removing recalled juvenile products from the environments of children. The resolution was approved at the AAP Annual Chapter Forum in September 1999. It passed unanimously.

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Kids In Danger has mounted an effective campaign to have people across the nation receive recall information and safety news directly from this government agency.

WHY DOES OUR SYSTEM FAIL AND HOW PREVALENT IS THE PROBLEM?

- Most children's products are not required to be tested before they are sold. In fact, many products aren't tested by an independent laboratory.
- In 1998 alone, more than 38 million individual children's products were recalled.
- Despite the 250-300 products that are recalled annually by the Consumer Protection Safety Commission, most people never hear about the dangers.
- Return rates of recalled products average between 5 and 30 percent.
- The Consumer Product Safety Commission, the government agency responsible for children's product safety, has a budget that is smaller than the FDA's budget for regulating medicine.



MAJOR GIFTS

The State of Illinois
\$25,000
Special thanks to
Senator Carol Ronen

Hollywood Video
\$20,000



The Allstate Foundation
\$10,000

Picture on left: Kids In Danger won the 1998 Allstate Safety Leadership Award.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathleen A. Carpenter
Nancy Cowles
Linda E. Ginzel
Howard Haas
Jennifer Hauser
Boaz Keysar
June Rosner
Chris Sweeney
Steven W. Swibel
Dr. Robert R. Tanz
Lisa M. Turano

EMAIL@KIDSINDANGER.ORG BULLETIN BOARD

My condolences on losing your son Danny. As a parent of two young boys, I cannot imagine how difficult it must be. Thank you, thank you for sending the information on the portable cribs. We use one of those mentioned (Happy Camper) and had heard NOTHING about this danger. Because of your message, we have ordered the hinge covers. I have emailed the message to a number of friends with young children, and will post it in a couple daycares and fax our sons' pediatrician.
Daniel N. McIntosh, Ph.D.

I had never before heard of any recalls on portable cribs. On my return to work the following day I checked with my daycare provider to see the brand of crib I was using. I checked my brand to your list and YES it is on there. I also checked the other cribs at the daycare and found that another one was also on the list. I can't thank you enough for this information. I want you to know because of your web page you may have saved two more babies lives.

Dianna Newby

We were given a hand-me-down Century crib, model 10-710. Thankfully our child was safe and unharmed by the use of it. We have destroyed the crib so it will never be used again. I had actually been thinking about donating the crib to a church sale had I not read this article. It is unacceptable that manufacturers can be this irresponsible to our children. It comes down to pure greed, that the almighty dollar has come before the health and well being of people. I hope the article I read will reach many others and a child's death can be prevented.
Nancy Loughran

At work today, a co-worker loaned me his People magazine to read and I read the article about your organization. I am very, very sorry about your baby. I went home, got on your website and was stunned to find out that I have the same travel playpen that was recalled. I have used it with my 20-month-old son, and was planning on passing it onto my sister who is getting ready to take in foster kids. It scares me when I think about all the times I thought my son was 'safe' in it, and I went out of the room. I thank you so much for taking the time to make this website!! Neither my sister or I would have known about this had I not read the article and went to your site.

Charlotte Parscal

I heard about your most tragic loss a few weeks ago. I took note of the model of porta-crib Daniel died in and sighed in relief that it was not the same as we've been using for over four years now - first with our 4 year old daughter and now with our 20 month old son. Seeing your story on 20/20 tonight prompted me to check the CPSC web site (I failed to connect after several tries) to get a list of other recalled items. When I couldn't reach the CPSC I connected with your web-site. My God - was I shocked to learn that our trusted and long-relied upon porta-crib - the very one my son was crying himself to sleep in right then - WAS recalled (All Our Kids playard model 741)! I had no idea and probably never would have if not for your organization.

Sheila

I am writing to commend you for your work. It is because of your efforts that I have taken a more proactive role in safety issues regarding children's products. My son was recently injured, thankfully only minor, in a fall from his high chair. I believed that the fall was due to a faulty strap on the chair so I contacted the Consumer Product Safety Commission. An investigator quickly responded to my concerns and came to our home. If I hadn't seen your interviews I wouldn't have known what to do or how to become involved. I have also made it a regular practice to check the CPSC website for recalls and suggest that my friends do the same. I thank you for your concern and efforts. You have been in my thoughts often.

Staci Hansen

Thank you for the information on recalls. I have forwarded this message to all of my email addresses, and I have printed it and am giving hard copies to many people. The dissemination of recall information is horribly lacking. We have called all of the manufacturers of the equipment we use with our children and discovered that the carrier of our stroller has been recalled because it flips children out of the seat; we returned the warranty card over a year ago, when we purchased the stroller, and still were not notified of the recall. It is certainly clear now that parents and child care providers and state agencies need to be proactive in chasing this information down. Again, I am so very sorry for your loss. Know that you are in my thought and prayers.

David Dotson

HOW TO REACH US

Please contact Kids In Danger anytime.
We welcome your support and ideas.



P.O. Box 146608
Chicago, IL 60614-6608
Phone/Fax (773) 296-9658
www.KidsInDanger.org
email@KidsInDanger.org

SPREADING THE WORD

Kids In Danger is working hard to "get the word out" about potentially deadly products. Here's how we're doing it:

Public Service Announcements (PSAs) – Kids In Danger issues PSAs to radio stations nationwide. The PSAs encourage consumers to become informed by calling the Consumer Product Safety Commission (800-638-2772) or visiting their website (www.cpsc.gov).

Billboards – Kids In Danger has launched a national billboard campaign urging parents to ensure their children's products haven't been recalled.

Media Coverage – Kids In Danger and Danny Keysar's story has been featured in *People*, *Newsweek*, *US News & World Report*, *Child*, *Mother Jones* and *Chicago* magazine. Television coverage includes "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "The Today Show," "CBS This Morning," "20/20" and "Extra."

HOW CAN I HELP KIDS IN DANGER?

- **Tax-deductible Donation** – Your tax-deductible contribution allows Kids In Danger to continue our work on behalf of all children. An envelope addressed to Kids In Danger is enclosed for your convenience. Please donate to save lives.
- **Become a Corporate Sponsor** – Businesses of all sizes can make cash donations and be recognized by Kids In Danger.
- **Participate in Kids In Danger's Letter Writing Campaign** – Write your friends about how they can help Kids In Danger. Kids In Danger will provide you with the necessary materials.

Consumer Booklet – Kids In Danger has created a booklet about the prevalent danger of unsafe products. The booklet gives parents and caregivers tools to protect their children against dangerous or potentially dangerous juvenile products.

Seminars – Kids In Danger is developing a national seminar program for schools, community centers, day care facilities and corporate and government offices to alert and educate parents on unsafe products.



Above: "The Children's Product Safety Act" August 1999
Illinois Governor George Ryan and State Senator Carol Ronen, with Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar.

This newsletter was made possible by Hauser/Bragg Communications, Inc. (312) 595-1600. Kids In Danger acknowledges the generous contributions of Peggy Groves Design (312) 642-0678 and printing by JB Graphics, Inc. (630) 595-5454.

1999 Annual Survey of Illinois Voters Children's Product Safety

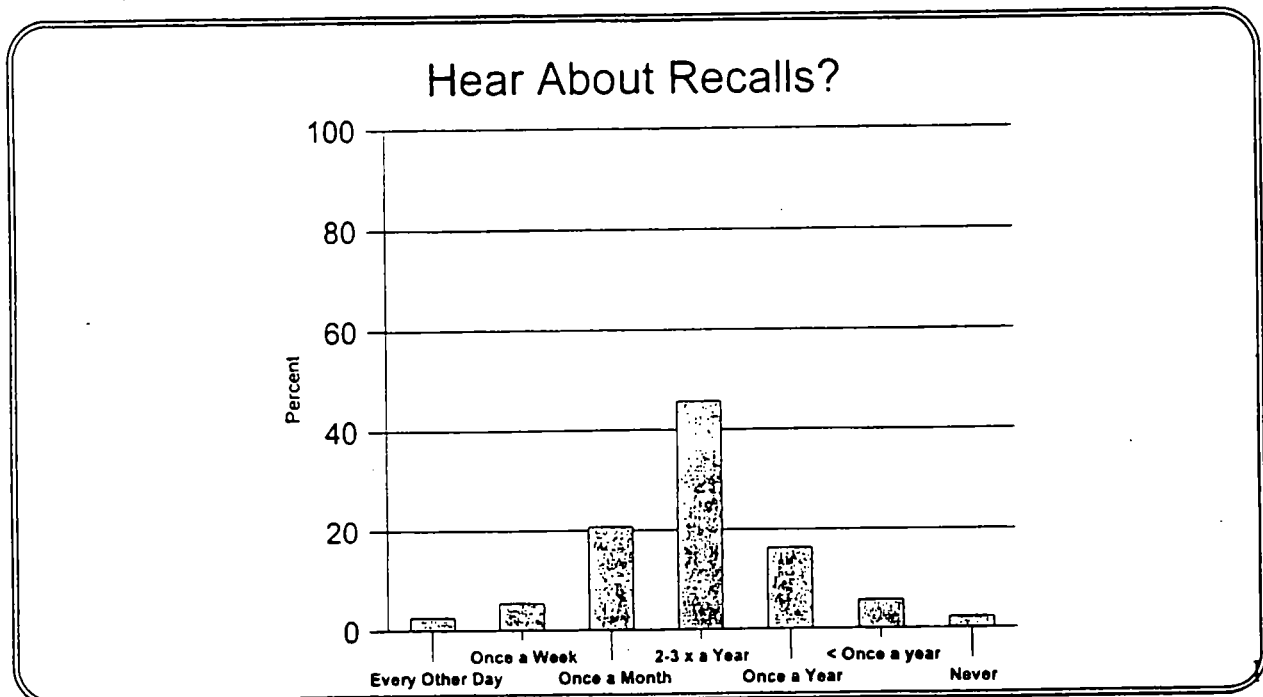
A federal agency, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), is charged with keeping dangerous products away from consumers, especially children. But it has limited powers. The CPSC can't require testing before a product goes to market and their only recourse is to recall a product once it is found to be unsafe.

But Illinois voters are sadly misinformed about government oversight of children's safety. Sixty-seven percent erroneously believe that 'a government agency oversees the safety testing of baby products' and 79% mistakenly believe that 'manufacturers are required to test children's products for safety before they sell them.' Only one in four (26%) knew the first statement was false and fewer than one in five (18%) said the second was false. Those with children at home were no more likely to know the truth than those without children.

Those most likely to believe the government oversees safety testing of products are young voters (79%), Central Illinois voters (73.5%), full-time workers (71%) and those not in the workforce -- including homemakers -- (72%).

Middle income voters are more apt to think that manufacturers are required to test products before they enter the market (83% of those earning between \$21,000 and \$50,000), along with part time workers (83%), those not in the workforce (85%), those with less than a college education (84% of those with a high school diploma and 83% of those with some college), African-American voters (84%), and women (83%).

And while the CPSC announces a children's product recall an average of one to two times a week, 90% of voters heard about them less often, with most, 46%, saying they heard about a recall only two or three times a year.



For demographic differences, we looked at those who heard about recalls more than average (once a month or more often), average responses (2-3 times a year) and less than average (once a year or less often).

The groups most likely to hear about a recall more than average are those under 45 (35% of those 18-34 and 32% of those 35-44), Southern Illinois residents (34%), part-time workers (33%) or those not in the workforce, including homemakers (38%), and leaning Democrats (33.5%). Those least likely to hear about a recall are seniors (28%), low income voters (34%), Chicago residents (30%), and those with only a high school education (30%). Households with children were no more likely to hear about a recall than those without children.

Recalls of children's products are announced on average of 8 times a month.

Most believe that users of recalled products will hear about them through widespread news coverage of the recall -- 72%. But 19% believed recalls were publicized through other means and 8% of voters believe users of those products will not hear about them at all. Clearly, if Illinois residents are hearing about recalls so rarely, the current system is not working well.

Sixteen percent of voters said they had discovered a recalled children's product in their home. Those most likely to have discovered a recalled item are those under 45 (28% of those 35-44 and 21% of those 18-34), upper income voters (22%), and those with some college (20.5%). One out of every four households with children under 18 had discovered an unsafe, recalled children's product in their home. With most reporting that they only heard about a fraction of the recalls, it raises the question of how many more unsafe products are still in use.

Methodology

The Coalition for Consumer Rights (CCR) is a center for public interest research and education. In 1990 CCR initiated the Annual Survey of Illinois Voters to identify voters' views on current issues in the state and to measure changes in voters' attitudes over time.

CCR interviewed 803 registered voters in Illinois between September 7-23, 1999. The households were chosen through random digit dialing and further screened for proper sampling within the household. Calls were made during evening hours with attempts also made during daytime hours. The margin of error is ± 3.5 with a confidence level of 95%. In other words, for 19 out of 20 surveys, each answer will be within 3.5 points of the result of a survey of all registered voters in Illinois.



Legislation and Public Policy

The "Children's Product Safety Act." In August 1999, Illinois Governor Ryan signed into law new state legislation that was initiated and championed by Ginzel and Keysar. Safety and consumer advocates have hailed it as the most extensive legislation of its kind passed in any state. This law makes it illegal to sell or lease a recalled or unsafe children's product. It also requires that the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) ensure that dangerous children's products are not used in licensed childcare facilities. This model legislation is now being promoted in states across the nation. ★

HR 3208: the "Daniel Keysar Memorial and Children's Consumer Product Safety Act of 1999." In November 1999, U.S. Congressman Rod Blagojevich introduced a federal bill that would amend the Consumer Product Safety Act in order to make a number of improvements in the way that the CPSC handles recalls of defective children's products and make information about these recalls more accessible to the public.

The City of Chicago Recall Initiative. In February 1999, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley launched a recall initiative for the city, which called for city agencies to make recall information more available to the public. In September 1999, City Council members unanimously passed Daley's second-hand dealer's ordinance designed to protect children from recalled products. Kids In Danger continues to work with Commissioner Caroline O. Schoenberger of the Department of Consumer Services in this effort.

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Initiative. In September 1998, Ginzel testified before the Illinois House Children and Youth Committee proposing five specific actions to eliminate deadly and recalled products from licensed childcare facilities. The DCFS immediately adopted her recommendations and is currently working with Kids In Danger to implement them.

Development of Voluntary Safety Standards. In September 1998, Linda Ginzel was named to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). Ginzel's vote represents the interests of parents and consumers in the development of voluntary safety standards for children's products.



Office of the Mayor
Richard M. Daley
Mayor

August 25, 1999

Mayor's Press Office
Contact: (312) 744-3334

MAYOR DALEY, REP. BLAGOJEVICH INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM DANGEROUS SECOND-HAND PRODUCTS

Mayor Richard M. Daley said today he will introduce legislation in the City Council to protect children from hazardous second-hand products, such as cribs, playpens and car seats, that may have been recalled by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) without their parents' knowledge.

The Mayor was joined at a news conference today by U.S. Rep. Rod Blagojevich (D-Chicago), who will introduce comparable federal legislation in Congress, Linda Ginzel, co-founder of the Kids in Danger Foundation and Lori Rose, co-owner of Chicago's Once Upon a Child Store.

Ginzel's 17-month-old son, Danny Keysar, died May 12, 1998 in a Lincoln Park day-care center after a portable crib collapsed, suffocating him. It was later determined that the manufacturer had recalled the crib in 1993 after three similar fatal accidents.

"Often, cribs, playpens and similar items are passed along from one family to another," Mayor Daley said at a news conference at Once Upon a Child at 2908 N. Ashland Ave. "In many instances, people are unaware that an item has been recalled and could result in tragedy.

"We must ensure that child-care providers, store owners and parents are aware of recalled products, and are using or selling only the ones that are safe."

The Mayor plans to amend Chicago's municipal code so that any business selling used infant or children's products would be required to:

- Obtain a \$125 second-hand dealer's license. The annual fee will be waived for any not-for-profit second-hand dealer.
- Obtain and file notices of recalled products by the CPSC within the past nine years.
- Cease selling any products without proper identification marks such as the manufacturer's original label. Products will not be required to contain this identification if the owner can establish the identity of the product manufacturer.

-MORE-

During the past year, the City's Department of Consumer Services launched a campaign to increase public awareness of infant and children's products that have been included in the CPSC's annual recall roundup and of the dangers associated with them.

The Department created posters and flyers listing product recall information and is distributing those materials through City agencies. Additionally, Consumer Services Commissioner Caroline Orzac Shoenberger enlisted the assistance of several medical organizations and community groups which are also publicizing the information.

Teams of Consumer Services investigators visited hundreds of retail and resale stores, looking for recalled products and sharing recall information with owners. The Department also assisted retailers in obtaining future recall notices directly from the CPSC.

"The City's public awareness campaign was a strong start, but we must do more at both the local and federal levels to ensure the safety of our children," Mayor Daley said. "We must work together as partners to reach as many people as possible to prevent any future deaths or injuries."

Gov. George Ryan recently signed a state law, sponsored by State Representatives Judy Erwin (D-Chicago) and Carol Ronen (D-Chicago), that will prevent the redistribution of recalled products.

The proposed new ordinance will be introduced at next Wednesday's City Council meeting. The Department of Consumer Services will have authority to issue citations for violations to the ordinance, and fines can range from \$200 to \$1,000.

On the federal level, Rep. Blagojevich will introduce "The Daniel Keysar Memorial and Childhood Consumer Product Safety Act of 1999" when Congress resumes this fall. The bill will improve the way the CPSC handles defective products and will make information about product recalls more accessible to the public.

The bill would:

- Establish a comprehensive CPSC listing of all recalled child products that will be easily accessible to the general public.
- Develop a system to rate recalled products according to the dangers they pose.
- Initiate a "Point-of-Purchase Registration" pilot program for children's products that will allow manufacturers to easily notify customers of product recalls.
- Require the CPSC to report on the effectiveness of its product recalls.
- Increase funding for the CPSC.

###



NEWS FROM

Congressman

Rod Blagojevich



FIFTH DISTRICT—ILLINOIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, August 25, 1999

CONTACT: Matt Devine

773/868-3240

BLAGOJEVICH LEGISLATION: PARENTS NEED TO KNOW WHEN KIDS' PRODUCTS ARE DEEMED DANGEROUS

Chicago -- U.S. Rep. Rod Blagojevich (D-Chicago) announced Congressional legislation that will help parents find out more easily if the federal government has determined that toys or gifts they've bought their kids have been ruled dangerous.

Blagojevich was joined at a press conference today by Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, who has embarked on a campaign to raise public awareness of recalled children's products, and State Representatives Carol Ronen (D-Chicago) and Judy Erwin (D-Chicago), who passed a state law this year requiring the Illinois Department of Public Health to maintain a list of recalled products.

Currently, the federal agency responsible for protecting the public against injuries from dangerous or defective merchandise -- the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) -- relies mainly on free media to inform parents.

Blagojevich said: "On average, 70 to 90 percent of recalled products are never repaired or returned. It's usually because the parents didn't know about the recall. This is a problem with a common-sense solution: parents and day care providers need better access to information. It's a remedy that will provide enormous benefits in prevented injuries and saved lives."

The legislation, to be introduced in September, is called "The Daniel Keysar Memorial and Children's Consumer Product Safety Act of 1999." It is named after Daniel Keysar, the child of Linda Ginzler and Boaz Keysar, who live in Blagojevich's North Side 5th Congressional District. Daniel died at a Chicago day-care center in May, 1998, when a defective crib, which had been recalled by the CPSC, collapsed. Word of the recall had never reached the day-care center.

The “Daniel Keysar Memorial and Children’s Consumer Product Safety Act of 1999”

Sponsored by Congressman Rod Blagojevich



This legislation, to be introduced when Congress reconvenes in September, will make a number of improvements in the way the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) handles recalls of defective products and make information about these recalls more accessible to the public. Highlights of the bill include:

- **Establishing a comprehensive CPSC listing, easily accessible by the general public through web site listings, electronic mail, and a toll free telephone hotline, of all children’s products subject to recall or corrective action over the last 15 years. This listing would include the CPSC’s internal hazard grading system, whereby recalled products are ranked according to the dangers they pose.**
- **Establishing a CPSC pilot program to work with manufacturers and retailers to obtain the identity of consumers who purchase specified juvenile or children’s products so that the consumer can be notified in the event of a product recall.**
- **Requiring the CPSC to report annually to Congress on the effectiveness of its product recalls (e.g. what percentage of recalled products are actually returned or repaired).**
- **Increasing the funding authorization for the CPSC to \$100 million annually, a level that reflects its budget, adjusted for inflation, shortly after its establishment in 1973. The current budget for the CPSC is \$47 million.**

HR 3208 IH

106th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 3208

To amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to improve the way the Consumer Product Safety Commission handles defective products and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**November 3, 1999**

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH (for himself, Mr. BERRY, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. RUSH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to improve the way the Consumer Product Safety Commission handles defective products and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Daniel Keysar Memorial and Childhood Consumer Product Safety Act of 1999'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) On May 12, 1998, Chicago resident Linda Ginzel and her husband, Boaz Keysar, lost their 16-month old son, Danny, when a defective crib collapsed and strangled him at a Chicago day care home. Although the licensed day care facility had been inspected just 8 days before the incident and the crib had been recalled by the Consumer Product Safety Commission in 1993, the day care home was not aware of the recall and it never removed the defective crib. Danny was the twelfth child to die in this type of defective crib nationwide. Moreover, the thirteenth child was killed in Fair Haven, New Jersey just 3 months later.

(2) The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is an independent Federal regulatory agency created in 1972 to protect the public against unreasonable risks of injuries and deaths

MAY-19-00 15:16 FROM: ID: 1022233803 PAGE 374

associated with consumer products. Although the CPSC has jurisdiction over about 15,000 types of consumer products, its budget is less than the Food and Drug Administration's budget for regulating animal medicines.

(3) The budget for the Consumer Product Safety Commission has failed to keep pace with inflation. In fact, when indexed for inflation, the Commission's 1974 budget allocation of \$30 million would be \$98 million today, compared to the current level of \$47 million.

(4) Although manufacturers are required by law to report safety problems with their products, on average only about 260 reports are filed each year. Yet, annual CPSC inspections of over 2,000 products consistently revealed close to half the products in violation of CPSC regulations.

(5) On average, the CPSC recalls about 200-300 products each year, the majority of which are children's products or toys.

(6) In 1998, 38 million individual units of children's products were recalled.

(7) Although the CPSC is able to have recalled products removed from retail stores, it is more difficult to have recalled products removed from consumers' homes, the secondary market, including resale stores and child care facilities. On average, only 10 to 30 percent of the products recalled are repaired or returned. The number of products destroyed by the consumer is unknown. As a result, children and other consumers are likely to be injured and some killed by recalled products that have not been returned, destroyed, or repaired.

SEC. 3. RECALLED PRODUCTS.

The Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

RECALLED PRODUCTS

SEC. 38. (a) Within 180 days from the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall establish a comprehensive list of all children's products subject to recall or corrective action under the statutes it administers over the last 15 years and shall undertake to make the list widely available to the general public, State and local governments, and the secondary market, including retail stores and child care facilities through its toll free telephone hotline, electronic mail, and web site listings. The Commission shall develop a strategy for partnering with State and local governments to produce and distribute the list under this subsection to individual consumers and the secondary market, including resale stores and child care centers.

(b) Section 6(b) shall not apply to Commission announcements of corrective actions. All Commission announcements of corrective actions, including press releases, shall be identified as 'recall'. The announcements shall, with respect to the product for which the announcements are made--

(1) state clearly and concisely, in the strongest possible language, the nature and extent of the product hazard and any potential risk of injury; and

(2) shall include the number of known deaths, injuries and incidents associated with the product hazard being corrected.

In stating the hazard and risk of injury, the announcement shall use clear and unambiguous language intended to motivate consumers to participate in the recall. In addition, the Commission shall publicly post press releases and other announcements of corrective action, e.g. annual report listings in a timely manner.

(c) The Commission shall establish a pilot program to work with manufacturers and retailers to obtain the identity of consumers who purchase specified juvenile or children's products so the consumer can be notified in the event of a product recall.

(d) The Commission shall report to Congress annually on the effectiveness of the recalls ordered under section 15(d) for each specific product so that the percentage of products sold and subject to such recall or corrective action and actually recalled or repaired may be determined and made available to the general public through its toll free telephone hotline, electronic mail, and website.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The first sentence of section 32(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2081) is amended by striking out 'not to exceed' and all that follows and inserting '\$100 million for each of the fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003.'

END

NEWS FROM STATE SENATOR THOMAS J. **WALSH**

WESTCHESTER 708/531-0390 SPRINGFIELD 217/782-2015

FAMILY TRAGEDY LEADS TO NEW STATE LAW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 6, 1999/ACS

Springfield, Ill. – Children will be safe from defective baby cribs and other children's products under a new law sponsored by state Senator Thomas J. Walsh and signed into law this week by Gov. George Ryan.

Walsh (R-LaGrange Park) sponsored the legislation at the request of Dr. Linda Ginzel and her husband Dr. Boaz Keysar of Lincoln Park, who formed an organization to get the word out to parents and caregivers about potentially dangerous products after their infant son was killed in a recalled crib at a licensed day care facility.

"There is absolutely no reason for another child to die due to lack of information about unsafe or recalled products," said Ginzel. "With the Children's Product Safety Act in place, my husband and I have hope that other families will not suffer a tragedy as senseless as the one we have had to endure."

Walsh commended Drs. Ginzel and Mr. Keysar for their work to get the word out about dangerous children's products. "They have taken a personal tragedy and turned it into a positive accomplishment so that other children won't meet the same fate as their son," said Walsh. "The approval of House Bill 485 is just one of their many efforts to make sure that parents and day care facilities know which products could pose a danger to young children."

Kids In Danger, the organization founded by Ginzel and Keysar to inform parents, hosts a

- MORE -

ADD ONE

web site listing information about dangerous and recalled products. That address is www.kidsindanger.org.

According to Walsh, manufacturers recall a high percentage of children's products, and day care facilities aren't prohibited from using these products.

House Bill 485, modeled after laws in California, Washington and Colorado, makes it illegal for a commercial user to sell or lease an unsafe crib or other children's product and prohibits day care facilities from using unsafe products or even having them on the premises. The law also targets resale dealers who are unaware that certain products have been deemed unsafe.

Under the new law, the Department of Children and Family Services would be required to notify child care facilities of recalls and to monitor them for unsafe products. The Illinois Department of Public Health will also compile a list of children's products that are unsafe and publish that list on the Internet.

###

HOUSE BILL 0485
91st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois

1999 and 2000

Introduced February 2, 1999, by Representatives Ronen - Erwin - Lopez

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED

New Act

225 ILCS 10/5.2 new

225 ILCS 10/8

from Ch. 23, par. 2218

Creates the Children's Product Safety Act. Prohibits a commercial user from remanufacturing, selling, leasing, or placing in the stream of commerce a crib or other children's product that is unsafe. Provides that a children's product is unsafe when it does not conform to certain requirements or when it has been recalled. Provides for criminal penalties, civil remedies, and exemptions. Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Prohibits a child care facility from using or having on the premises of the facility any unsafe children's product, except as specified. Provides that a violation constitutes grounds for revocation or refusal of a child care facility license. Provides that the Department of Children and Family Services shall ensure that each child care facility becomes informed, on an ongoing basis, of unsafe children's products to enable each child care facility to effectively inspect children's products and specifically identify unsafe children's products, and that the Department shall adopt rules to carry out the new provisions.

LRB9100071WHdv

Fiscal Note Act
may be applicable

Correctional Budget
and Impact Note Act
may be applicable

A BILL FOR

LIBSINCG HB485

RONEN AMENDMENTS: HOUSE- 2 SENATE- 0 99/03/26 S REF RULES SRUL

AN ACT in relation to children's product safety.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Children's Product Safety Act.

Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

(a) "Children's product" means a product, including but not limited to a full-size crib, non-full-size crib, toddler bed, bed, car seat, chair, high chair, booster chair, hook-on chair, bath seat, gate or other enclosure for confining a child, play yard, stationary activity center, carrier, stroller, walker, swing, or toy or play equipment, that meets the following criteria:

(i) the product is designed or intended for the care of, or use by, children under 6 years of age or is designed or intended for the care of, or use by, both children under 6 years of age and children 6 years of age or older; and

(ii) the product is designed or intended to come into contact with the child while the product is used.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, a product is not a "children's product" for purposes of this Act if:

(I) it may be used by or for the care of a child under 6 years of age, but it is designed or intended for use by the general population or segments of the general population and not solely or primarily for use by or the care of a child; or

(II) it is a medication, drug, or food or is intended to be ingested.

(b) "Commercial user" means any person who deals in

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children's products or who otherwise by one's occupation holds oneself out as having knowledge or skill peculiar to children's products, or any person who is in the business of remanufacturing, retrofitting, selling, leasing, subletting, or otherwise placing in the stream of commerce children's products.

(c) "Person" means a natural person, firm, corporation, limited liability company, or association, or an employee or agent of a natural person or an entity included in this definition.

(d) "Infant" means any person less than 35 inches tall and less than 3 years of age.

(e) "Crib" means a bed or containment designed to accommodate an infant.

(f) "Full-size crib" means a full-size crib as defined in Section 1508.3 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations regarding the requirements for full-size cribs.

(g) "Non-full-size crib" means a non-full-size crib as defined in Section 1509.2 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations regarding the requirements for non-full-size cribs.

Section 15. Unsafe children's products; prohibition.

(a) No commercial user may remanufacture, retrofit,

sell, contract to sell or resell, lease, sublet, or otherwise place in the stream of commerce, on or after January 1, 2000, a children's product that is unsafe.

(b) A children's product is deemed to be unsafe for purposes of this Act if it meets any of the following criteria:

(1) It does not conform to all federal laws and regulations setting forth standards for the children's product.

(2) It has been recalled for any reason by an

-3-

agency of the federal government or the product's manufacturer, distributor, or importer and the recall has not been rescinded.

(3) An agency of the federal government has issued a warning that a specific product's intended use constitutes a safety hazard and the warning has not been rescinded.

The Department of Public Health shall create, maintain, and update a comprehensive list of children's products that have been identified as meeting any of the criteria set forth in subdivisions (1) through (3) of this subsection (b). The Department of Public Health shall make the comprehensive list available to the public at no cost and shall post it on the Internet, and encourage links.

(c) A crib is presumed to be unsafe for purposes of this Act if it does not conform to the standards endorsed or established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including but not limited to Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the American Society for Testing and Materials, as follows:

(1) Part 1508 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations and any regulations adopted to amend or supplement the regulations.

(2) Part 1509 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations and any regulations adopted to amend or supplement the regulations.

(3) Part 1303 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations and any regulations adopted to amend or supplement the regulations.

(4) The following standards and specifications of the American Society for Testing Materials for corner posts of baby cribs and structural integrity of baby cribs:

(A) ASTM F 966-90 (corner post standard).

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(B) ASTM F 1169-88 (structural integrity of full-size baby cribs).

(C) ASTM F 1822-97 (non-full-size cribs).

(d) Cribs that are unsafe shall include, but not be limited to, cribs that have any of the following dangerous features or characteristics:

(1) Corner posts that extend more than one-sixteenth of an inch.

(2) Spaces between side slats more than 2.375 inches.

(3) Mattress support that can be easily dislodged from any point of the crib. A mattress segment can be easily dislodged if it cannot withstand at least a

25-pound upward force from underneath the crib.

(4) Cutout designs on the end panels.

(5) Rail height dimensions that do not conform to both of the following:

(A) The height of the rail and end panel as measured from the top of the rail or panel in its lowest position to the top of the mattress support in its highest position is at least 9 inches.

(B) The height of the rail and end panel as measured from the top of the rail or panel in its highest position to the top of the mattress support in its lowest position is at least 26 inches.

(6) Any screws, bolts, or hardware that are loose and not secured.

(7) Sharp edges, points, or rough surfaces, or any wood surfaces that are not smooth and free from splinters, splits, or cracks.

(8) Tears in mesh or fabric sides in a non-full-size crib.

(9) A non-full-size crib that folds in a "V" shape design does not have top rails that automatically lock

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into place when the crib is fully set up.

(10) The mattress pad in a non-full-size mesh/fabric crib exceeds one inch.

(e) An unsafe children's product, as determined pursuant to subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b) of this Section 15, may be retrofitted if the retrofit has been approved by the agency of the federal government issuing the recall or warning or the agency responsible for approving the retrofit is different from the agency issuing the recall or warning. A retrofitted children's product may be sold if it is accompanied at the time of sale by a notice declaring that it is safe to use for a child under 6 years of age. The notice shall include: (1) a description of the original problem which made the recalled product unsafe; (2) a description of the retrofit which explains how the original problem was eliminated and declaring that it is now safe to use for a child under 6 years of age; and (3) the name and address of the commercial user who accomplished the retrofit certifying that the work was done along with the name and model number of the product retrofitted. The commercial user is responsible for ensuring that the notice is present with the retrofitted product at the time of sale. A retrofit is exempt from this Act if:

(i) the retrofit is for a children's product that requires assembly by the consumer, the approved retrofit is provided with the product by the commercial user, and the retrofit is accompanied at the time of sale by instructions explaining how to apply the retrofit; or

(ii) the seller of a previously unsold product accomplishes the repair, approved or recommended by an agency of the federal government, prior to sale.

Section 20. Exception. The commercial user shall not be found noncompliant if the specific recalled product sold was

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not included on the Department of Public Health's list on the day before the sale.

Section 25. Penalty. A commercial user who willfully

and knowingly violates Section 15 is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

Section 30. Enforcement. The Attorney General, or a State's Attorney in the county in which a violation of this Act occurred, may bring an action in the name of the People of the State of Illinois to enforce the provisions of this Act.

Section 35. Remedies. Remedies available under this Act are in addition to any other remedies or procedures under any other provision of law that may be available to an aggrieved party.

Section 900. The Child Care Act of 1969 is amended by adding Section 5.2 and changing Section 8 as follows:

(225 ILCS 10/5.2 new)

Sec. 5.2. Unsafe children's products.

(a) A child care facility may not use or have on the premises, on or after July 1, 2000, an unsafe children's product as described in Section 15 of the Children's Product Safety Act. This subsection (a) does not apply to an antique or collectible children's product if it is not used by, or accessible to, any child in the child care facility.

(b) The Department of Children and Family Services shall notify child care facilities, on an ongoing basis, of the provisions of this Section and the Children's Product Safety Act and of unsafe children's products, as determined in accordance with that Act, in plain, non-technical language

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that will enable each child care facility to effectively inspect children's products and identify unsafe children's products. The Department of Children and Family Services shall adopt rules to carry out this Section.

(225 ILCS 10/8) (from Ch. 23, par. 2218)

Sec. 8. The Department may revoke or refuse to renew the license of any child care facility or refuse to issue full license to the holder of a permit should the licensee or holder of a permit:

(1) fail to maintain standards prescribed and published by the Department;

(2) violate any of the provisions of the license issued;

(3) furnish or make any misleading or any false statement or report to the Department;

(4) refuse to submit to the Department any reports or refuse to make available to the Department any records required by the Department in making investigation of the facility for licensing purposes;

(5) fail or refuse to submit to an investigation by the

Department;

(6) fail or refuse to admit authorized representatives of the Department at any reasonable time for the purpose of investigation;

(7) fail to provide, maintain, equip and keep in safe and sanitary condition premises established or used for child care as required under standards prescribed by the Department, or as otherwise required by any law, regulation or ordinance applicable to the location of such facility;

(8) refuse to display its license or permit;

(9) be the subject of an indicated report under Section 3 of the "Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act" or fail to discharge or sever affiliation with the child care facility of an employee or volunteer at the facility with

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direct contact with children who is the subject of an indicated report under Section 3 of that Act;

(10) fail to comply with the provisions of Section 7.1;

(11) fail to exercise reasonable care in the hiring, training and supervision of facility personnel;

(12) fail to report suspected abuse or neglect of children within the facility, as required by the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;

(13) fail to comply with Section 5.1 or 5.2 of this

Act; or

(14) be identified in an investigation by the Department as an addict or alcoholic, as defined in the Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse and Dependency Act, or be a person whom the Department knows has abused alcohol or drugs, and has not successfully participated in treatment, self-help groups or other suitable activities, and the Department determines that because of such abuse the licensee, holder of the permit, or any other person directly responsible for the care and welfare of the children served, does not comply with standards relating to character, suitability or other qualifications established under Section 7 of this Act.

(Source: P.A. 88-670, eff. 12-2-94; revised 10-28-98.)

END OF INQUIRY

Testimony given to the Illinois House Children and Youth Committee of the 90th General Assembly on September 14, 1998 on the subject of "Upgrading Child Care Licensure in Illinois."

My name is Linda Ginzel. I am a mother.
I am also a professor at the University of Chicago.
This means that, like many working parents, I rely on daycare.

I am here today because four months ago, on May 12th, my 17-month-old son, Daniel, was strangled to death at his licensed day care home in our neighborhood, in Lincoln Park.

I am here today because there is absolutely no reason for this to ever happen again.
Danny's death was completely preventable.

You see, my little boy was killed by a defective nursery product.

His crib.

The Playskool Travel-Lite Portable Crib --where he napped in the afternoons at his day care home.

These faulty cribs have hinges in the top rails that allow them to collapse and fold flat for storage. They are defective because they can collapse unexpectedly while the product is in use. (Refer to copies of the Urgent Alert.)

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Danny was not the first victim of this defective crib, he was not the second, he was not the third, he was not even the fourth child to die. My son, Daniel, was the fifth baby whose neck was caught between the top rails of this defective crib and strangled to death. Three babies were killed before the product was officially recalled in 1993 and two babies had died since the recall.

How is it possible? How can such a deadly crib be found in a day care facility licensed by the state of Illinois? You should know that just eight days before this crib collapsed and strangled my son to death his day care home passed a DCFS inspection.

I went to DCFS to ask this question. How is it possible?

Three weeks after my son was killed, I met with Camille Sleet the head of licensing for Cook County. Ms. Sleet said that currently there is nothing in their rules and regulations about recalled products. As for nursery equipment in day care homes, the licensing standards in section 406.22; item F.1 reads: "The equipment must be must be appropriate to the developmental needs of the child in care. Safe, sturdy, well-constructed individual cribs, playpens or port-a-cribs for infants shall be equipped with good firm, fitting mattresses made of waterproof materials that can be washed. Washable cots may be used for children 15 months of age and over."

Safe, sturdy and well constructed.

Recalled, deadly nursery equipment is by definition unsafe. Unsafe enough to kill.

Camille Sleet understood the urgent need to get life-saving information about these deadly cribs to all day care providers and inspectors. As a result of our June 9th meeting and her efforts, Jesse McDonald sent out the recall information that I had provided to the DCFS. The mailing included all licensed day care home, centers and foster homes.

I am grateful for this immediate response, but this alone is not enough to prevent another tragedy. Current licensing standards simply do not protect our children from deadly, recalled nursery furniture and juvenile equipment routinely used in day care settings such as high chairs, baby carrier seats and infant swings and other such products.

As parents, my husband and I placed our children in licensed day care with the understanding that minimal safety standards were being met and monitored by the state. I know that much of the work of this committee is concerned with issues of quality in day care.

I want you to understand that Danny had quality day care.

My testimony today is about something much more basic than the broad and complex issues of "quality."

My testimony today is about an issue that is much easier to define and address effectively; it is about minimum safety standards for licensed day care facilities in the state of Illinois.

In the four months since my son's death, my husband and I have learned a lot about what is wrong with the current recall process. And as a result, we founded a non profit organization called Kids In Danger. The focus of our efforts is on preventing childhood death and disability due to faulty, recalled nursery equipment. I hope that you will all visit our website at kidsindanger.org to see what we are doing in order to try and prevent the next death.

Here's what else can be done:

1. Juvenile product recall information should be provided at orientation sessions for potential licensees.
2. In their application for a license, providers should be required to complete and sign a checklist of their juvenile furniture and nursery equipment, such as cribs, play yards, strollers, high chairs, infant swings. The checklist would be completed when compared with the recall information. All that is needed are the names of manufacturers and model numbers for each item.
3. During the site inspection that is required to open a newly licensed day care, the DCFS inspector would verify the equipment placed on the checklist against the recall information and sign off on the checklist*. Day care facilities already licensed and in operation would also complete the checklist and verification procedure.
4. Because recalls can occur at any stage in a product's lifecycle, it is necessary for a monthly or quarterly newsletter with updated recall information. This information should be provided on a state-wide basis by the DCFS so that the chain of accountability is evident. That is, the state agency that provide licenses and oversight should also provide licensees with critical recall information. Then, when the DCFS performs a check, everyone knows what is and what is not allowed.
5. Furthermore, recall information should be information posted in a visible location at all licensed day care facilities. If this is done, parents can serve as a second set of eyes on the daycare; and know to check their own equipment at home.

The point is that issuing and complying with safety recalls by licensed daycares should be mandatory and visible to all. Thank you.

*Additional Note: This equipment verification procedure would become part of the regularly-scheduled DCFS inspections.

MetroChicago

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1998

State told of fatal flaw in day-care inspections

By Cornelia Grumman
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The state's child-welfare agency inspected the day-care center where little Danny Key-sar was strangled by a defective crib only eight days before the tragedy occurred, according to emotional testimony given to a panel of Illinois lawmakers Monday.

And had state licensing procedures required inspectors to look for recalled equipment being used in day-care facilities, the 17-month-old might still be alive today, the boy's mother told members of the House Committee on Children and Youth. Officials with the Department of Children and Family Services said they will try to address such shortcomings in their inspection procedures.

The Playskool Travel-Lite portable crib model had been recalled in 1993, after three babies were killed in separate incidents when their necks were caught between the top rails.

"Current licensing standards simply do not protect our children from deadly, recalled nursery furniture and juvenile equipment routinely used in day-care settings such as high chairs, baby carrier seats and infant swings and other such products," said Linda Ginzel, 39, Danny's mother and a University of Chicago professor.

DCFS Deputy Director Mary Sue Morsch agreed to Ginzel's suggestions: that product recall information be provided at orientation sessions for potential licensees, that special inventories of day-care equipment be compared with product recall lists and that a newsletter be mailed to providers and passed along to parents with product safety updates.

The hearing at the James R. Thompson Center came in response to news articles earlier this summer and an outcry by child-care advocates about other problems plaguing the state's day-care licensing system.

"Months and months of delays were hindering the ability of new programs to come on-line and for existing child-care programs to be re-licensed," said state Rep. Carol Ronen (D-Chicago), who chairs the committee. "These delays caused problems for the providers and most critically, limited the options available for parents seeking child care."



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National Initiatives Pending Funding

Booklet. Kids In Danger has created an informational booklet: *Mine Fields*. It informs people about the widespread danger of unsafe products and gives them tools to protect their children. The booklet has been written, pilot-tested and professionally designed. We intend to mass-produce and distribute *Mine Fields* nationally.

Seminars. Few parents and caregivers know about the dangers of recalled products and fewer have any idea how to find out about recalled products they might be using. Kids In Danger is developing a seminar to disseminate this lifesaving information to parents and caregivers at schools, community centers, childcare facilities, corporate and government offices –anywhere there are people concerned about the safety of children. Our plan is to perfect the development of these seminars in the Chicago–area and expand the program nationwide.

Education. Kids In Danger is also targeting childbirth classes and in-hospital childcare classes as many parents seek information about child safety through these sources. We are developing educational materials for the childcare experts who manage these classes. Our goal is to gain the support of hospitals across the country in order to include information addressing the dangers of unsafe juvenile products and the importance of recall information in their curriculum.

Billboards. Kids In Danger has begun a national billboard recall awareness campaign, with lifesaving recall alerts posted on more than 100 billboards in nine states. To our knowledge, this is the first time that outdoor advertising has ever been used to publicize recall information. We intend to expand this community outreach effort to every state in the nation, with many hundreds of billboards throughout the country.



Broadcast Media Overview

National Television

NBC-"Extra"
NBC-"The Today Show"
CBS-"This Morning"

ABC-"The Oprah Winfrey Show"
ABC-"20/20"

Regional & Local Television

FOX6 News-Milwaukee, Wisconsin
CBS-Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas
NBC6-Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
ABC7-Chicago, Illinois
NBC5-Chicago, Illinois
CBS2-Chicago, Illinois
CLTV-Chicago, Illinois

UPN9 News-New York, New York
WLNS6TV-Lansing, Michigan
WCIU-Chicago, Illinois
Channel 66-Chicago, Illinois
WFLD(FOX)-Chicago, Illinois
WFBT-Chicago, Illinois
WTTW-Chicago, Illinois

Radio

WPHM-Detroit, Michigan
KAZU FM-California's Central Coast
WMAQ-AM(CNN)-Chicago, Illinois
WBBM-AM(CBS)-Chicago, Illinois

KMOX-St. Louis, Missouri
US*99-Chicago, Illinois
WBEZ FM-Chicago, Illinois



Broadcast Media - Partial List

National Television:

<u>NETWORK SERIES</u>	<u>SEGMENT TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
NBC-TV "Extra"	Recalls	January 5, 1999
NBC-TV "The Today Show"	Parenting	January 11, 1999
ABC-TV "The Oprah Winfrey Show"	Remembering Your Spirit	January 20, 1999 and various rebroadcast dates
CBS-TV "This Morning"	Kids In Danger	March 8, 1999
ABC-TV "20/20"	Playing with Danger	March 22, 1999

Regional Television:

FOX6 News-Milwaukee Wisconsin	Danger for Sale	February 9, 1999
CBS-Dallas/Ft. Worth Texas	"Positively Texas"	April 8, 1999
NBC6-Miami/ Ft. Lauderdale, Florida	Recalled Products	May 3, 1999
UPN9 News-New York New York	Product Recalls	August 2, 1999
WLNS6TV-Lansing Michigan	The Danger of Recalled Products	August 4, 1999

Local Television:

CBS2-Chicago	Kids In Danger	September 6, 1998
NBC5-Chicago	Play Pen Recall	November 24, 1998
CBS2-Chicago	Dangerous Playpens/Cribs Recalled	November 24, 1998

Local Television (continued):

<u>NETWORK</u>	<u>SEGMENT TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
WTTW-Chicago	SCG&K Honors Ginzel/Keysar	February 4, 1999
NBC5-Chicago	Recall Roulette (Part 1)	February 24, 1999
NBC5-Chicago	Recall Roulette (Part 2)	February 25, 1999
WFBT-Chicago	"Building Blocks: The Parenting Show"	February 26, 1999
WCIU-Chicago	"The Jack Taylor Show"	March 1, 1999
NBC5-Chicago	Billboard Campaign	May 3, 1999
Various Broadcasts: CLTV; WFLD(Fox) ABC7; NBC5; WGN9 CBS2	Kids In Danger, City of Chicago, and the CPSC	March 30–April 1, 1999
Various Broadcasts: CLTV; WFLD(Fox) ABC7; NBC5; WGN9	Kids In Danger, Mayor Daley, and Rep. Blagojevich	August 25–August 26, 1999
Various Broadcasts: ABC7; WGN9	Kids In Danger, Illinois PIRG and City of Chicago	November 23, 1999
Channel 66-Chicago	Peligro Olvidado	March 1, 2000
NBC5-Chicago	Danny's Law	May 22, 2000

Radio Appearances:

WPHM-Detroit Michigan	"The John Hill Show"	September 24, 1998
WMAQ-AM(CNN) Chicago, Illinois	All News 67	March 30, 1999
WBBM-AM(CBS) Chicago, Illinois	Newsradio78	March 30, 1999
US*99-Chicago Illinois	"Chicago Up Close"	June 6, 1999
KMOX-St. Louis Missouri	News	June 25, 1999
KAZU FM-Central Coast California	"The Roadside Café"	July 5, 1999

Radio Appearances (continued):

<u>NETWORK</u>	<u>SEGMENT TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
WBEZ FM -Chicago Illinois	News/NPR	August 26, 1999
WBBM-AM(CBS) Chicago, Illinois	Newsradio78	November 23, 1999



Print Media Overview

Magazine Feature Articles

Chicago Magazine (November 1998)
Child Magazine (February 1999)
Mother Jones (November/December 1998)

People Magazine (June 28, 1999)
Small World (August 1999)

Magazine News Shorts

Baby Talk (March 1999)
Children's Ministry (November/December 1998)
U.S. News & World Report (April 1999)
Brill's Content (October; November 1998)

Newsweek (May 1999)
Twins (July/August 1999)
Consumer Reports (July 1999)
Injury Prevention (1999, vol. 5)

Newspapers

Boston Sunday Globe
Chicago Sun-Times
The Hyde Park Herald (Chicago)
Sun-Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida)
Press & Sun-Bulletin (Binghamton, New York)

Chicago Tribune
Illinois Times
The Plainfield Sun (Plainfield, Illinois)
The Chicago Maroon
Daily Southtown (Chicago)

Newsletters & Regional Parent Magazines

Boulder County Parent (Colorado)
San Francisco-Peninsula Parent
Rhode Island Parent's Paper
Rodfei Zedek Bulletin
The Newsletter of the Danny Foundation
Texas EMS Magazine
CCR Reports

Illinois Hotel-Motel Association
The Resale Industry Newsletter
Chicagoland Safe Kids
The Children's Safety Network
Mid Town News
Hollywood Video Insider



Print Media - Partial List

Magazines:

BabyTalk, Smalltalk. "Total Recall." March 1999, p. 17.

Brill's Content. Letters to the Editor. Complaint by Kathleen Begala, Public Affairs Director Consumer Product Safety Commission. October 30, 1999, www.brillscontent.com.

Brill's Content. Letters to the Editor. Response by Jonathan Eig, Executive Editor Chicago Magazine. November 5, 1999, www.brillscontent.com.

Chicago Magazine. "How Danny Died" by Jonathan Eig. November 1998, p. 62-82.

Chicago Magazine, Letters. "Crib Notes." January 1999, p. 10-11.

Chicago Magazine, "Impact players: The 1998 Chicagoans of the Year." January 1999 p. 63-68.

Chicago Magazine, Letters. "Total Recall." February 1999, p. 10.

Chicago Magazine, Frontline. "Mister Walker; Our heroes: Cheers and tears marked the awards luncheon honoring our 1998 Chicagoans of the Year." March 1999, p. 26.

Child Magazine. "Safety warning: What every parent and caregiver must know about recalls to keep children safe" by Ellen Liberman and Marla Felcher. February 1999 p. 28-33.

Child Magazine, Editor's Letter. "Hard Lessons Learned" by Pamela Abrams. February 1999, p. 10.

Child Magazine, Feedback. "Recall Warning." May 1999, p. 11.

Child Magazine, Feedback. "Recall Warning." August 1999, p. 12.

Children's Ministry, Keeping Current with Kids. "Product Recalls." November/ December 1998, p. 12.

Consumer Reports, Frontlines. "Product Safety: Beefing up product recalls." July 1999 p. 9.

Injury Prevention, News and Notes. "Kids In Danger media coverage." 1999, Vol. 5, p. 91.

Mother Jones, Outfront. "Silent Recall" by E. Marla Felcher and Ellen Liberman. November/December 1998, p. 17-18.

Magazines (continued):

Mother Jones. "A little bit louder now" by Tim Dickinson. January/February 1999, p. 21.

Newsweek, Family Briefs. "Online Recall Resources." May 17, 1999, p. 90.

People Magazine. "Total Recall: A child's death spurs his parents' fight to see unsafe products taken off the market," by Susan Schindehette and Barbara Sandler. June 28, 1999, pp. 105-106.

Small World. "Investigation: Recalled products under the gun. Armed with media interest, consumers and not-for-profit organizations are leading a movement to change the process by which juvenile product manufacturers handle recalls and standardize their products," by Rose Palazzolo. August 1999, pp. 20-22.

Twins. "Backyard Babies: From bouncy seats to baby boundaries, safe fun in the sun," by Jill Klinge. July/August 1999, pp. 44-45.

U.S. News & World Report, Science and Ideas. "The risks of daycare" by Lynn Rosellini. April 26, 1999, p. 64.

Newspapers:

Boston Sunday Globe, Consumer Beat. "After child's death in crib, couple faults product recall system" by Patricia Wen and Bruce Mohl. June 28, 1998.

Boston Sunday Globe, Consumer Beat. "Another crib death" by Patricia Wen and Bruce Mohl. September 6, 1998.

The Chicago Maroon, Vol. 110, Issue 20. "Chicago magazine names three profs 'Chicagoans of the year'" by Daniel Kingery. January 12, 1999, p. 1.

Chicago Sun-Times. "Crib death leads city to publicize recalls." February 2, 1999.

Chicago Sun-Times. "Parents who lost infant son spread word about recalls" by Michael Gillis. February 18, 1999.

Chicago Tribune, Metro Chicago. "Boy's playpen death spurs recall efforts: Second-hand sales also targeted" by Jon Bigness. June 15, 1998.

Chicago Tribune, Metro Chicago. "State told of fatal flaw in day-care inspections" by Cornella Grumman. September 15, 1998.

Chicago Tribune. "Thanks for Making our Nurseries Safer" Allstate Insurance Company Advertisement. October 29, 1998.

Chicago Tribune. "City highlights unsafe products for kids" by Gary Washburn. March 31, 1999.

Daily Herald. "Study: Food safety a top priority for residents" by Allison Kaplan, October 26, 1999.

Newspapers (continued):

Daily Southtown. "Defective cribs meet their match: Parents file suit, warn others of potential dangers" by Kristin Cleary, August 24, 1998, pp. 1-2.

The Hyde Park Herald. "U of C profs named outstanding Chicagoans." January 20, 1999.

The Hyde Park Herald. "U of C profs work for safer kids' products" by John Greenfield. September 1, 1999.

Illinois Times, Local. "Parents seek to get word out on crib: Couple starts foundation to warn others about recalled crib that took the life of their son" by Kristin Cleary August 24, 1998, pp. B1-B2.

The Plainfield Sun (Plainfield, IL). "Recall, Will Robinson: Information is consumers' best weapon against defective merchandise" by Susan Frick Carlman. July 7, 1999, pp. 33-34.

Press & Sun Bulletin (Binghamton, NY). "Dangerous cribs in use despite recalls, deaths" by Lee Shepherd. October 15, 1999.

Sun-Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). "Popular dive sticks recalled" by Mitch Lipka. June 25, 1999.

Sun-Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). "Consumers often don't get word about dangers" "Deaths of six babies expose fatal flaws of system"; "Crusading against a crib" by Mitch Lipka. November 29, 1999.

Sun-Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). "Technology to make notification automatic" by Mitch Lipka. November 30, 1999.

Newsletters:

The Boulder County Parent, Letters to the Editor. "Prevent the death of next child." July 1998, p. 14.

CCR Reports, News from the Coalition for Consumer Rights, "Children's Product Safety Act"; "Put tobacco money to work preventing injuries." December 1999.

Chicagoland Safe Kids. "Chicago organization raises awareness about dangerous juvenile products." February 1999.

Children's Safety Network Notes. "Urgent new alert: Some portable cribs/playpens may be unsafe." Summer 1998.

Cribnotes, Newsletter of The Danny Foundation, Vol. 11, No. 4. "Deaths in portable cribs/play yards." Summer 1998, p. 1.

Cribnotes, Newsletter of The Danny Foundation, Vol. 12, No. 2. "Legislative News: Illinois Recall Legislation" Summer 1999, p. 6.

Hollywood Video Insider, Hollywood Kids, "Did you know. . . 38 million individual children's products were recalled in 1998 alone?" Holiday 1999 Issue, p. 14.

Newsletters (continued):

INNnovations, The Newsletter of the Hotel-Motel Association of Illinois. "Child safety law to impact Illinois hotels." August 1999, p. 3.

Mid Town News, City People in Focus, Vol. 19, and No. 12. "Grieving parents fighting for kids in danger." December 1998, p. 3.

Rodfei Zedek Bulletin. "The Pulpit Shelf: Safety—Especially for children." May 31, 1999, p. 7.

Rhode Island Parents' Paper. "Parents fight for safer kid's products." November 1988, p. 8.

San Francisco-Penninsula Parent. "Important recall information for parents" by Tara Aronson. May 1999, p. 16.

Texas EMS Magazine. "Kids In Danger: Recall Web site launched" by Kelly Harrell September/October 1999, p. 8.

Too Good To Be Threw, The Resale Industry Newsletter, Vol. 16, no. 5. "Beware: Don't sell danger." September/October 1998, p. 9.



Honors & Awards

1999 Community Champion Award. Kids In Danger was awarded the Civil Justice Foundation's Community Champion Award for grassroots, progressive consumer advocacy.

1998 Chicagoans of the Year. Chicago Magazine named Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar "Chicagoans of the Year," along with Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa and blues singer Koko Taylor.

1998 Allstate Safety Leadership Award. Kids In Danger, winner in the Illinois region, is cited as "an outstanding honoree . . . an exemplary model of safety leadership."

Corporate & Foundation Grants

Premiere Benefactor \$10,000 - \$20,000

The Allstate Foundation
Hollywood Video

Benefactor \$1,000 - \$5,000

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Robert R. Tanz, M.D. Attending pediatrician, associate medical director of the Violent Injury Prevention Center at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, associate professor and director of Medical Education in the Department of Pediatrics at Northwestern University Medical School.

Lisa M. Turano. General Counsel of Turano Baking Company.



Donation Form

Thank you for your tax-deductible contribution to Kids In Danger. Your generosity will help save the lives of children, and we are deeply grateful for your support.

I have enclosed a check payable to Kids In Danger in the amount of:

- ☐ \$25
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ \$250

- ☐ \$500
- ☐ \$1,000
- ☐ \$2,500
- ☐ Over \$2,500

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please send check to:

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ess places more restrictions on handgun pur-
influence how tomorrow's social movements
develop.

The Million Mom concept (it's really a rally,
ly, not a march) was born in a New Jersey
mother's living room less than a year ago.
ne mom, then five moms, then 25 moms, then
anna Dees-Thomases, the mother who found-

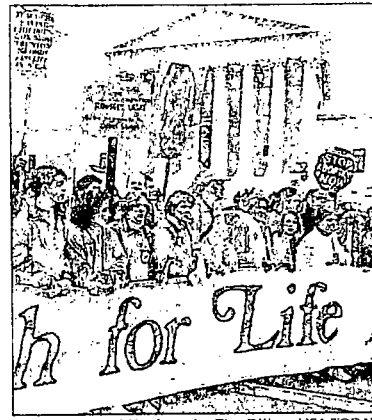
n, a sophisticated coalition of longtime activ-
he anti-gun lobby, joined the everyday moms.
in the Washington rally and have raised nearly
re events around the nation.
sist that the movement remains a grass-roots

t's coming out," says Mary Leigh Blek, a march
g people not only from the suburbs but also
d people who had not focused their attention

50 rallies are planned in 35 states, in cities as
nd towns as small as Rumford, Maine, pop-
organizers predict more than a million demon-
hasize that participants needn't all be moms.

Please see COVER STORY 6A ▶

'I Have a Dream': Martin Luther
King gave his historic speech in '63.



1992 photo by Tim Dillon, USA TODAY
Annual protest: Abortion foes
march on Roe vs. Wade anniversary.



By Kamenko Pajic, AP
ts: The Millennium March on Washington for Equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and
s April 30. Employment discrimination was one of several issues on marchers' minds.

istribute free trigger locks

an
ge W. Bush
today a pro-
trigger locks
ome state and
national pro-
president.
sidential can-
s just before
lay's Million
national hand-
registration,

are reasonable steps we can take to
improve gun safety," spokeswoman
an Karen Hughes said. "He hopes
the moms will also recognize that
the best way to reduce gun violence
in America is to strictly enforce
the laws on the books."

Also today, President Clinton will
announce \$600,000 in grants to
gun makers Smith & Wesson and
FN Manufacturing to speed the de-
velopment of "smart" guns that
could be fired only by the owner or
other authorized persons.

Bush's Texas program, Project
Childsafe, is to begin within three
months. Trigger locks, which cost
\$10 each, would be distributed free

by police, fire and other agencies. If
elected president, he would re-
quest \$75 million a year over five
years for a national program.

In recent years, about 90% of
new guns have been sold with trig-
ger locks. Bush's national program
is meant to cover the rest as well as
older guns. There are about 90 mil-
lion handguns in the USA, accord-
ing to federal estimates.

Bush has said he is skeptical of
federal legislation requiring trigger
locks to be sold with new hand-
guns but as president would sign
such a law if Congress passed it.
Vice President Gore, his Demo-
cratic opponent, favors such a law.

window closes and rates go up even more, said Ray
Stone, an economist at Stone & McCarthy Research.

Consider Jim Carletta, a real estate appraiser from
Woodbury, Minn. He closed on a \$390,000 house last
week and locked in his rate three weeks ago.

"I figured rates were going up, so we locked in at
8.25% for a 30-year fixed," Carletta said.

Analysts expect rates will hover between 8.5% and
8.75% in coming weeks, putting a crimp in the red-hot
housing market and the economy. Such a slowdown is
precisely what Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan has
been trying to engineer to keep inflation in check.

▶ **The anticipated slowdown, 1B**

Tougher product safety bill offered

By Jayne O'Donnell
USA TODAY

President Clinton today will propose making it a fel-
ony for companies to knowingly fail to report serious
product hazards to the government.

The legislation was prompted by a report last
month in USA TODAY that showed 75% of the most se-
rious child-product recalls were never voluntarily re-
ported to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The article also reported that in at least 17 cases
over the past three years, child products were sold
while firms gathered reports of children suffering ev-
erything from lost fingers to brain injuries.

The proposed legislation, which will be sponsored
by Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., and Edward Markey, D-
Mass., also would:

- ▶ Remove the \$1.65 million cap on civil penalties
for product-hazard reporting violations.

- ▶ Make it a felony to refuse to provide the agency
with product records or to knowingly sell a product
that doesn't meet safety standards.

- ▶ Eliminate the requirement that the agency notify
a company before imposing a criminal penalty.

- ▶ Allow the agency to overrule the fix a company
proposes for a recall.

The agency now has to go to court if it opposes a
company's remedy. The safety commission opposed
General Electric's decision to offer customers a dis-
count on new dishwashers instead of fixing fire-prone
products for free during a recent recall.

The agency accepted the offer because many more
dishwashers could have caught fire during a lengthy
court fight, commission chairman Ann Brown said.

It is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in
prison, for a firm or individual to knowingly violate
product safety laws. As a felony, the crime could draw
a three-year sentence.

"Under the Clinton administration, the CPSC has
made a remarkable comeback," said Bruce Reed,
White House domestic policy adviser. "But there's
even more we can do."

The legislation is unlikely to be acted on before Con-
gress adjourns for the year at the end of the summer.

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[USA Today May 12-14, 2000, 1A]