

Product Liability Laws Make America Safer PROOF THAT JURIES WORK

THE HARMFUL PRODUCT	THE CORPORATE MISCONDUCT	THE POSITIVE CHANGE
Children severely burned by highly flammable pajamas	Dayton Hudson Corp. aware of hazard, but chose not to treat pajamas with flame-retardant chemicals	\$1 million punitive award forces unsafe product off the market
Women dying from Toxic Shock Syndrome after using super-absorbent tampons	Playtex willfully disregarded studies and medical reports linking product to Toxic Shock	Deadly product removed from market after \$10 million punitive award
Tylenol turns toxic, destroying liver when mixed with alcohol	Johnson & Johnson knew of danger for years, yet instructed agents not to mention it to clients	\$8.8 million award spurs company to put warnings on its products
Faulty surgical ventilator cuts off oxygen supply, causing brain, lung damage	Airco was aware its design was risky	Airco issues medical device alert after \$3 million punitive award
Defect in car transmission causes automobile to suddenly move in reverse	Ford knew of defective transmission design, yet failed to warn consumers	Transmission safely redesigned after \$4 million punitive award
Young athletes dying from head, spinal injuries due to unsafe football helmets	Manufacturers slow to acknowledge danger of their poorly designed product	Liability claims spur improved helmet design; no deaths for first time in 60 years
Synthetic jaw implant breaks up, causing painful complications	Vitek fails to test implants in animals or humans	Liability claims force company to discontinue product, issue safety alert
Arthritis pain-relief drug causes fatal kidney-liver ailment	Eli Lilly knew of hazard, but failed to inform doctors, patients and FDA	\$6 million punitive award forces company to remove drug from world market
After inhaling asbestos, workers contract asbestosis, which causes lung cancer	Manufacturers knew danger of asbestos for decades, but concealed risk from public	Asbestos taken off market thanks to liability claims and punitive damages
Consumers injured when poorly designed Pinto bursts into flames upon impact	Ford knew how to design car safely, but chose profit over American lives	Vehicle redesigned only after manufacturer hit with \$125 million punitive award
Defective Dalkon Shield intrauterine device causes pelvic disease and septic abortions	A.H. Robinson misled doctors about product's safety, concealed poor test results	\$7.5 million punitive award forces manufacturer to recall dangerous device
Babies tragically being hanged to death on headboard of crib	Bassett Furniture, which had stopped making crib, failed to notify owners of hazard	Company stepped up recall of crib, public notification effort after \$475 punitive award