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**Statement of Linda Ginzel, co-founder of Kids In Danger**  
**May 15, 2008: Stroller Rally for CPSC Reform in DC**

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My name is Linda Ginzel. I am a mother. I am a professor at the University of Chicago. My husband is also a professor at the university.

*Ten years ago Monday, our son, Danny Keysar, was strangled to death* at his state licensed childcare facility when a Playskool Travel-Lite portable crib collapsed, trapping his neck in the "V" of its folded top rails. Far from the freak accident we first thought it was, Danny was the fifth child to die in that model crib – to date, 17 children have died in cribs with the same faulty design – the most recent last August, more than 15 years after the hazard became known to the manufacturers.

As educated parents who believed that we took all safety precautions for our children, what we learned after Danny's death shocked us. That was ten years ago. Still, today it continues to shock parents across the country through last year's epidemic of lead-laced toys and deadly cribs— *there is no requirement that children's products be tested for safety before they are sold.*

Approaching the tenth anniversary of our son's death, we were dismayed that we, through our work with Kids In Danger, had not been able to alter the status quo. We had reached millions of parents with our safety message, helped to get unsafe products off the market, and encouraged more attention to safety by some manufacturers, but still – no mandatory testing – until now. Provisions in both the Senate and House versions of the CPSC Reform Act that are named after our Danny will require CPSC to set mandatory standards and testing for durable infant and toddler products. We are so honored to have worked with Representative Schakowsky on this language since 2001 and to have it included in this landmark bill and thank Congressman Rush and Senator Pryor and others for ensuring the language was in the final bills.

We urge the House and Senate conferees to use this opportunity to pass the strongest legislation possible to protect other children from dangerous products.

In addition to the **Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification** Act, among the many crucial components of the CPSC Reform Act, KID especially urges the conferees to include

- **A definition of children's products that goes up to age 12.** Stopping at age 7 would effectively stop protecting children in second grade!

- **A public database** to improve disclosure of product safety information, such as incidents associated with cribs and toys that could injure or kill babies and children. During our ten years, we have heard time and again from injured children's parents who say, "if only I had known the product had already hurt another child – I would have never used it." Parents can help keep their children safer, if given adequate information.
- **Mandatory testing for toys to a stringent standard along with juvenile products and**
- **A provision to allow state Attorneys General to help enforce these provisions**

We lost our beautiful son to a broken children's product safety system – we need Congress to keep that from happening again. Please ensure that children are put first.

*We urge you to deliver the strongest product safety bill possible for our children.*