



A nonprofit organization
dedicated to protecting children by
improving children's product safety

For Immediate Release
September 15, 2005

Contact: Nancy Cowles
(312) 595-0649

Linda E. Ginzel, Ph.D.
Boaz Keysar, Ph.D.
Co-Founders

Kristine Anderson
Leslie M. Batterson
Sonny Garg
Howard Haas
Shawn S. Kasserman
Jill C. Rasmussen
Heather Shinn
Linda Stone
Steven W. Swibel
Robert R. Tanz, MD
Board of Directors

Nancy A. Cowles
Executive Director

Kids In Danger recommends Safety Guidelines for donated baby products for Katrina survivors

(CHICAGO) As Americans and the world continue their generous contributions to aid Hurricane Katrina survivors, **Kids In Danger** has prepared this short list of guidelines for donated children's products.

To avoid compounding the current disaster with further injury, please pass these guidelines onto shelter workers, donors, volunteers, etc about safe sleeping and products for babies. After past disasters such as hurricanes, fires or floods, children have died in dangerous cribs, often donated to the families with the best intentions.

The safest sleeping place for babies is a fully assembled crib or portable crib with a firm fitting mattress with a fitted sheet. No soft bedding should be placed in the baby's sleep environment. Babies should be placed on their backs and kept at a comfortable temperature, not overdressed.

For donated items:

To make sure **gaps** do not form that might **entrap and suffocate** a child:

- Make sure all parts and hardware are available and fitted correctly. Do not use a crib that is missing hardware.
- Do not use any crib with wide spaces between slats (a soda can shouldn't fit through), missing or broken slats.
- Make sure the mattress fits tightly and the sheet fits the mattress well.

To avoid **strangulation** hazards:

- Do not use regular bed sheets on a crib mattress.

--more--

116 W. Illinois Street, Suite 5E
Chicago, IL 60610-4532
312-595-0649 Phone
312-595-0939 Fax

DON'T LEARN ABOUT RECALLS FROM YOUR BABY

www.KidsInDanger.org
email@KidsInDanger.org

- Do not use cribs with corner posts or cutouts that might catch a child's clothing.
- Do not place soft bedding in an infant's sleeping environment.

Some products have already **proven dangerous** and should be avoided:

- For portable cribs, avoid any that set up using a rotating motion of the side rails -- they have all been recalled and killed children. Do not use: Playskool Travel-Lite, Evenflo Happy Camper or Happy Cabana, Baby Trend Home and Roam, Draco All Our Kids or Century Fold'n Go portable cribs and playyards.
- If possible, check any product, especially those used to hold sleeping babies, with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (www.cpsc.gov or 1-800-638-2772) to avoid recalled and dangerous products.
- Visit our website, www.Kidsindanger.org or call (312.595-0649) or email (nancy@kidsindanger.org) Kids In Danger for any information on product safety.
- The juvenile product manufacturers are coordinating donations of baby items through: <http://www.kidsdonations.org/>.

More information about Kids In Danger and dangerous juvenile products is available at (312) 595-0649 or www.KidsInDanger.org

####