



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

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Co-Founders

Kids In Danger Commends Settlement in Lawsuit Over Death in Portable Crib

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Kids In Danger joins co-founders Linda Ginzel and Boaz Keysar in their satisfaction with a settlement in the case brought by Ginzel and Keysar against Kolcraft and Hasbro for the death of their son Daniel Keysar. Danny died at 16 months when the top rails of the Playskool Travel-Lite portable crib he was in collapsed, strangling him.

"Kolcraft manufactured a crib that has killed six children -- one for every 2000 sold," stated Nancy Cowles, executive director of Kids In Danger. "This was a faulty design, inadequately tested and hastily marketed. Danny Keysar and five other children paid the ultimate price for that -- but this court settlement means that Kolcraft and Hasbro will also pay. It is our hope that these and other manufacturers will focus more on safety testing because of this case."

Ginzel v. Kolcraft was to go to trial yesterday, but the parties reached a settlement agreement. The lawsuit named Kolcraft, the manufacturer of the portable crib, and Hasbro, whose Playskool brand was on the item through a licensing agreement, as defendants. Ginzel and Keysar were represented by Shawn Kasserman and David Wise of Corboy & Demetrio and Steve Senderowitz and Pat Stanton of Schwartz, Cooper, Greenberger & Krauss. The settlement of \$3 million is one of the largest on record for the death of a child in an unsafe children's product.

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"Kids In Danger continues to move forward on our mission -- to protect children by improving children's product safety," continued Cowles. These cribs are time bombs, waiting for the next victim. We hope that the publicity around this case will again warn parents and caregivers to locate and destroy these deadly products. We call on Hasbro to finally use its vast resources to retrieve the thousands of cribs still in homes and childcare facilities. They know how to reach parents to sell products, we challenge them to use that knowledge to remove every crib from use."

Parents and caregivers can learn of this and other recall information by calling the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission hotline at 1-800-638-CPSC or going to the web site, www.cpsc.gov. Information on recalls and children's product safety is at Kids In Danger web site, www.KidsInDanger.org.

"Perhaps the most important measure of this settlement was the denial of requests for secrecy by the manufacturers," said Cowles. "Up until the final hours of negotiating, Linda and Boaz stood firm for openness and the ability for others to access the information uncovered by the case."

Ginzel and Keysar have pledged some of the settlement to continuing the work of Kids In Danger. Kids In Danger was founded by the two University of Chicago professors weeks after Danny's death to help prevent future death and injuries to children from unsafe products.

"Kids In Danger and our work on children's product safety is Danny's legacy," stated Linda Ginzel. "This lawsuit was never going to give us

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Danny back or in anyway pay us for that loss. Our goal always with the lawsuit was to investigate and bring to light the shameful practices of Kolcraft and Hasbro. Everything we discovered is now public information and we hope other children will benefit from safer products.”

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