



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

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## **Kids In Danger Joins CPSC's Call for Retrieving Dangerous Recalled Children's Products**

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"Kids In Danger urges parents and caregivers to heed the warning in CPSC's Recall Round-up and search their homes and facilities for recalled, deadly children's products," said Nancy Cowles, Executive Director of Kids In Danger (KID) in a statement released today.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) kicked off it's "Recall Round-up" today, urging consumers to throw away, repair, or replace hazardous products, many of which were involved in children's deaths. Although these products have the potential to seriously injure or kill, some consumers are not aware of the dangers and are still using the products.

"As our recent report highlights -- even though children's products account for a small fraction of the more than 15,000 products regulated by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, they make up more than half of the products recalled," continued Cowles. "And many more of the recalled products, while not intended for children, pose significant safety risks to children because of the danger of fire, strangulation, and other injuries."

KID's report, ***Clear and Present Dangers: Children's Product Recalls in 2001***, showed that 118 of the 225 recalls issued by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in 2001 were for items intended for use by children or for the care of children. The

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

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categories include nursery or baby equipment such as strollers and highchairs, children's clothing, toys and sports equipment. In 2001, as in previous years, CPSC recalled an average of two children's products a week.

KID particularly encourages childcare providers to check their facilities for some of these products. The *Illinois Children's Product Safety Act*, passed in 1999, prohibits the use of recalled or dangerous products in childcare facilities. KID has developed programs to alert childcare providers to the issue of dangerous children's products and provides information on identifying and removing these dangerous items.

Among the twelve hazardous products highlighted in the CPSC round up this year, along with halogen torchiere lamps, chests and window blind cords, are recalled collapsing top-rail portable cribs, manufactured in the early 1990's, which proved deadly. Fifteen children died in cribs of this design, including six in the Playskool Travel-Lite crib. Less than 12,000 of these Playskool brand cribs were manufactured -- a ratio of one child dead for every 2000 cribs made.

The CPSC is also urging consumers to make sure the full-size cribs in use in their homes, relatives' homes or childcare facilities meet current safety standards. Old cribs that do not meet the newer standard were never recalled individually.

Kids In Danger (KID) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by improving children's product safety. KID was founded in 1998 by the parents of sixteen-month-old Danny Keysar who died in his Chicago childcare home when a Playskool Travel-Lite

portable crib collapsed around his neck. Although the crib had been recalled five years earlier, word of its danger had not reached Danny's parents, caregiver, or a state inspector who visited the home just eight days before Danny's death.

In addition to ***educating*** the public about dangerous children's products, KID's mission is also to ***advocate*** for a legislative and regulatory strategy for children's product safety and ***promote*** the development of safer products.

KID's goal is to create a secure environment for children by ensuring that safer products are manufactured, improving recall effectiveness, and encouraging parents and caregivers to remove dangerous or recalled products from homes and childcare centers.

More information about Kids In Danger and dangerous juvenile products is available at 312-595-0649 or [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org). Information on the CPSC Recall Round-up is at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

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