

NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD ALONE

DON'T RISK YOUR CHILD'S LIFE BY LEAVING HIM OR HER IN THE CAR.

Leaving a child in a vehicle for a "quick" errand — even for a minute — could be a deadly mistake. Unfortunately, a child alone in a car, even on a mild day, can become overheated quickly. This can lead to a deadly tragedy in just a few minutes.

HEAT STROKE FACTS

From 1998 to 2009, approximately 443 children died from heat stroke while unattended in a car.

On days when the outside temperature exceeds 86° F, the

internal temperature of a car can quickly reach upwards of 130° F.

When the temperature outside is 80°...	
Elapsed minutes	Temperature inside car
10	99°
20	109°
30	114°
40	118°
50	120°
60	123°

When left in a hot vehicle, a child's body temperature can increase three to five times faster than an adult's.

Eighty-eight percent of children who die from heat stroke are ages 3 and younger.

PREVENTION STEPS

Never leave your child unattended in a vehicle.

Make a habit of checking your vehicle before you leave it.

Keep a stuffed animal or other reminder next to you in the car as a clue that your child is with you.

Set your cell phone reminder to be sure you drop your children off at daycare.



Set your computer programs to ask, "Did you drop your child off at daycare today?"

Place your cell phone, PDA, purse, briefcase, gym bag or whatever is to be carried from the car on the floor in front of the child in the back seat. This forces the adult to open the back door and see the child.

Ask your child care providers to call if your child does not arrive when expected.

Teach children not to play in any vehicle.

Check vehicles and trunks **FIRST** if a child goes missing.

For more information contact Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital Injury Prevention Coordinator at **715.387.9600**.

Source: Safe Kids at www.safekids.org and Primary Children's Medical Center



MINISTRY
Saint Joseph's *Children's* Hospital

The Region's ONLY Verified Pediatric Trauma Center