



CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT RISK WITHIN RURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Farm Safety 4 Just Kids
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Living in the Country

Doesn't always mean tranquility!!!!!!!!!!!!



Rural Hazards

- Physical

- Pain and Suffering
(death and injuries)

- Financial

- Costs (Medical, lost salary, etc.)

- Emotional

- Grief, sorrow, and loss



Each impact each other

Young Children at Risk



- Curious
- Lack strength
- Lack size
- Lack knowledge
- Unaware of dangers
- Uncoordinated

Youth at Risk



- ◎ Risk takers
- ◎ Peer pressure
- ◎ Impulsive
- ◎ Experimenters
- ◎ Authority resistant
- ◎ Lack training
- ◎ Lack knowledge
- ◎ Feeling of Invincibility

Children and Youth on the Farm



- ◎ Males 5.6 fold higher rate of death
- ◎ Farm machinery accounted for 1/3 deaths
- ◎ Tractors account for 1 in 5 injuries
- ◎ ATV incidents rising

Farm Household Youth < 20

Year	Farm Household Youth < 20	Farm Household Youth Injuries	Injuries /1000 Household Youth	Farm Injuries Youth < 20	Injuries/ 1000 Farms
1998	1,460,000	27,321	18.8	37,774	16.6
2001	1,350,000	22,144	16.4	29,277	14.0
2004	1,260,000	18,800	15.0	27,590	13.1
2006	1,120,000	11,700	10.4	22,900	10.4
2009	1,040,221	10,251	9.8	15,012	6.8



Represents a 59% decline in the rate of childhood agricultural injuries

Why the Decline?

- Legislation
- Funding and support
- Education and community support



Farm Hazards

- Machinery - Most Fatalities
 - Tractors, PTOs, Augers, Combines, etc.
 - Grain Transport and Storage
 - ATVs
 - Lawn Mowers



Farm Hazards

- Rural Roads
- Livestock (often leading cause of injury)
- Chemicals
- Health Related Issues
 - Noise
 - Respiratory hazards
 - Sun exposure



Your Role in Injury Prevention

- Appropriate supervision
- Age appropriate training and guidance
- Provide personal protective equipment
- Find child care when adults are working
- Provide boundaries between children and hazards
- Keep equipment in good repair
- Role model safe behavior

- Conduct a farm safety and health program in your community

Child Labor Laws

- Haven't changed for past 40 years
- Proposed Department of Labor changes made in September 2011
- Comment period ended Dec 1, 2011
- Unsure what or when implemented

Proposed Changes

- Impact only 14 & 15 year old working youth
 - Does not remove family farm exemption
- Certification program
 - 90 hours of instruction (up from 24 hour)
 - Taught within schools



Proposed Changes (cont.)

- Specific H.O. (Hazardous Orders) changes
 - Remove reference to >20 hp tractors
 - Tractors must have ROPS and seat belts
 - Expand working with animal prohibitions
 - Change elevation restrictions from 20 to 6 feet
 - No pesticide handling
 - Prohibit electronic devices
 - No tobacco production



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