



## Editorial

### Hazardous Toys

**I**n the January 1994 issue of *JAAA*, Pamela McMillan and Paul Kileny reported an unusual case of hearing loss due to impulse noise trauma from a toy bicycle horn. A 3-year-old boy held the horn to his left ear, activated it several times, and immediately complained of ear pain and ringing. Although the initial loss at 4000 Hz partially recovered, there was still significant loss after 6 months. McMillan and Kileny emphasized the importance of public awareness of such potential problems and the need for regulations to protect children from excessive noise exposure while at play.

Audiologist Robert M. DiSogra, of Freehold, New Jersey, was quick to respond. He writes, in part:

... the Consumer Product Safety Commission in Washington is very interested in learning of these hazardous toys... The director of the National Injury Clearing House for the CPSC is Joel I. Friedman and his address is:

Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Room 625  
Washington, DC 20207

There are forms which must be completed; however, they will take information over the phone. Their 800 number is 638-2772 or (301) 504-0580. Thanks for a most interesting article and for keeping our colleagues aware of the dangers of noisy toys for our children as well as for our patients.

We are grateful to you, Bob, for this important information. It is important that we all be aware of every resource available to us for countering the injurious effects of excessive noise exposure, especially when children are at risk.

James Jerger  
Editor-in-Chief