Home Page

National Injury prevention day is a day to raise awareness about injury and violence. According to the Injury Free Coalition for Kids, "Injuries and violence are the leading cause of death and disabilities for people from age one to 44 years old" To commemorate this day, this website has web pages dedicated to Safe Schools, Safe Cities, Safe Homes and Safe School. On all of these pages, safety tips as well as indicators of safe environments will be shown.

About Us:

This website has been created by two high school students, Donovan Burrola and Michael Markus as a classroom project.

SAFE CHOICES

Making safe choices is very important for day to day life as people may find themselves in a situation that may be resolved or avoided entirely with the correct choice. Studies conducted by The Crime and Safety Service Program shows that the general crime rate found in US elementary and secondary schools is a whopping 77.2% of that subject area. That's one crime for every 1,000 students. With the leading crimes being violence and theft. Despite the troubling statistics, by using safe tactics and decision making, these situations can be avoided. When placed in a conflicting situation, firstly people must identify their goal and desired outcome. Weigh possible actions and their consequences. Make a logical decision based on what is know and note the outcome, as it may help later in life.

Be Aware:

Awareness is the most important principle of safe choices. Awareness can help people live safer lives. People should be aware of their surroundings, the people around them and any tools they are using. The less aware / alert people are, the chances that they can be injured / killed are increased.

As simple as it sounds, putting in an effort to heighten awareness can make a difference over a long time period.

Weigh options:

Critically think about each of the risks and benefits for each choice made. Every choice made has certain risks or downsides and certain benefits coupled with it. In order to ensure the choices made are beneficial, put a lot of thought into whether it's worth it, an overall positive trade.

Research and Question:

Gut feeling and intuition can only go so far. People should make an effort to research or ask questions about any significant choices they are going to make in their life. With the conveniences brought by the internet, a few hours of research and questioning can improve insight and thus increase the chances that a high quality choice will be made. This applies to ALL choices.

Safe Cities

What makes a Safe City?

Safe Cities allow people to live safe lives. Safe Cities have many differing definitions, and it can depend on individual interpretation, but most definitions state the essential qualities of a safe city as low-crime, a good infrastructure, and a caring and active community.

Traffic Injuries:

Firstly, safety-measures should be taken to stop traffic related injuries. The risk of dying in a car crash is about 2x that of the risk of being a victim of homicide. There are many precautions that can be taken to improve the safety of cities and prevent these car crashes.

Fortunately, big cities have some very basic standards of road design that prevent a lot of unnecessary deaths. This article, by "NATLAWREVIEW", lists various roadbuilding / traffic control systems that can be employed to drastically increase traffic safety. However, these are mostly a given. With car crashes so common and deadly, there should always be an initiative to further reduce the deaths. There should always be a constant fight to further reduce car crash

related injuries / fatalities. Cities should use new technology such as data-analysis and constantly re-evaluate their traffic control systems to keep trying to further create safe roads. A safe city is a city that not only employs the standard traffic control protocol, but seeks to go further.

A disproportionate rate of car crashes affects children. By putting a larger emphasis on traffic safety education for the youth and enforcing strict school traffic laws, this can be mitigated. By ensuring children are taught the proper way to traverse through the city, and by designing these   areas where lots of children are to be safe, a safer environment will be created. Fatal and injury collisions have been proven to be significantly reduced by added school safety measures such as a low speed limit. With car crashes overall being such a high cause of death and injury, a much safer environment can be created by preventing them.

Public Transport:

High quality public transport can reduce traffic deaths and severe injuries by up to 50%. By offering high quality public transport, a city can reduce the rate of injury and death from car crashes but also build up a strong infrastructure which will create a safer city in non traffic related aspects.

Community Outreach:

Community outreach can greatly increase the safety of a city. Community outreach manifests in many different forms, speeches, events, programs, etc.

Youth outreach is the best way to stop future violence and crime. By giving children good resources, opportunities and role models, they will be set up for a safer healthier life. When cities take initiatives specifically meant to help the youth, they're investing into the future of a city.

SAFE SCHOOLS

Safe schools are fundamental to creating safe cities, safe environments, safe lives. Schools are the building blocks of communities and the youth as a whole. Safety at school is a necessity.

Drug Awareness:

One of the most common issues within schools is the propagation of drugs. According to this article, by the American Addictions Center, "35% of 12th graders smoked marijuana in the past year", "30% drank some alcohol, 14% binge drank, 6% drove after drinking, 17% rode with a driver who had been drinking" and "In 2016, 3.6% of adolescents aged 12-17 reported misusing opioids over the past year." This drug use can severely affect the development of the youth. Addiction can easily begin at a young age, and with certain drugs, irreversible negative effects can manifest. The chances of death, mental health issues, physical issues, etc. are all increased through the consumption of illicit drugs in general. It is made especially worse through the fact that younger individuals may not be fully aware of what they are getting themselves into by partaking in these drugs, that's why drug awareness is vital for creating a safe healthy school environment.

As a call to action, the youth should be aware of the full spectrum of negative effects of drug use. Schools should put resources into honest and educational programs that promote drug awareness / sobriety. Individually, young people should seek to stay sober whilst promoting sobriety in their friend groups or communities.

School Community:

A safe school has to have an overall positive and constructive community. Students should actively seek positive communities / groups within their school. Whether it's a club, an after school program, a sport, these extracurriculars are beneficial in a multitude of ways. They can give good role models, teach discipline, responsibility, have students with common interests interact with each other, etc.

Awareness At School:

Just as anywhere else in the world, putting effort into being aware at school can increase safety. By being mindful, the chances of any harm being done to a person or anybody unknowingly doing harm to themselves are lowered.

Don't Take Chances:

Students should seek to report any potential dangerous or illegal behaviors to the school or authorities. By doing so, a safer environment will be created. Many students have a disposition towards this as they do not want to be perceived as "snitches",

however, health and safety should come first. Anonymously taking a step forward could do lots of good.

Safe Homes:

Safety at home should be a priority. Home is where a large chunk of life is spent, safety measures are worth it.

Security:

Security systems are a worthwhile investment for home safety. By installing basic security features such as cameras, the chances of a home being targeted as a victim of crime are decreased.

Monitors:

Monitors should constantly be checked. Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are a necessity. According to the CDC, "approximately 50,000 people in the U.S visit the emergency department each year due to accidental CO poisoning." Carbon monoxide poisoning kills people and it can easily be detected. By ensuring these systems are working, a home is immediately much safer.

Tool Safety:

At home, people should be aware of how to properly handle any tools or equipment they are using. According to housegrail.com, around 70 fatalities are caused by lawnmowers each year. That's more than shark deaths and bear deaths. Although the chances somebody will be injured by common household equipment is low, if somebody is working with tools, the chances are increased. By properly and carefully using tools, a safer environment is created.

Child - Proof:

A home with children should be child-proof or if not under attentive supervision when a child is present. Some common examples of child-proofing are covers on outlets, nets on windows, safety gates and cordless window coverings. Overall, if there is

supervision, the risk is mostly mitigated but steps can still be taken to increase safety for the child.