

Concerned Families for ATV Safety

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Concerned Families for ATV Safety Releases Web Video Highlighting Need for Common Sense Safety Standards

Video Questions Industry Lobbyist's "Outrageous and Irresponsible" Comments About ATV Age Limits

WASHINGTON, DC – Concerned Families for ATV Safety today released a new web video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=czqg-03M7L0>) about last week's Senate Commerce Committee hearing on ATV Safety, highlighting the urgent need for common sense safety standards to keep children under 16 off powerful and deadly ATVs. The video raises serious questions about comments made by ATV Industry attorney David Murray regarding ATV age limits during the hearing.

In response to a question posed Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AR), Chair of the Consumer Affairs, Insurance, and Automotive Safety subcommittee about what age is too young to ride an ATV, Mr. Murray said, "[the industry's] voluntary standard specifies that the smallest units—the Y-6 units—are for ages 6 and above." Mr. Murray made this comment despite broad support from pediatricians and the medical community that because children under 16 do not have the physical and mental capacity to ride an ATVs safely, they should be kept off these powerful vehicles.

"Mr. Murray's comments that it's ok to put a 6-year-old behind the wheels of a powerful, 100-pound All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) -- that causes of tens of thousands of serious injuries and deaths each year among children -- are simply outrageous and irresponsible," said Carolyn Anderson, Concerned Families for ATV Safety Co-Founder. Instead of marketing these dangerous vehicles to children, the ATV industry ought to adopt the common sense safety standards recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics – standards that keep children under 16 off these vehicles and require teenagers to have a license to drive ATVs, just as we do for cars."

"Perhaps Mr. Murray knows something that pediatricians don't know, but we know that the industry he represents is making a product that costs our country billions each year in medical and economic costs," said Sue Rabe, Concerned Families for ATV Safety Co-Founder. "Congress has the power to reign in these costs and protect children. Congress needs to act now."

To view the video, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=czqg-03M7L0>.

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Concerned Parents for ATV Safety is a network of parents dedicated to reducing injuries and death among children driving powerful All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). We offer support to victim's families and provide families with information and resources to make informed decisions about their children and ATVs. Through public education we work to raise awareness of the need for adequate, common sense safety standards that keep children under 16 off ATVs, and for enforcement of ATV laws. For more information, please visit our web site at www.atvsafetynet.org.