

# **CAR SEAT MISUSE: ROADSIDE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM DATA**

**CARSP CONFERENCE 2018  
VICTORIA, BC**



# PRESENTERS

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CPST-I



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CPST-I



# DATA COLLECTION

- May 2015 – June 2017
- 9 check stop events
  - Parksville, Duncan, Langford, Vancouver
- 1-2 officers
- 4-9 volunteers
- 317 cars
- 487 children



# METHOD

- Stop every vehicle with children who appear to be under 9
- Volunteers work with families to correct misuse
- Officer gives options to drivers
- Seats fixed:
  - On-site correction
  - Phone a friend
  - One adult leaves to acquire a new seat
  - Donation seat provided
- NO TICKETS





# CREW

- 1-2 uniformed officers
- 4-9 trained volunteers



# THE GOOD NEWS



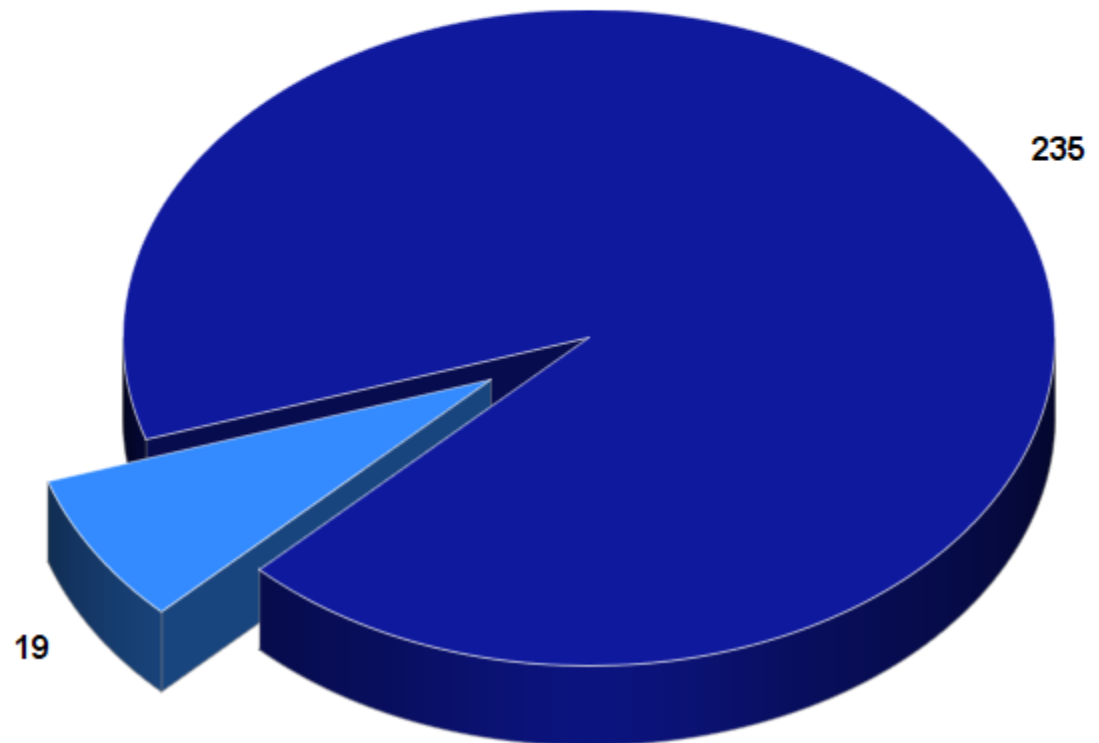
- Most kids who needed to be in harnessed restraints were in one
- Only a handful of children who needed to be in boosters were without one
- Most families were receptive and grateful for the help
- Most families happily relinquished expired and damaged seats for disposal

# THE BAD NEWS

- **Harness Misuse** – 254 children observed in harnessed seats, or needed to be in one
  - 93% used incorrectly
- **Booster Misuse** – 161 children observed in booster seats, or needed to be in one
  - 80% used incorrectly
- **Seat Belt** – 42 children over age 9 were observed in seat belts
  - 47% used incorrectly

# HARNESSED SEAT MISUSE

■ Used Correctly 7%     ■ Misuse 93%





# HARNESSED SEAT MISUSE

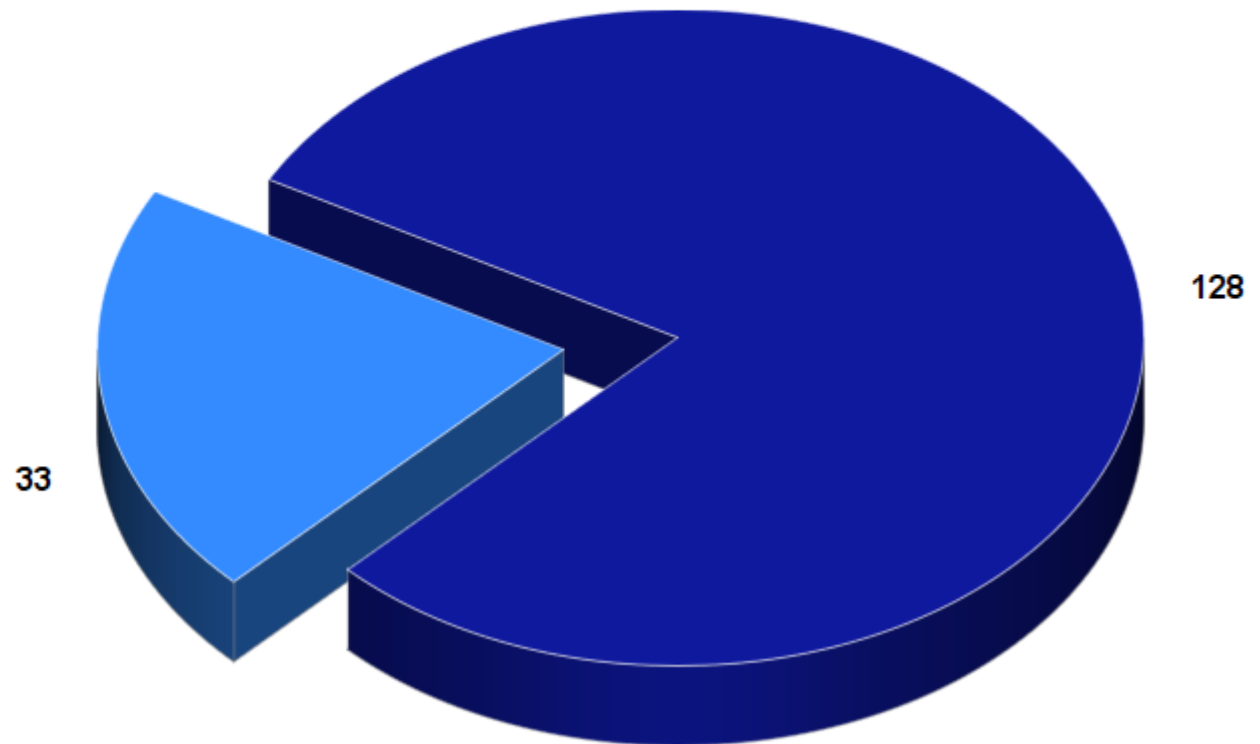
- Loose installation
- Loose harness
- Child under 40lbs not in a harnessed seat
- Seat outgrown
- Missing parts
- No tether
- Expired seat
- Multiple errors
- Harness wrong height
- No differentiation between minor misuse and gross misuse



# BOOSTER SEAT MISUSE

■ Used Correctly 20%

■ Misuse 80%



# BOOSTER SEAT MISUSE

- Expired booster
- Booster missing cover
- Seat belt routed incorrectly
- Incorrect shoulder belt fit
- No head rest support
- Child under 9'4"9" not in booster



# WHAT WE KNOW

- Proper use can reduce risk of death by 74% and serious injury by 67%
- Every \$1 spent on a booster seat saves society \$71
- Every \$1 spent on a child seat saves society \$42
- Parents who work with a CPST are 90% less likely to make a serious error than those who do not



# EDUCATION

- Drivers and parents receive education, not tickets
- Free seats are available for families in need





# WHY IT MATTERS

## Mom still in hospital; Saltspring crash killed her child

SANDRA MCCULLOCH / TIMES COLONIST  
MAY 31, 2013 10:34 PM

Email Print



TIMES COLONIST MENU

## Child dies after single-vehicle crash on Shawnigan Lake Road

Louise Dickson / Times Colonist

JANUARY 22, 2017 05:59 PM

UPDATED: JANUARY 23, 2017 09:38 PM

Like 60 f t w e s



a Singh died in a car crash on Saltspring Island; a vigil is set for tonight. Photograph via Sharespring.ca

ONE DEATH IS  
TOO MANY

# WHAT WE WANT

- Targeted enforcement
- Educated enforcement
- Education campaigns
- Community partnerships
- Low income funding for safe seats





# WHY WE'RE HERE





**THANK  
YOU**