

# Play Nice! Newsletter

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## School Talk

"Research shows the best way to combat childhood obesity is to prevent it."

San Diego  
Union Tribune  
June 05



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## No Child Left Behind...Focus on Academics Results in Less Time for Physical Activity

Ever since the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 took effect, some health officials have worried about an unintended side effect as schools struggle to meet the law's mandates that all children measure up in reading, math and other basic skills.

Their fear: Less and less time will be allotted for physical activity and even recess, in turn fueling the obesity epidemic in American children and teens. Some critics have taken to calling the act "No Child Left Without a Big Behind" or "No Child Let Outside."

Parents who are concerned about a lack of physical education can -- and should -- speak up, Sallis, SDSU professor said. "Parents do not realize their power," he said, adding that even a single parent lobbying for retaining physical education can have an impact. "One vocal, consistent parent can change a school. A small group can change the district," he said. Added Sallis: Asking for more physical education and less junk food in the school cafeteria is a good way to help stem the obesity epidemic.

For the complete article:

<http://ww3.komotv.com/Global/story.asp?S=3433159>

## New Products Brochure!

Three Programs That

- Add 100 Permanent Playground Games & Activities
- Reduce Conflict & Increase Involvement
- Develop Good Physical Activity & Nutrition Habits
- Combat Obesity
- Develop Motor & Social Skills

<http://www.peacefulplaygrounds.com/brochure3.pdf>

## Legal Questions: Injuries on Playgrounds

- My son was injured playing on his school's playground equipment on a Saturday. Is the school district liable?
- My child was injured when another child was misusing the swings at our playground. Who is at fault?
- The untied drawstrings on my 7-year-old's hooded sweatshirt got snagged near the top of the slide and tightened as she slid down, strangling her. The manufacturer of the equipment went out of business a decade ago. What are our options now? Can I go after the clothing manufacturer and the school district as well?
- My kids were fooling around on the playground equipment at an abandoned school and one fell, hitting other equipment on the way down to the ground. Does the town have any liability even though the school has long closed?

For answers to these questions and others go to:

[http://injury.freeadvice.com/injury\\_help.php/149\\_153\\_811.htm](http://injury.freeadvice.com/injury_help.php/149_153_811.htm)

## "Here We Grow Again"

**NEW MAILING ADDRESS is:**  
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