



# CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY AWARENESS

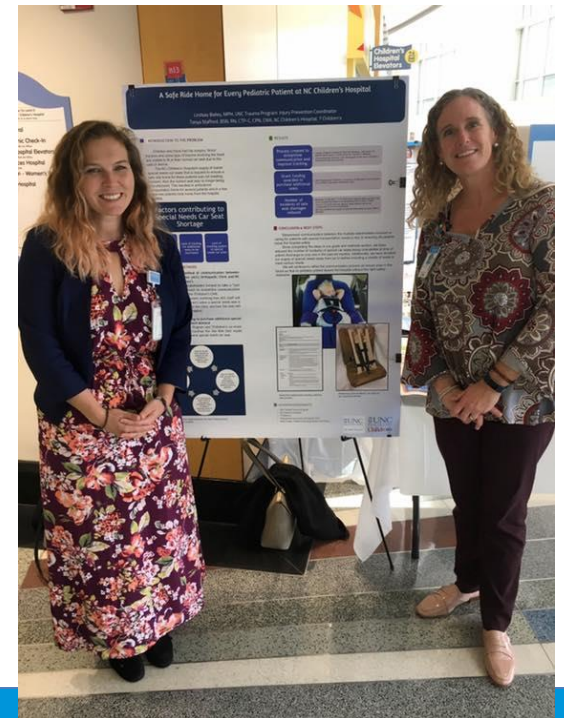
**SAFE  
KIDS**  
WORLDWIDE™

By Lindsay Bailey & Tonya Stafford, UNC Trauma Program & Safe Kids Orange & Chatham

# Introductions

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Coordinator



# Welcome



- What you learn today will prepare you to:
  - Discuss basics of vehicle passenger safety
  - Make decisions for children **that will make them as safe as possible in a vehicle**
  - Select and use car seats that are appropriate for children you are caring for
  - Access additional resources on child passenger safety



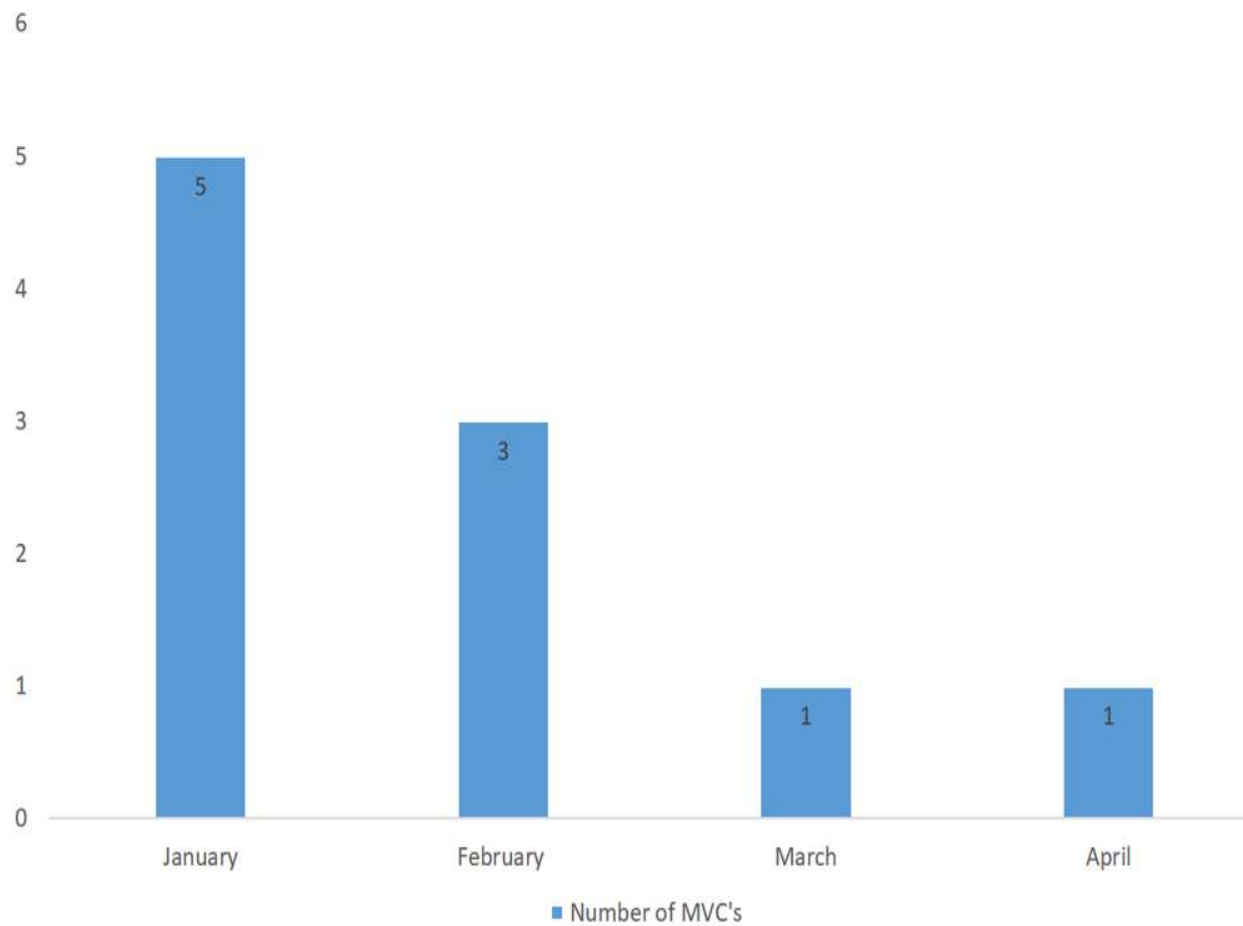
# Car Crashes and Safety

- Crashes affect children and their families in every country.
- Injuries are reduced by the safety that is built into a car.
- Crashes are different for young children who need extra protection to be safe.
  - Children should ride in a back seat.
  - Car seats and booster seats protect children until the adult seat belt fits.

# **MVC-RELATED INJURIES ARE THE #2 TOP INJURY WE SEE AT UNC for Pediatric TRAUMA**



## MVC's in 2020 at UNC



# MVC-RELATED FATALITIES ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF FATALITIES IN CHILDREN



# Car Crashes Impact Us All





# Kids Need Adults to Keep Them Safe



# Kids Do What Adults Do

- Kids are more likely to buckle up if adults are buckled up.
- Seat belts secure adults body at the strongest parts of the body – the hips and shoulder
- Seat belts are not designed for small bodies – car seats hold children at the hips and shoulders instead



# What People Say About NOT Buckling UP



- I would rather be thrown out of the car.
- I will be trapped in the car.
- I can hold myself in place in a crash.
- I am afraid of the car catching on fire.
- I am a good driver.

# What People Say About Not Buckling Up



# Making Kids Safer In Cars



**USE BACK SEAT**

**UNDER 13 YEARS OLD**

**USE SEATBELT**

**USE CAR SEAT**

# Why Car Seats Work



Car seats keep the child in the car.

They protect the head, spine and neck.

They spread crash forces over a large part of the body.

They hold a child at the shoulders and hips - the strongest parts of the body.

# Car Safety Progression



Rear-  
facing

FF Car  
Seat

Booster

Seat  
Belt

# Back Seats Are Safer



Children should stay rear-facing and in the back seat as long as possible!

- Farther away from crashes to the front of the car which are most common
- No airbags

American Academy of Pediatrics recommends staying rear-facing until the wt and ht limits of the car seat are reached for Rear-Facing.







# CAR SEAT RULES OF THUMB

# Always Check Your Label



# The One Inch Test – To make sure the car seat is tightly installed

YouTube

Search

[https://www.y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



# Conduct a Pinch Test



**SNUG**



**NOT SNUG**



# Check Recline Indicators (Except Boosters)





# Types of Car Seats

# Kids Younger Than Age 2

- Must be in seats that can go rear facing
  - RF Only or Convertible
- Look at labels on the car seat for the harness location.
- Place infant's body all the way back in the car seat.
- Place harness retainer clip, if there is one, at the **armpit level**.
- Straps should come through slots **AT** or **BELOW** shoulders.
- Tighten the harness for a snug fit.



# Rear-facing only

- For babies from birth and under age 2
  - Comfortable
  - Rear-facing protects the head, neck and spine the best
  - Reclined to keep the head back so baby can breathe





# Convertible

- Convertible: Birth – max weight and ht capacity of seat
- Can be used rear or forward facing depending on the child's weight and height
- Use rear-facing for as long as possible



# Installation – Rear-Facing Basics

- Use the correct seat belt path
- Check the recline angle
- Install car seat tightly
  - Using seat belt
  - or
  - Using lower anchors

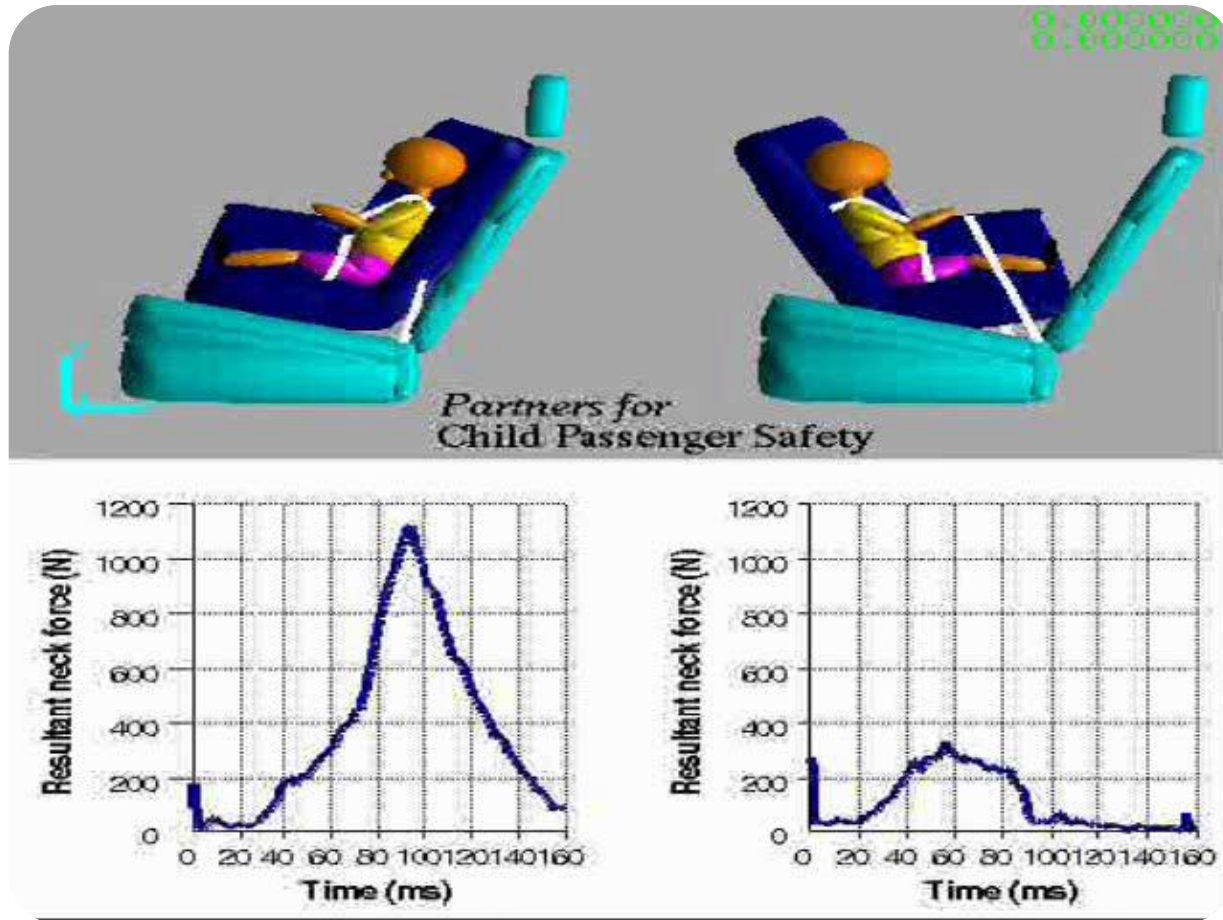


This class DOES NOT prepare you to install car seats. Encourage caregivers to purchase only car seats that meet a government standard. Follow all instructions.





# Rear or Forward-Facing?



# When Can Children Face the Front?

- **The Law:** in NC states that children must remain rear-facing until the age of one years old
- **Best Practice:** Stay facing the back as long as possible (until they are too heavy/tall to be rear-facing according to their car seat's instructions) recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics

# Forward Facing Only Seats

- Have a 5 Point Harness
- Look at labels on the car seat for the harness location.
- Place harness retainer clip at the armpit level.
- Straps should come through **AT or ABOVE** the shoulders
- Make the harness tight.
- Use for as long as possible.



# Combination Seats – FF - Booster



- 5 Points harness is used as a FF seat until child reaches height appropriate to use the seatbelt
- The 5-point harness is removed
- Child uses it as a booster with seat belt.



# Top Tethers = More Safety

- Tethers help keep a child's head back in a crash.
- It connects the top of the car seat to the vehicle.



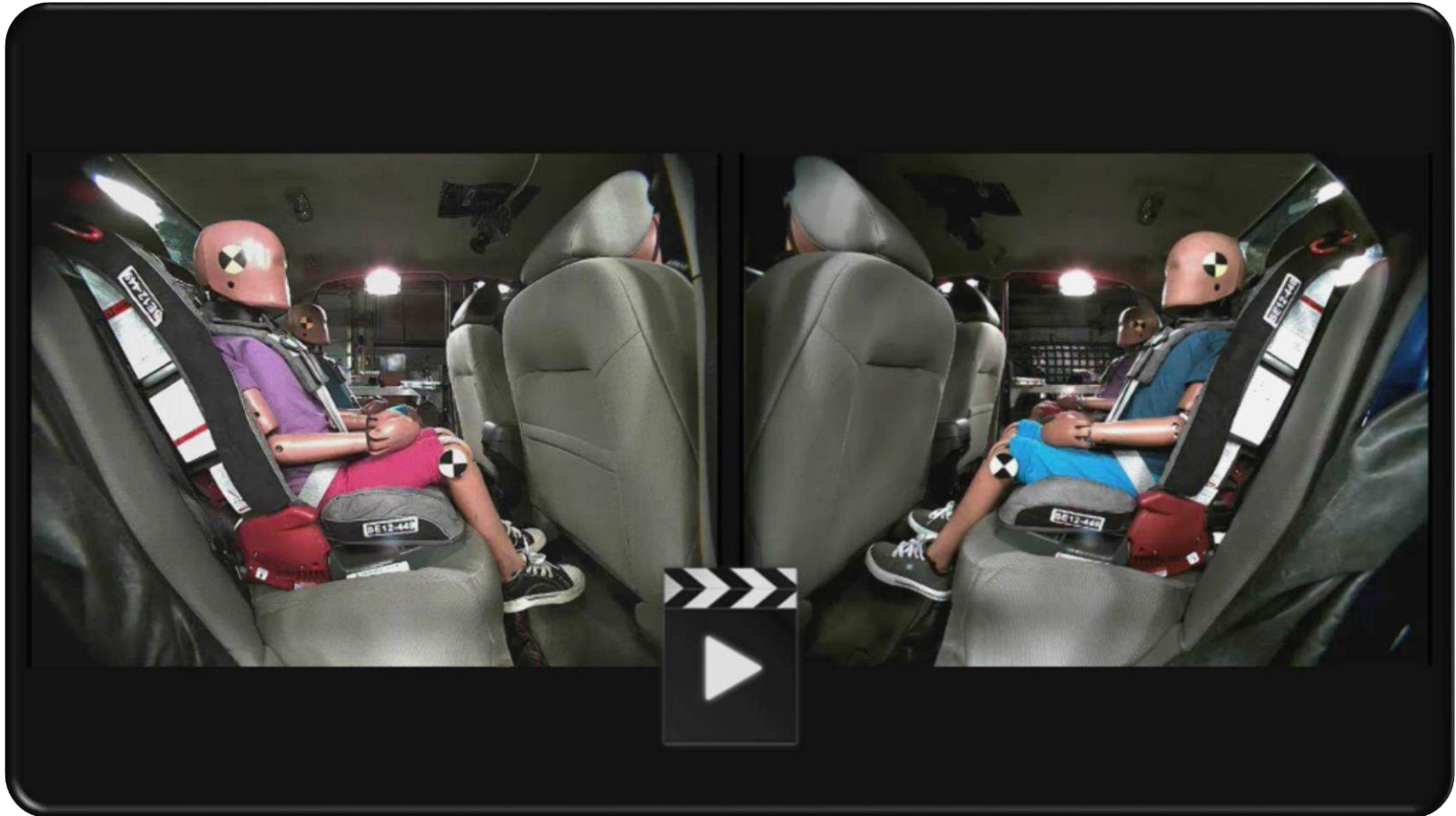


# Buckling the Forward-Facing Seat in the Car

- Read the labels to find the seat belt path
- Secure the car seat using the seat belt or lower anchor straps
  - Either is safe
  - Choose seat belt or lower anchor- do not use both at the same time
- Follow the directions to buckle it in tightly

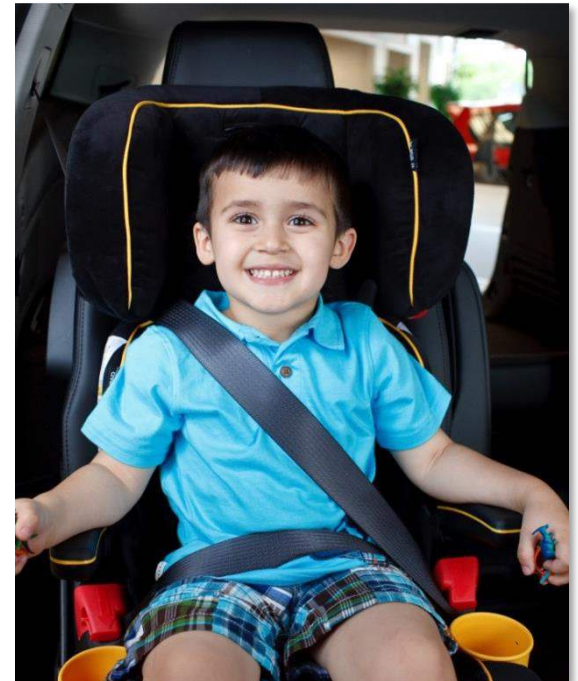
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# Tether vs. No Tether



# Belt Positioning Booster

- 4 to 12 years
- Use with lap and shoulder seat belt



# Older, Bigger Kids In Boosters



**Incorrect belt fit because  
there is no booster seat**



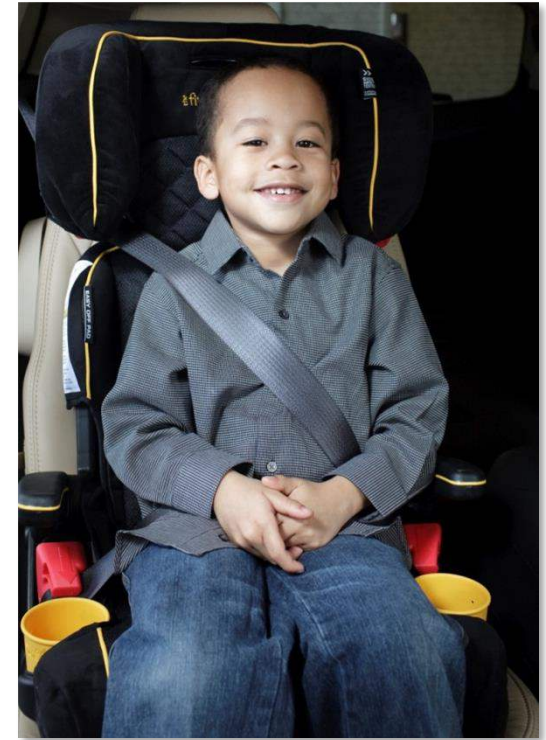
**Correct belt fit with a booster**

# Common Misuse



- Shoulder Strap not utilized with seat belt
- Incorrect strap path used on car seat
- Both Latch and Seatbelt used to secure seat
- Turn child to forward facing too early
- Tether NOT to be used in Rear-facing



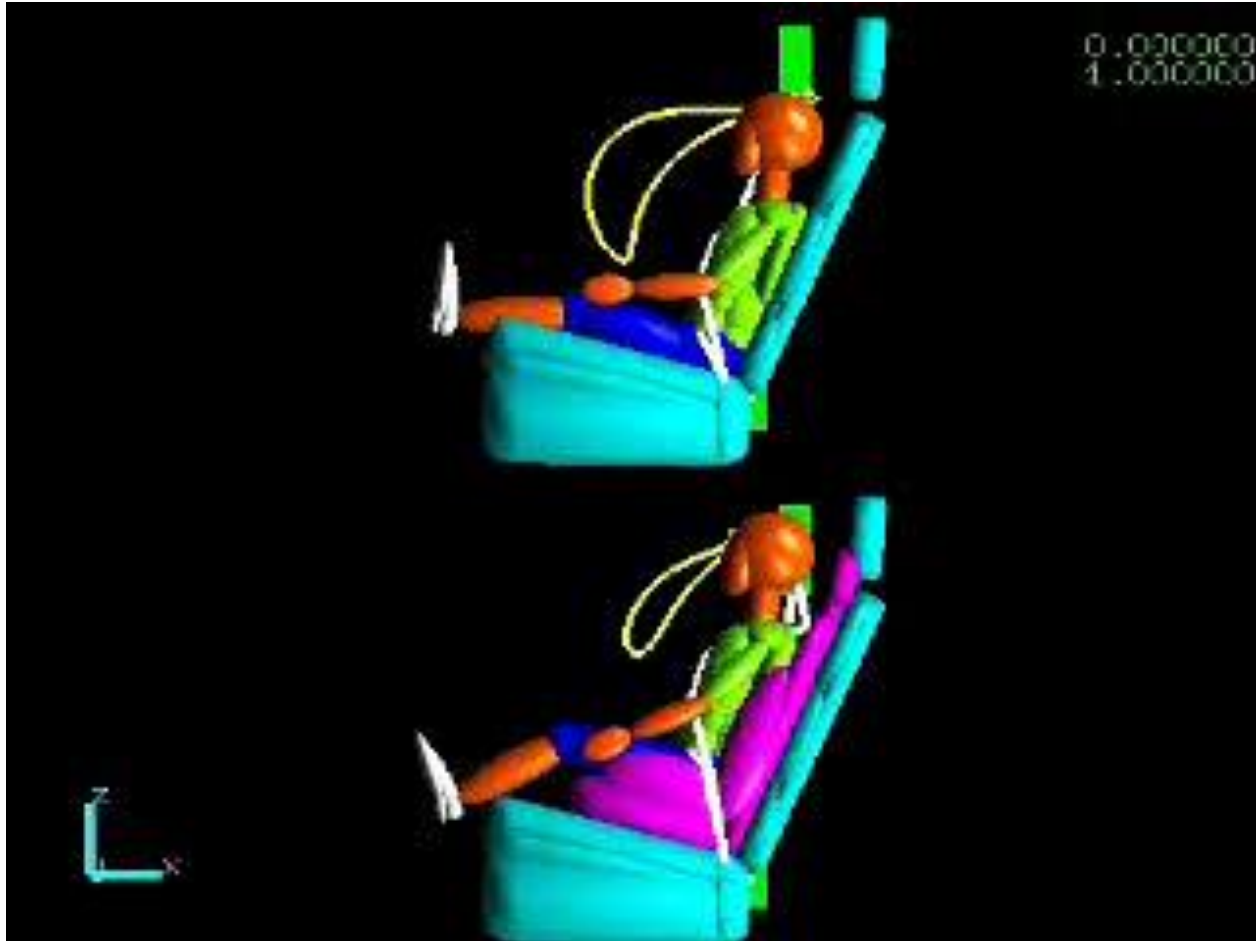


# A Word About Car Seat Expiration Dates

MODEL:2036296 JJ NAME: E2F CNV SS  
Date of Manufacture 2017 | 10 | 18  
00001 year month day  
GRACO CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS, INC.  
ATLANTA, GA 30328 1-800-345-4109  
Made in China PD206938E

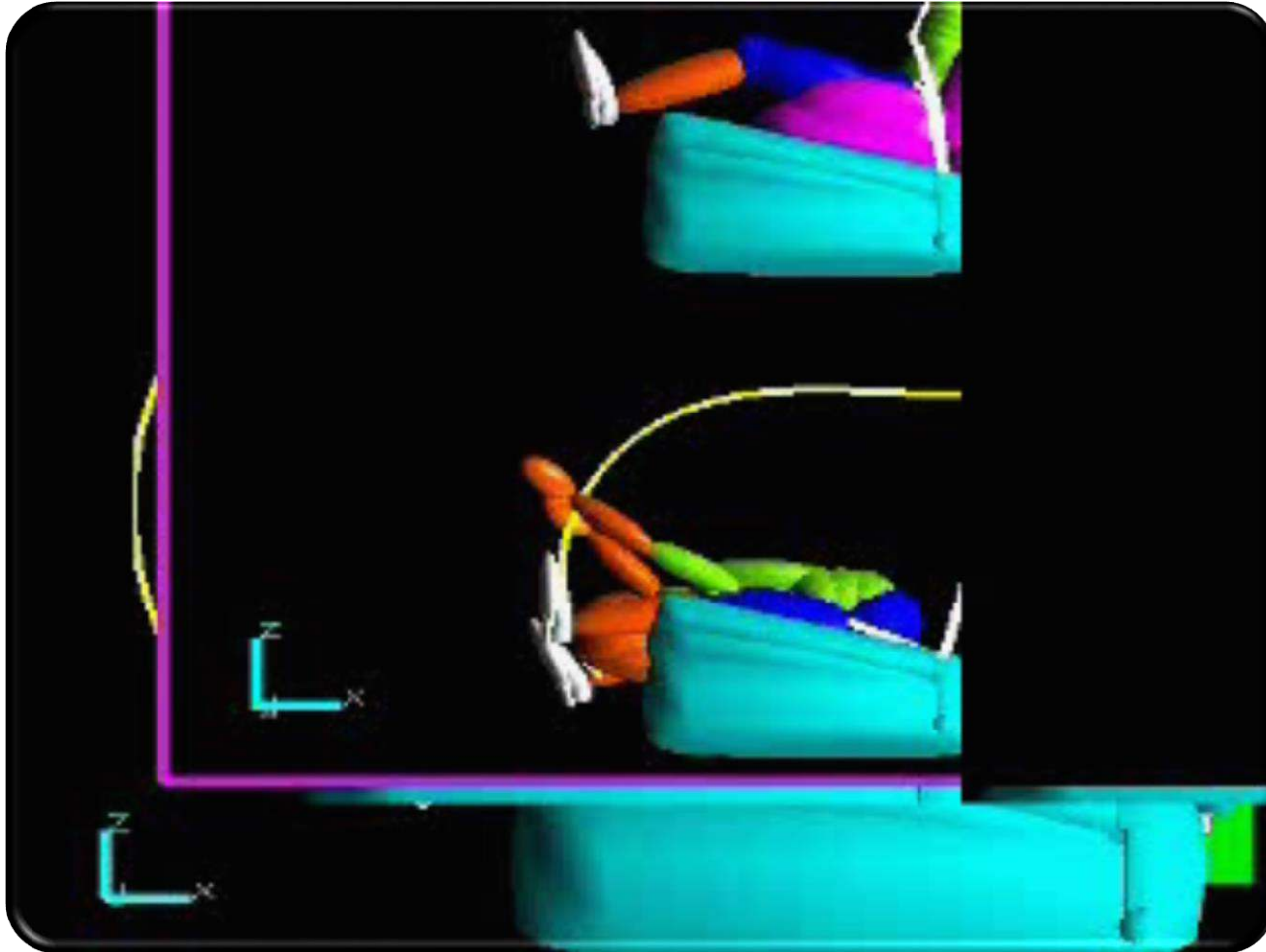


# Booster Benefit



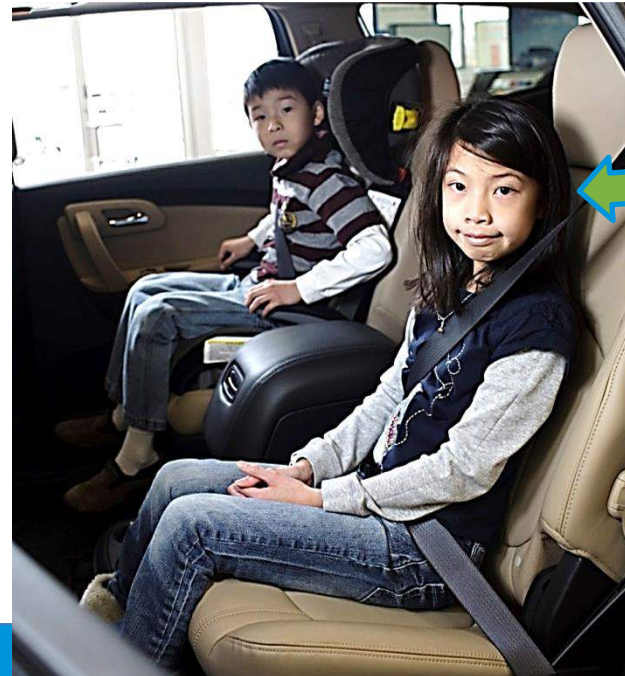


# Lap and Shoulder Belt Benefit



# After Booster ? Seat Belt

- Seat belts are made to fit adults.
- To best protect children, must fit correctly
- Shouldn't move child to front seat of the car until 13 if possible



# Local Resources

- Find Your Local Checking Station by visiting

<https://www.safekids.org/inspection-stations>

- During Covid-19 - Call UNC Trauma at **984-974-2437** for a **CPS Consultation**

- Online Resources

- [Tarheel Trauma - Pediatric Trauma Prevention](#)
- Buckleupnc.org
- Safekids.org
- Safe Kids World Wide FB, Safe Kids Orange County, Safe Kids Chatham County FB

# Thank You For Coming!

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