

## **GPSC Safety Alert**

## CPSC Cautions Caregivers about Hidden Hazards for Babies on Adult Beds

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is alerting parents and caregivers to the hidden hazards associated with placing infants on adult beds.

Consumers often think that if an adult bed is pushed against a wall, or pillows are placed along the sides of the bed, small babies will be safe as they sleep. However, CPSC data shows hidden hazards for babies on adult beds.

## **Safety Tips**

- Wherever your baby sleeps should be as safe as possible. Babies placed on adult beds risk suffocation from several hidden hazards such as:
  - Entrapment between the bed and wall, or between the bed and another object,
  - Entrapment involving the bed frame, headboard or footboard,
  - Falls from adult beds onto piles of clothing, plastic bags, or other soft materials resulting in suffocation, and
  - Suffocation in soft bedding (such as pillows or thick quilts and comforters).
- Always place the baby to sleep on his or her back, not on its stomach.
- When using a crib, make sure it meets current safety standards, has a firm, tight-fitting mattress and tight-fitting bottom sheet.
- When using a portable crib or playpen, be sure to use only the mattress or pad provided by the manufacturer.

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U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION • (800) 638-2772 • www.cpsc.gov • www.SaferProducts.gov

NH Safe Sleep Campaign NH Division of Public Health Services NH Department of Health & Human Services 800-852-3345, x4517/ 603-271-4517 http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/mch/sids.htm

## **Baby Doll Simulation**



Entrapment between bed & wall



Entrapment between bed & object



Entrapment in footboard