



# GREEN CLEAN “The Real Dirt on Clean”

## Your Children

- ◇ The rate of asthma among children under 5 years of age increased more than 160% between 1980 and 1994. 1 in 13 school-aged children have asthma. Common cleaners give off fumes that can potentially increase the risk of kids developing asthma, the most common chronic childhood disease.  
-Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy, Palm Beach, FL.
- ◇ Unregulated air pollution has caused 1 in 6 children in the Central Valley of California to suffer from asthma. More than 5000 children in the San Joaquin Valley Air District are hospitalized each year for asthma. The death rate from respiratory diseases in the Imperial Valley—at time more than double that of the rest of the state. Up to 2.2 million Californians suffer from asthma.  
-California’s State Department of Health Services
- ◇ Analysis of cord blood of newborn babies at Mt. Sinai Hospital found more than 200 chemicals in the blood stream at birth! See full story in the link below:
  - ◇ -<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/newborn-babies-chemicals-exposure-bpa/>
- ◇ Brain cancer in children in up 40% in the past 20 years. Toxic chemicals are largely to blame.  
-NY Times, Sept 29, 1997.

## In Your Home

- ◇ The National Toxicology Program found that of chemicals commonly found in homes, 150 have been linked to allergies, birth defects, cancer, and psychological or neurological disorders.  
-Consumer Product Safety Commission
- ◇ The Average American uses about 25 gallons of toxic, hazardous chemical products per year in their home... a majority of these can be found in household cleaning products.  
-“Prosperity Without Pollution,” Joel S. Hirschorn and Kirsten V. Oldenburg, 1991.
- ◇ At any given time, there are 3.36 million tons of hazardous household waste to contend within our country.  
-Chec’s Health House, the resource for Environmental Health Risks Affecting your Children
- ◇ Over 80% of adults and 90% of children in the United States have residues of one or more harmful pesticides in their bodies.  
-“In Harms Way,” a study by “The Clean Water Fund” and “Physicians for Social Responsibility” May 11, 2000.
- ◇ More than 32 million pounds of household cleaning products are poured down the drain each day nationwide. The toxic substances found in many of these are not adequately removed by sewage treatment plants. Guess what happens when these are returned to the rivers from which cities draw their drinking water?  
-Spring 2002 Edition of CCA Newsletter Partners “Cleaning Without Toxic Chemicals”
- ◇ When chemicals are combined, they’re even more dangerous. Deadly fumes result from mixing ammonia with bleach (both are found in many household products) creating lethal “mustard gas!”  
-U.S. Government, EPA.
- ◇ Women who work at home have a 54% higher death rate from cancer than those who work away from home. The 15 year study concluded it was a direct result of the much higher exposure rate to toxic chemicals in common household products.  
-Toronto Indoor Air Conference 1990.
- ◇ The toxic chemicals in household cleaners are three times more likely to cause cancer than air pollution.  
-EPA report, 1985.

## Toxic Chemicals

- ◇ Within 26 seconds after exposure to chemicals such as cleaning products, traces of these chemicals can be found in every organ in the body.  
-Chec's Health House, the resource for Environmental Health Risks Affecting Your Children
- ◇ According to the National Research Council, no toxic information is available for than 80% of the chemicals in everyday-use products.
- ◇ Only 1% of toxins are required to be listed on labels, because companies classify their formulas as "trade secrets."  
-Lorie Dwornick, Researcher, Educator, & Activist, 2002.
- ◇ The toxic chemicals in household cleaners are three times more likely to cause cancer than air pollution.  
-EPA report, 1985.
- ◇ In the past 50 years more than 75,000 chemicals have been introduced into the environment. Today 300 synthetic chemicals are found in the bodies of humans. Even newborn babies have synthetic chemicals passed on from their mother.  
-REACH (Reach, Evaluation, and Authorization of Chemicals, European Union program)
- ◇ According to Alexandra Rome, Co-Director of the Sustainable Futures Group at Commonweal, a nonprofit health and environmental research institute, until 2000:
  - ◇ More than 2,000 new synthetic chemicals are registered every year,
  - ◇ The EPA tallied close to 10,000 chemical ingredients in cosmetics, food and consumer products. Very few of these chemicals were in our environment or our bodies just 75 years ago.
  - ◇ In 1998, US industries manufactured 6.5 trillion pounds of 9,000 different chemicals.
  - ◇ In 2000, major American companies dumped 7.1 billion pounds of 650 different industrial chemicals into our air and water
  - ◇ Except in the case of foods, drugs, or pesticides, companies are under no legal or regulatory obligation to concern themselves with how their products might harm our health.
- ◇ The Washington State Department of Health discovered that one fourth of tested farm workers handling pesticides were over-exposed to extremely hazardous chemicals. Some of which can cause dizziness, breathing problems, muscle twitching, and paralysis.  
-The 2050 Project Newsletter, Fall 1994: State of the World 1994, Worldwatch Institute.

## Poison

- ◇ More than 7 million accidental poisonings occur each year, with more than 75% involving children under age 6!  
-The Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons
- ◇ According to the 2013 Annual Reports of American Association of Poison Control Centers— there were 2,188,023 logged human exposures and 59,496 logged animal exposures (mostly house pets). Approximately 7.6% of those were related to household cleaning substances.
  - ◇ In the instances of poisoning of children under 5 years old, 13.8% were cosmetic and personal care products, and 10.4% were household cleaning products.
- ◇ American Association of Poison Control Centers Study data (2001-2010) reported 24,147,221 exposures, 8.3% were related to household cleaners. (Just over 2,000,000!)  
-Clinical Toxicology, 2012
- ◇ According to US Poison Control Centers, "A child is accidentally poisoned every 30 seconds at home..."
- ◇ Common chlorine bleach is the #1 household chemical involved in poisoning. Over 90% of poison exposures happen at home.  
-Consumer Product Safety Commission.