

Kids and Cars: Bringing awareness to backover accidents

[Joyce Perrelli](#), San Jose Parenting Examiner January 2, 2012

Looking for a New Year's Resolution? How about resolving to always check your mirrors and blind spots when pulling out of a driveway in order to avoid an accidental backover accident?

I was listening to KCBS while driving through San Jose today and was surprised to hear the statistics given by a [Kids and Cars](#) representative regarding backover accidents. According to Kids and Cars, a non-profit "working to keep children safe in and around motor vehicles", California has the [highest incident of backover accidents](#). There are many factors that contribute to this startling statistic including the higher, heavier, bigger vehicles popular in this area and our busy, multitasking tendencies that can lead to inattention.

[Kids and Cars](#) is working to bring awareness to these unnecessary backover injuries and deaths. Sadly, "most backover incidents occur in a residential driveway or parking lot and involve a parent or other close relative." With focus and attention, these accidents can be reduced. Other ways to help reduce the chance of a backover accident include:

1. Keep landscaping trimmed along your driveway.
2. Instruct your children to not play in driveways.
3. As you enter a parked car in a driveway, look around to see if there are any children nearby.
4. Always check your blind spots and mirrors before backing up.
5. Use your rear-mounted camera if you have one, but do not rely on this alone to alert you to dangers.

<http://www.examiner.com/parenting-in-san-jose/kids-and-cars-bringing-awareness-to-backover-accidents>