



Doug Parkinson, MLC

Member for Wellington

Sunday, 15 January 2006

Don't Cook Kids in the Car

On a typical summer day, the temperature inside a parked car can be 30-40 degrees Celsius hotter than the temperature outside, so it's no place to leave kids or pets.

Labor Member for Wellington Doug Parkinson MLC said locking your children in your car – especially in the scorching summer heat – is deadly and against the law.

“Leaving the windows down is no solution. On a hot day the temperature inside your car can reach up to 80 degrees Celsius,” Mr Parkinson said.

“Young children become distressed, dehydrate and can easily die from organ failure if left in a car with oven-like temperatures. Mr Parkinson reminded parents they face severe fines for leaving their child in a car.

“Parents need to know leaving their child in the car is not only against the law, it can be fatal,” Mr Parkinson said.

“Harm caused to kids left in locked motor vehicles could result in prosecutions under The Criminal Code.

Mr Parkinson urged passers-by who see a child locked in a car to call the RACT immediately on 13 11 11 or call Tasmania Police on 000 and follow their instructions.

“The message is that your car can become an oven in minutes.

“You wouldn’t put you child in an oven, so please don’t leave them in the car this summer.”

Further information: Shaun Rigby on 0438021936