Our valuables should never be left in the car

KBC M





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Leaving children unattended in a car on any day is dangerous, let alone when it's hot. It could result in serious injury or death. In Victoria, it is against the law to leave children unattended in a car. Parents or carers could face fines or up to six months' jail.

What are the risks?

Even on mild days, the temperature inside a parked car can be 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the temperature outside.

Within five minutes, the temperature in the car can double. When it's 30 degrees outside, your child could be suffering in up to 60 degree heat.

As a child's body temperature rises three to five times faster than an adults, the impact of this heat on a child's body is almost immediate. This puts them at greater risk of life-threatening heat stroke, brain injury, heart and lung failure, and dehydration.

Large cars heat up just as fast as smaller ones. Leaving the windows down slightly has little effect on the inside temperature. Tests have shown that when windows are left open by 10cm, it reduces the inside temperature by only five degrees.

For more information about car safety, please visit: kidsafevic.com.au For an emergency, call 000