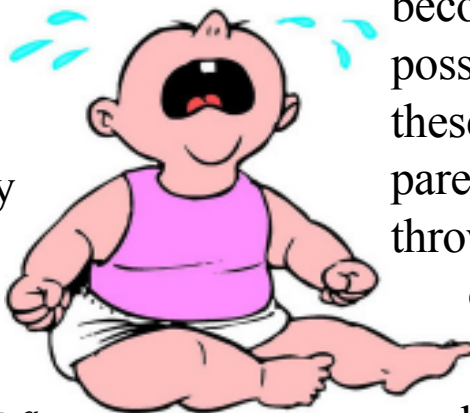


SAFE kids **HEALTHY** kids
HAPPY kids

Brought to you by
Parent Help Line


Crying Linked to Injury of Children

Infants and babies cry. Young toddlers have tantrums and unruly behavior. *The number one reason given for shaking or injuring a baby is feeling angry and frustrated when a baby cries.* Yet, crying is normal.



Babies and young toddlers do not cry or misbehave to punish their parents. It is their way to *talk* to adults. They are saying *I am hungry, tired, sick. Something "is wrong."* It is a signal for help.

Taking care of a fussy or crying child is especially hard. Parents and caretakers can

become frustrated. It is possible to lose control in these moments. Sometimes parents and caretakers shake, throw or hit the child. Injury or death can result.

Research shows that head injuries are the leading cause of death and disability among abused children. Head injuries can be caused by trauma to a baby's head. They can also result from **shaking** a baby. This is Shaken Baby Syndrome. Forcefully shaking a baby can cause brain damage. This can lead to mental retardation, speech and learning problems, paralysis, seizures, hearing loss or death.

Call the Parent Help Line. We listen. We can find you help.
544-5808 or 1-888-727-5889 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week.