

Shaken Baby Syndrome – Parent Education Script

Do you know what Shaken Baby Syndrome is?

Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is the name given to the serious injuries that can happen when an infant is violently shaken.

Do you know why shaking occurs?

The number one reason given for shaking a baby is "I just wanted the baby to stop crying."

Shaking often occurs when parents, babysitters or other caregivers become frustrated and lose control when they cannot calm a crying baby. Most people do not know how dangerous it is to shake a baby.

Do you know how serious SBS is?

There are nearly 1,000 to 3,000 cases of SBS each year in the U.S. One shaken baby in four dies as a result of being shaken.

What you can do to prevent SBS:

- Never, never, never shake a baby!
- Make sure that everyone who cares for your baby knows about the dangers of shaking a baby.
- Always support the baby's head and neck when holding him or her.
- Always play gently with your baby.
- Learn what to do when your baby cries.

If your baby won't stop crying, remember:

All babies cry a lot during the first few months of life. Crying is your baby's way of communicating with you. Crying does not mean that your baby is being bad or that your baby is angry with you.

If you know or think your baby was shaken:

Take the baby to the emergency room **right away**. Immediate medical attention can protect your child from future problems, and may even save his or her life.

*Never, Never, Never
Shake A Baby!!!*

