

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

Are Some Child-Amusements Taking 'Scary' Too Far?

Posted by **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on February 18, 2011

In my house, it seems like we start celebrating Halloween in July! Costumes, parties, candy-- and yes a trip to a haunted house or two seem to fill our schedules in the weeks leading up to the big day.

In the past few years, I noticed a trend towards bigger and more exciting haunted houses where there is more of everything-- monsters and blood--- but a noticeable lack of safety.

Most of the haunted houses are put together quickly--- and without much oversight from regulatory agencies as to how they are constructed or the types of trickery they intend on providing.

A recently filed **lawsuit** in Tennessee is a reminder that perhaps haunted houses need to begin to reconsider their safety. Apparently, the seven-year-old boy fell from a ramp and broke his arm as he was being chased by a man with a chain saw.

Particularly when facilities market themselves to young children, they need to remember that safety should take a front seat to scaredom. In order to make the experience fun and safe for everyone, haunted house operators should:

- Identify appropriate ages for the amusement

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- Construct stairs, walkways and ramps in accordance with applicable building codes
- Provide clearly marked exits and entrances
- Use proper lighting so people can see where they are going
- Never throw liquids or other materials at people that could potentially cause slippery conditions

Rosenfeld Injury Lawyers represent children and adults who sustain injuries on poorly maintained property. If you believe that you or your child's injury is related to poor maintenance or a dangerous condition of the property owner, you can call us anytime for a free consultation. (888) 424-5757

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