

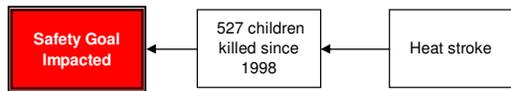
# The Dangerous Combination of Hot Cars and Children

USA, October 2012

## Step 1. Define the Problem

<b>What</b>	Problem(s)	Risk of injury and death, children left inside hot vehicles
<b>When</b>	Date	Ongoing
	Different, unusual, unique	??
<b>Where</b>	State, city	Throughout US
	Task being performed	Driving
<b>Impact to the Goals</b>		
	<b>Safety</b>	527 children killed since 1998

## Step 2. Analysis, Cause Map



Every summer, the news covers heartbreaking stories of children who die after being inadvertently left inside a vehicle. Since 1998, 527 children have died from heat stroke from being exposed to high temperatures inside a vehicle. One of the most tragic elements of these stories is that these deaths are preventable.

There are a number of gadgets people have invented to help prevent children from being inadvertently forgotten in a car, but their effectiveness is debated. The simplest way to prevent this from happening is very low tech; put your purse, shoe or anything that you must have in the backseat. Another suggestion is to keep a large stuffed animal in the car seat and then move it up to the front passenger seat while the car seat is occupied so that you have a visual reminder of your precious cargo. The most important thing is to be aware of this deadly problem and have a plan to prevent it if you ever drive around children, especially those strapped into car seats.

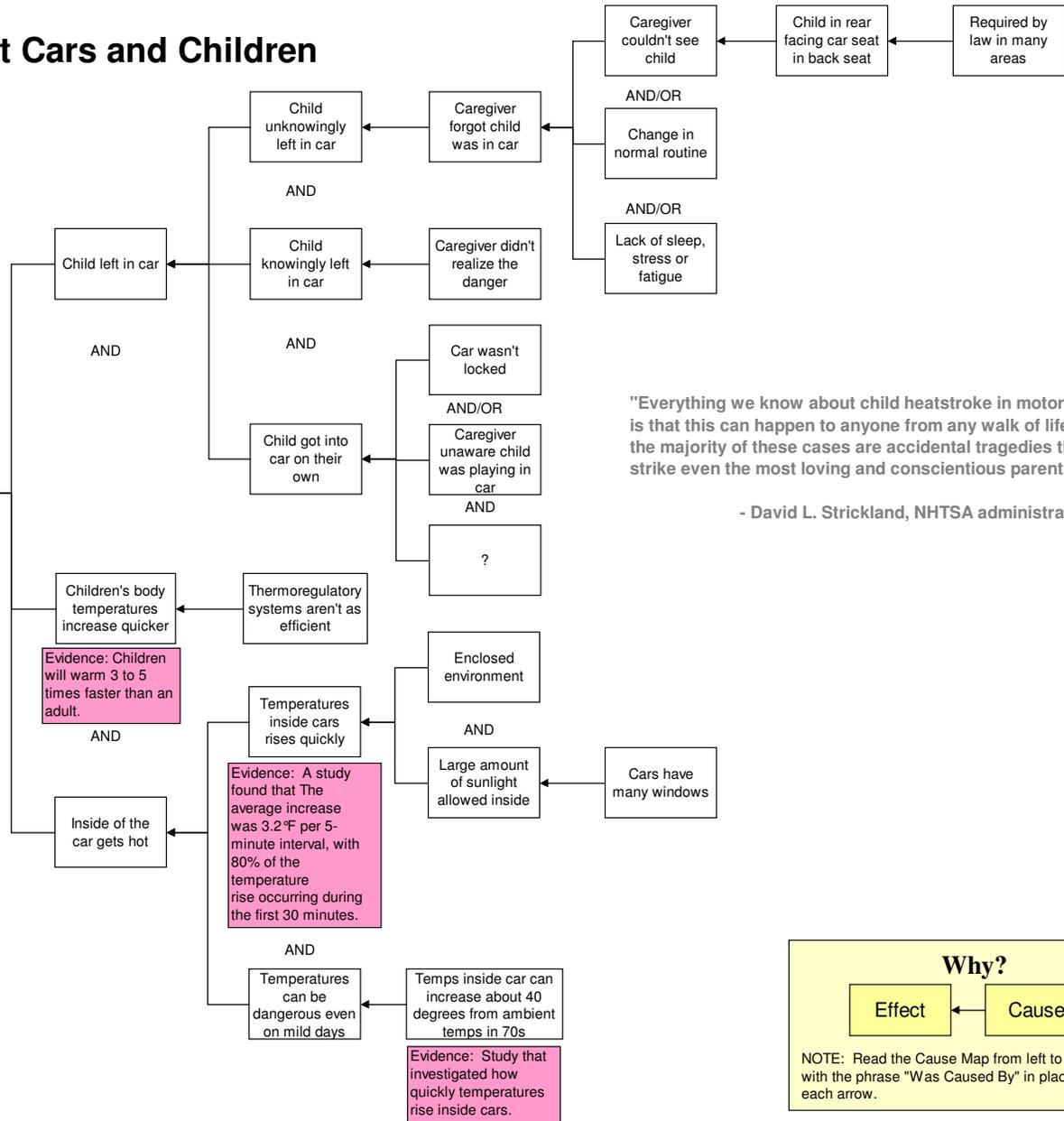
## Cause Map

High Level

**ThinkReliability**

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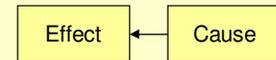
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"Everything we know about child heatstroke in motor vehicles is that this can happen to anyone from any walk of life - and the majority of these cases are accidental tragedies that can strike even the most loving and conscientious parents."

- David L. Strickland, NHTSA administrator

## Why?



NOTE: Read the Cause Map from left to right with the phrase "Was Caused By" in place of each arrow.