Prevention of Traffic Accidents with Children

Lilia ELGAROVA, Anatoli ELGAROV
173 Chernischevski St, 360004, NALCHIK, KBR, RUSSIA

To work out and realise some preventive measures, we attempted to study the spread and causes of traffic accidents (TA) involving children.

Our analysis revealed that the main causes of such TA are children’s unexpected appearance from behind a vehicle (29-41%) and crossing in the wrong place (30-36%). It is noteworthy that TA through the fault of children are caused by the same types of traffic rules (TR) violation that are committed by adults. Besides, a high spread of drinking habits in the population and especially in vehicle drivers makes the situation on the roadside still more insidious. Within the TA structure, 10% is reliably contributed by drunken drivers and 2.5% by drunken pedestrians.

These data lay in the basis of a complex programme “Safe Road” which in 1990 came to incorporate an educational course for under-school age and school age children (lectures, counselling talks, TV shows, round-table discussions with invited police officers, traumatologists, narcologists, and psychologists).

The teaching of traffic rules and driving performances is realised at the youth driving Train Centre in the town of Nalchik. The launching of TA prevention measures carried out by joint efforts of police officers, physicians and teachers, made it possible to attain some decreasing trends in the number of TA, of the killed and injured for the recent 5 years (in 1990, correspondingly, 149, 26, 129; in 1995 - 61,7, 7,58)