

# *Catholic Mutual “CARES”*

## **TV CART SAFETY**

In September 2007, a Cook County jury awarded \$19 million to a 13-year-old boy for severe brain injuries suffered in 2003 when a television fell on him at a Catholic school on Chicago's Northwest Side.

The boy's class was preparing to watch a videotape on Oct. 30, 2003, when he tried to help move a 27-inch television bolted high up on the cart. The whole thing came right down on him.

Similar circumstances reportedly led to fatal injuries in Ohio and West Virginia and serious injuries in other states.

We are not dealing with a freak accident — it could happen here! The following are steps all teachers can take to make certain the tragedy which happened in Chicago doesn't happen here.

1. Don't allow children the “privilege” of moving TV carts.
2. Make sure the TV set is securely attached to the cart by straps, bolts or other approved means. (Note: This alone will not eliminate the danger — the set that fell in Chicago was bolted to the cart, which tipped over.)
3. Be sure the wheels/casters turn freely before moving the cart.
4. Push only in the direction of the long base dimension. That is, edgewise, not flatwise.
5. Report any problems with the cart to your school principal/administrator, just as you would problems with the video equipment.