



SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. 800-745-SAFE 800-747-SANO [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)

Dear SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.,

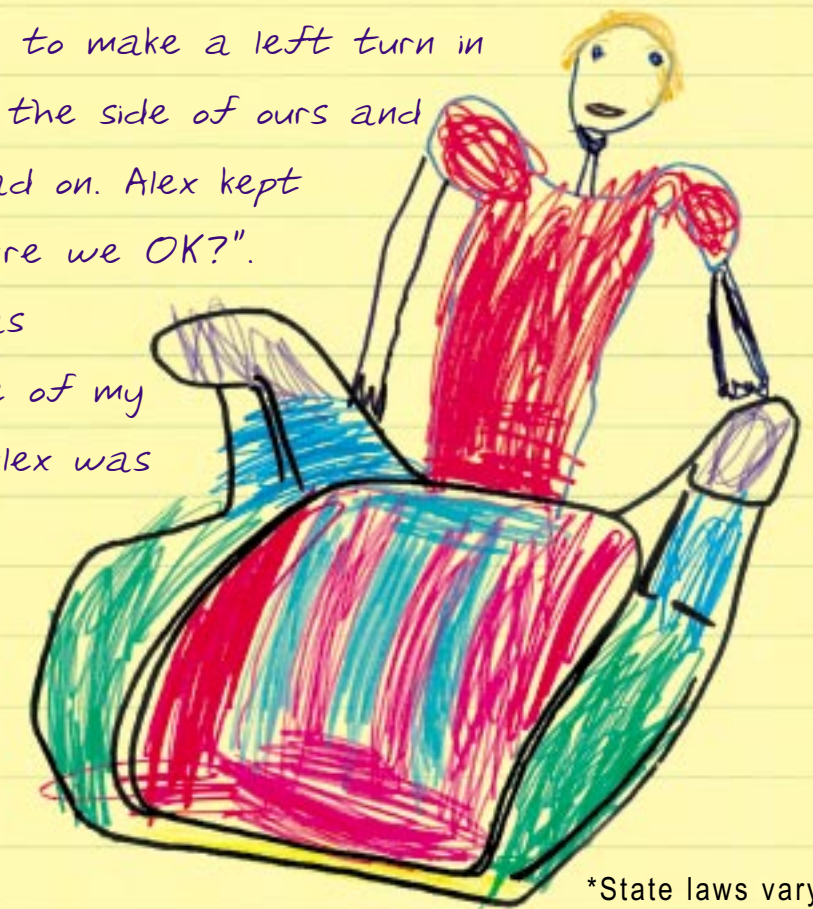
I want to share a brief story about what happened to my son Alex and me, with the hope someone can benefit from our experience:

Alex and I were running late for gymnastics. I had 3 month old twins at home so, as you can imagine, I was always in a rush. For some reason my son had moved his booster seat into the third row in our van. We were in a hurry, so I sat him in the second row seats without a booster and thought "Oh, what will it matter this time." I had never done it before, but rushing, stressed with the little ones...I did. As I was about to close the door, I noticed the safety belt was hitting him too high. He was 4 1/2 and 42 pounds, over the requirements of the law,\* but the belt didn't fit him properly. I stopped and had him crawl into the booster and I reached back to buckle him in.

No more than 10 minutes later, we were going through a green light at 45 mph when someone tried to make a left turn in front of us. The other car hit the side of ours and we hit a traffic light pole head on. Alex kept asking "What happened Mom? Are we OK?"

It turned out that our van was totaled, but I was OK because of my safety belt and air bag and Alex was OK because he was in his booster seat.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Musicant



<Alex Musicant is now 6.

\*State laws vary.