

Halloween safety

RIGHT SIDE OF THE LAW

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It's Halloween this week. My son will be going as Lightning McQueen for the third year in a row (Disney owes me shares in their company). So we should talk about Halloween safety.

Now I am going to admit to a practice I think is probably wrong but it is one I employ for a good reason: I do not trick or treat around my house. I take my son to my brother's house because they live on a

small side street where there is little to no traffic and the houses are closer together. I feel it is safer in that area.

My point is safety is paramount. Try to stay away from high traffic streets with a lot of vehicles passing through. Of course, wear brightly coloured clothes -- and that includes you parents as well. Make sure you watch the little ones at all times.

Try, if possible, to start trick-or-treating before sunset. I know it's not as much fun but at least you are more visible. Tell your kids to walk from house to house -- no running. Even if kids are cutting across lawns, someone coming home from work might not see them as they dash across driveways. Bring flashlights to help light

the way.

Motorists, be extra vigilant. Anticipate these little ghouls and goblins will dart between and in front of vehicles. Do not expect them to follow the rules of the road and go super slow.

Of course, check all candy very carefully and make sure you monitor what is going in your kids' mouths. Check for allergens and discard open candies. Have a fun, safe and spooky Halloween! ■

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