EDITOR,—In response to your recent question, 'Are you involved in injury prevention?', the answer is yes. I am a home economics teacher at a high school. I mention these career publications to parents, in which I have recently completed a Scove module entitled 'Safety in the Home' in conjunction with this. They also took a very active part in the 1994 Child Safety Week. I wrote 'a letter to parents' of which was published in the local paper, The Galloway Gazette. (2) Put up an extensive three window display in the middle of the town centre for six months; (3) placed leaflets on firework safety in every village and town in school catchment area. They also completed the St John Ambulance Three Cross Award.

Here are some of their comments on injury in the young: 'I think every pupil should do a first aid course in school as part of their education—with exams and certificates at the end. 'I have more confidence in myself because I know that I could react in an emergency'.

SHEILA G SIWO
Dunmow and Galloway Regional
Council Education Officer,
Douglas Ewart High School,
Corbis Road,
Neuston Stewart D68 6QJ, UK

BOOK REVIEW


Adolescent injuries are a tremendously important problem. Intentional and unintentional trauma are far and away the leading cause of death in this age group in all countries of the world, including those perceived as industrialized alike. In the US motor vehicle injuries alone are the single largest cause of all deaths during adolescence, not just injury deaths. Any effort to address and suggest prevention strategies for these problems is both much needed and welcome.

This volume represents a helpful addition to the field. Edited by two respected injury investigators, KK Christoffel and CW Runyan, the 10 chapters contributed by 24 different individuals cover a broad range of topics. The format of the chapters, while not totally uniform, includes information on the magnitude of the problem, the descriptive epidemiology, and potential interventions. Some chapters offer a more comprehensive literature review than others, for example, the chapter on post-traumatic stress disorder by L Amaya-Jackson and JS March. All chapters offer something for both the scientist trying to discern new areas for investigation and the injury control practitioner deciding which interventions to implement in a cost-effective manner.

For example, the chapter on injury prevention in primary care by J Paulson and C DiGuiseppe offers helpful, hands-on suggestions for the primary care practitioner. I was also impressed by the critical nature of the reviews of the literature in many chapters.