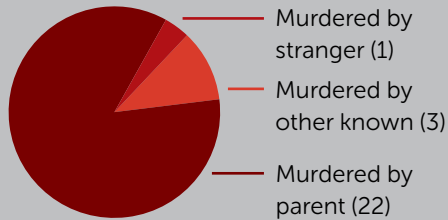


# Fact vs. Fiction

## "Stranger Danger is a bigger problem these days"

CHILD MURDERS IN AUSTRALIA (2006-2007)



IN THE SAME PERIOD 30 CHILDREN DIED IN CAR ACCIDENTS IN VICTORIA ALONE

CHILDREN FACE A RISK OF

**1 IN 1,000,000**  
OF BEING KILLED BY A STRANGER.

LIVINGSTREETS (UK)

CHILDREN FACE A RISK OF

**1 IN 3,000**  
OF BEING KILLED OR INJURED IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES AS A PEDESTRIAN OR CYCLIST.

LIVINGSTREETS (UK)

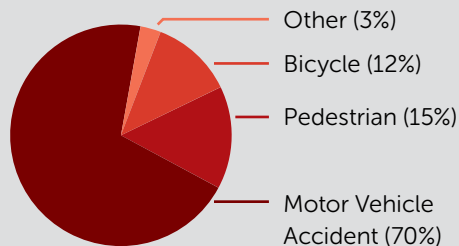
CHILDREN FACE A RISK OF

**1 IN 3**  
OF SUFFERING HEALTH & QUALITY OF LIFE | IMPACTS FROM BEING OVERWEIGHT/OBESE.

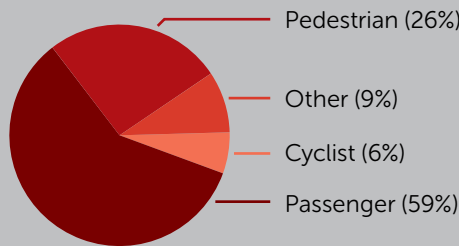
LIVINGSTREETS (UK)

## "It's safer to drive my children to school"

AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN TRANSPORT RELATED INJURIES (0-14 YEAR OLDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA)



AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN TRANSPORT RELATED DEATHS (5-15 YEAR OLDS, AUSTRALIA WIDE)



IN THE LONG RUN IT IS HEALTHIER FOR CHILDREN TO WALK/CYCLE.

THE TOP CAUSE OF DEATH IN 45+ YEAR OLDS IS CORONARY HEART DISEASE, OF WHICH LACK OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND BEING OVERWEIGHT ARE KEY 'MODIFIABLE' RISK FACTORS

HEART FOUNDATION

## "It's too far to walk to school and/or my children would be too tired from walking"

One of the main conclusions of the Danish Mass Experiment 2012 (involving 20,000 5 to 19 year old school children) was that children who walk or cycle to school concentrate better for around four hours into the school day than students who were driven or caught the train or bus.

## "My child has no road sense or could get lost"

Walking to school with children provides them the opportunity to develop road sense and navigation skills under guidance, and assist their general cognitive development. A young child should be taught "road sense" from older children and adults to develop the skills to walk safely and to be able to navigate on their own.

## "I save time driving"

Factoring in the time to pack the car, leave, drive to school, traffic congestion, find a parking space, unload the children and their bags can be the same time to walk, particularly for short trips.

Not only does it take a similar amount of time to walk or cycle, active travel to school is a good way for children and parents/

carers to meet their daily physical activity requirement (60 minutes for children), improves concentration, allows road safety skills to be taught/practised, allows parents/carers quality time with their children and reduces traffic congestion around schools.