

Impish Grin

## ...On the Dangers of Amateur Face Art

Excerpt of article in the Southeast Missourian Newspaper (Cape Girardeau, MO),  
Sunday, August 27, 2006

The little girl with burn scars in the shape of a heart and rainbow on her cheek told the story best for Donna Sternickle. The scars weren't from a fire. They weren't from an oven or a cigarette or any other burn-causing source that might immediately come to mind.

The scars were from (the use of non-FDA compliant) face paint.

"I've been doing this since 1994, and I've never bumped in to (another face painter or company) using the right product," said Sternickle, who lives in Jackson, MO and operates a face painting/balloon decorating/clown business called Alotta Fun 4U2.

Sternickle said many people who do not face paint on a regular basis — such as setting up at a fundraiser to help make money — use *acrylic or other paint products that are not designed or approved by organizations such as the FDA for use on the skin.*

"If it's hot outside, (acrylic/craft) paint bakes on the skin and has the potential to cause third-degree burns," she said.

Sternickle said key phrases to look for on products are "FDA compliant" materials versus the American Scientific Testing Methods found on art paint. Check to make sure the product has a full list of ingredients — one clue that it's FDA compliant.



photo by Tara McKinley ~ J.C. Penney Portraits

Donna Sternickle's handiwork was featured in this J.C. Penney Portraits photograph of 7-year-old Olivia Schloss and 4-year-old Carissa Schloss of Cape Girardeau. The photograph will be used on J.C. Penney coupons to be distributed around the United States this fall.

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**“Impish Grin Face Art”** uses only paints with the *highest possible FDA safety rating* for use on the skin.

*For a list of paint ingredients, please inquire.*

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