



**QUOTES:** “Lead has no business in toys or any product that comes into contact with children. This is a no-brainer issue. Congress has the ultimate responsibility of ensuring that the strongest possible laws are on the books in order to prevent any harm from coming to any child simply from playing with a toy or opening a present. Congress must strengthen, and then pass, the Consumer Product Safety Act in order to prevent any potential harm to any child anywhere in America.” **Lois Gibbs, founder and executive director, Center for Health, Environment & Justice.**

"Banning lead in toys is an essential first step in protecting children from toxic chemicals in their products. However, lead is not the only dangerous chemical found in toys. The widespread use of vinyl plastic in toys exposes millions of children to additional toxic metals and additives such as phthalates. The CPSC lacks the political will to address these hazards. In 2008 Congress needs to finish the job with comprehensive legislation to eliminate all toxic chemicals used in children's toys." **Rick Hind, Legislative Director, Greenpeace Toxics Campaign.**

“Congress needs to push harder to lower allowable lead limits on toys and strengthen the CPSC before it leaves for the year. Otherwise, it deserves a lump of coal in its stocking.” **Ed Mierzwinski, U.S. PIRG Consumer Program Director.**

#### **About CHEJ**

The Center for Health, Environment & Justice exists to mentor the movement to build healthier communities by empowering people to *prevent* harm in as many ways, and for as many people, as possible. We believe this can happen when people and groups have the power to play an integral role in promoting human health and environmental integrity. CHEJ’s role is to provide the tools, the direction, and the encouragement to these people and groups, so that they can build strong, healthy communities where they live, work, learn, shop, play and pray. Following her successful effort to prevent further harm for the people living in contaminated Love Canal, Lois Gibbs founded CHEJ in 1981 in order to continue mentoring others seeking to prevent harm. CHEJ provides mentoring assistance to communities, homeowners, families and individuals throughout the country. To date, CHEJ has assisted over 10,000 groups nationwide. Currently, CHEJ is mentoring community groups in Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina and Ohio. Details on CHEJ’s efforts to help people and communities prevent harm can be found at <http://www.chej.org>.