

12-8-92

Dear Mariam

Finally I got myself organised to write you this letter.

As you know I was not very "pro" S.T.S. just because I thought, children would not have enough freedom. However when you explained about the benefits and what kind of accidents have happened with children falling out of cots and beds, that could have been prevented, I thought "mmm, maybe I should give it a try."

Because Jaap is already two and doesn't like restrictions (restraints), I did not know if it would work. But I gave it a try and approached it very positively. So what I did: I put the S.T.S. on his mattress for a week, before I did something with it, so that he got used by the sight of it. Then one afternoon before he got to bed, I showed him that his "bear" was going to sleep in the S.T.S. After an hour when it was Jaap's "turn" to go to sleep I did the same thing

to Jaap. And I fastened the STS very loosely. He wanted it undone and I just quickly said: "It's ok" and straightaway distracted him with the music mobile. He fell asleep and when he woke up I found him still fastened in the STS without complaints. This went on for several days and then we started using it at night. Now he is asking for it!!!

I am really pleased about the whole idea and how we got him to get used to it.

I don't have to worry about Jaap falling out of a single bed when he is ready to be transferred. The other benefit is travelling, sometimes in motels the cots are already taken and he will be too big for one now anyway. ^(our cot is quite big) Going to friends etc. - just carry the STS, so easy.

Wonderful Mamma, well done. Good luck and hopefully you get more success stories. Keep up the good work.

Love Jess.