



# Fireworks no more

No more Fireworks: Saving The Future of Children  
A Civil Society's Iniciative



Ministerio de  
Relaciones  
Exteriores

Gobierno de Chile



Ministerio de  
Salud

Gobierno de Chile



**COANIQUEM**  
*todo por el niño quemado*

COANIQUEM's Campaign:

# ***Fireworks No More!***

## ***What does COANIQUEM stand for?***

COANIQUEM is the acronym for CORPORACIÓN DE AYUDA AL NIÑO QUEMADO (Corporation for the aid of burned children). It is a Chilean NGO created in 1979 that provides free rehabilitation treatment for burned victims from Chile and other countries of the Region. In the past four decades, COANIQUEM has treated over 135,000 patients with an internationally renowned holistic approach.

## ***FIREWORKS NO MORE? What does it mean?***

“FIREWORKS NO MORE” is the PREVENTION CAMPAIGN conducted in Chile by COANIQUEM to raise awareness on the risk CONSUMER FIREWORKS pose to children. It started in 1993, monitoring the annual pediatric burns due to the private use of FIREWORKS and created campaigns to prevent these kinds of injuries.



Poster of the first  
graphic media  
campaign in 1995.

## ***Is a prevention campaign enough to stop these kinds of burns?***

No. COANIQUEM promoted a ban on the private use of FIREWORKS. The Chilean Parliament took the initiative very seriously and enacted National LAW N°19,680 in the year 2000, which bans the domestic use of FIREWORKS and punishes the sale and purchase of pyrotechnic material.

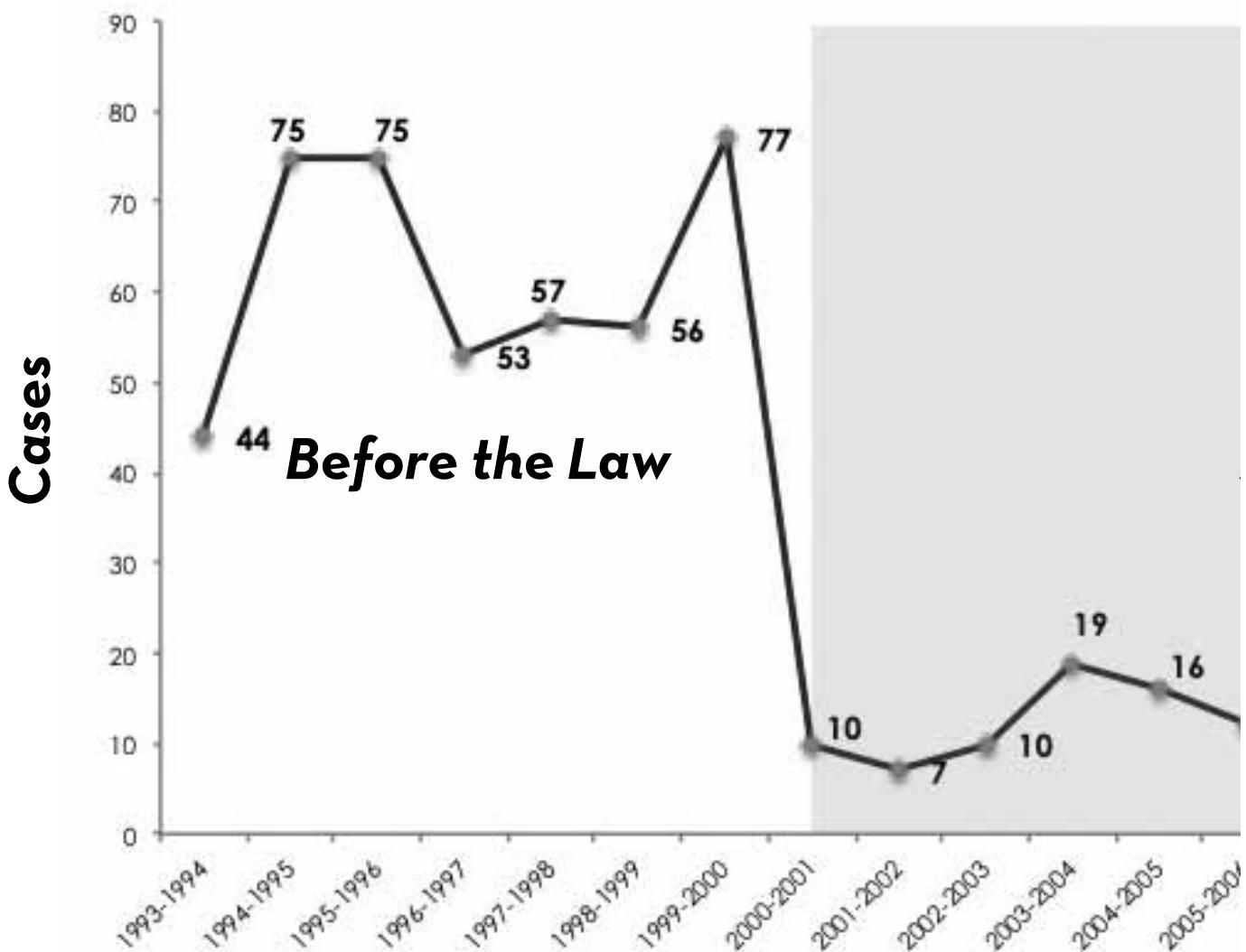
## **Law N° 19,680 on the use of consumer grade fireworks, year 2000.**

**“Ban the fabrication, import, sale, distribution,  
delivery under any title and use of fireworks,  
pyrotechnic elements and others of similar  
nature, their pieces and parts.”**

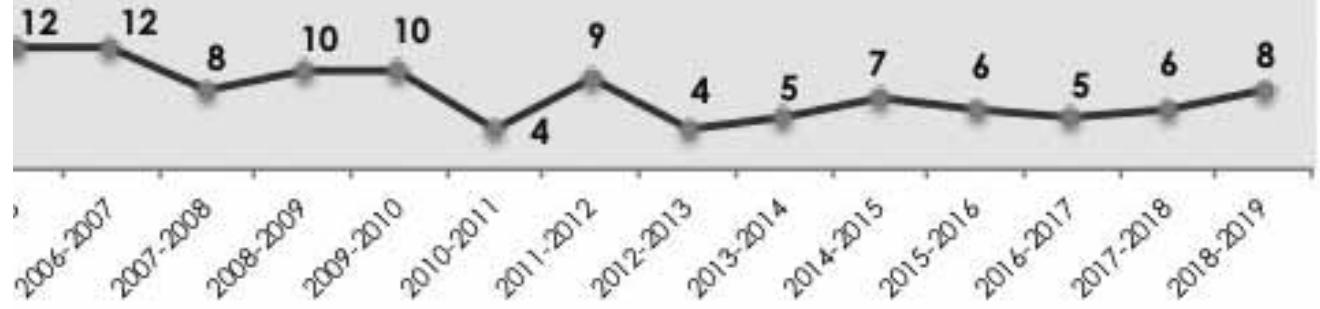
**In Chile the handling of FIREWORKS by  
members of the general public is a crime  
punishable by law. Do not put your eyes, hands  
and skin at risk.  
FIREWORKS ARE NOT TOYS.**

## **Was the number of fireworks-related injuries reduced after the LAW was enacted?**

Yes! The number of children admitted to health facilities across the country was reduced **10 times!** The support of the Chilean Ministry of Public Health and Police Department were crucial to achieve this goal.



## ***After the enactment of the law***



**This is amazing...  
But how do Chileans celebrate now?**

Professional pyrotechnic displays are organized in different cities along the country. They are beautiful, safe and gather lots of people. These events have become a tradition in New Year's Eve. Friends and families celebrate and wish each other the best for the coming year, enjoying a spectacular show. The FIREWORKS display over the bay of Valparaíso is the most famous one, where you can see the reflection of the FIREWORKS on the sea.



New Year's Eve Celebration-  
Valparaíso, Chile 2019.

## **Are fireworks-related injuries not an issue in Chile anymore or are there prevention campaigns to this day?**

COANIQUEM conducts the campaign “FIREWORKS NO MORE” every year during the holiday season. This is a collaborative work between the Government and the Civil Society:

The Ministry of Health notifies new pediatric admissions at health facilities throughout the country due to FIREWORKS; The Police Department searches for illegal sale of pyrotechnics and confiscates any material discovered. COANIQUEM conducts media campaigns to raise awareness of the risk of using consumer FIREWORKS.



**Burned children annually**  
(by different causes)

**80,000 children in Chile\***  
**6,000,000 in the Americas**

**Children In need of  
rehabilitation treatment**

**8,000 children in Chile\***  
**500,000 in the Américas**

\* Source: “Encuesta de diagnóstico de la incidencia y prevalencia de quemaduras y factores asociados en menores de 20 años residentes en tres comunas de la Región Metropolitana” Informe Final Proyecto FONIS -2011 código SA11i2115

# **The drama of pediatric burns**

## **Burns produce:**

- Scars that prevent the normal growth of tissue, which in turn produce a loss of functionality and, many times, major aesthetic changes to the way a person looks.
- Amputations.
- Psychological trauma for the child and family.

## **They Impact:**

- Everyday activities.
- Self-esteem.
- Social integration.
- Professional opportunities.

**Burns reduce the chances of leading a normal and fulfilling life.**

**Although FIREWORKS are not among the main causes of pediatric burns, all pyrotechnic elements put adults and children at an unnecessary high risk of injury.**

**Fireworks contain gunpowder and their trajectory can't be controlled.**

**Children don't need FIREWORKS to play. Celebrations should avoid the handling of all kind of pyrotechnic articles.**

**THESE KINDS OF BURNS CAN, AND MUST, BE PREVENTED.**

### **DON'T USE, DON'T BUY, DON'T SELL**

Chilean Law N° 19,680 enacted in the year 2000 bans the sale, possession and use of FIREWORKS by members of the general public.. It also regulates and imposes safety standards for pyrotechnic display events to be conducted by licensed professionals\*.

## **Outcome after the enactment of the Law:**

- The number of annual fireworks-related injuries during the surveillance period in Chile was reduced ten times.
- No deaths have been reported by consumer fireworks since the enactment of the law.
- No injuries have been reported at fireworks display events conducted by licensed professionals. (\*display's regulation came into effect during 2001).

## **A dangerous tradition on New Year's Eve**

### **How do children get burned by fireworks?**

- Handling different kinds of pyrotechnic elements available in the market.
- As bystanders, just being in the vicinity of people handling fireworks.

**FIREWORKS ARE NOT TOYS.  
and they are just as risky for adults.  
Leave it to professionals.**

***Children will suffer  
burns by fireworks  
again these holidays  
ALL OVER THE  
WORLD!***

***We can't remain  
indifferent.***

***We need to work on  
prevention and  
SAVE THE FUTURE  
OF CHILDREN***

# **COANIQUEM's initiative involves GLOBAL COLLABORATION:**

**COANIQUEM has been accredited to the  
Civil Society Unit since 2015.**



- Create a Model Law proposal together, that effectively reduces the number of fireworks-related injuries to members of the general public.
- UN State Members are invited to include the proposal into their local legislation.

# ***Building Inclusive and Sustainable Cities and Communities***

## ***Invitation to work together:***

- UN State members.
- NGOs.
- Universities.
- Communication and Public Relations Agencies.

## ***Initiative of:***

- COANIQUEM.
- State of Chile.

## ***Partners:***

- Rotary Club Santiago.
- Fundación Probono de las Américas.
- DDB.
- Público Porter Novelli.

# ***Landmarks of Fireworks No More campaign***

- Workshop at 67th Civil Society Unit Conference. Saving the future of children. New York - August 22 & 23, 2018.
- COANIQUEM presented the initiative before the Permanent Council of the OAS Organization of American States - March 27th, 2019.
- COANIQUEM presented the initiative at the REDLACEH Congress of Hospital Schools in Panama - Latin American Parliament Headquarters (PARLATINO) - May 17th, 2019.
- OAS General Assembly passed a draft resolution for the “Elaboration of a Model Law for the regulation of fireworks” - Medellín, Colombia - June 28th, 2019.





[www.coaniquem.cl](http://www.coaniquem.cl)