

What every parent needs to know

Do you know who's driving your child around?

If you're using Uber to ferry them to soccer practice, music lessons or home from late night parties, the answer is no. The driver could be a registered sex offender, a kidnapper, a burglar – even a convicted murderer. All of these criminals got jobs with Uber after passing what the company hailed as its “industry-leading” background checks.

The company recently paid \$28.5 million to settle two separate class-action lawsuits accusing it of exaggerating the rigor of its background checks, and faces similar claims in a pending lawsuit by the district attorneys of Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Yet the company continues to fight calls for fingerprinting its drivers, which experts say is critical to ensuring that records retrieved in background checks actually match the person undergoing the check.

Meanwhile, as Uber is happily sacrificing safety and security for profit, its drivers have been involved in a horrifying host of on-the-job incidents. These include an anti-gay assault, racially motivated choking incident, drunken driving, running down pedestrians and allegedly raping a passenger, according to the [Washington Post](#). And, of course, the alleged [slaughter of six people](#) in an hours-long rampage in Kalamazoo, Mich., last month.

Having your child take an Uber ride is like letting them hitchhike – only worse, because you're lulled into a false sense of security by the belief that the letter 'U' in the windshield is somehow a stamp of official approval.

For more information on the dangers associated with Uber and other transportation networking companies, please visit www.whosdrivingyou.org.