

The Ford Pinto Case---Timeline

- 1971 Ford Pintos first go into production with their faulty and dangerous gas tanks
- 1973 A yellow 1973 Ford Pinto is sold to the Ulrich family in Elkhart, Indiana
- 1977** **Indiana Criminal Code is revised to state** “a person who recklessly kills another human being commits reckless homicide” **[Also, the penal code was revised to include “corporation” under its definition of “person”];**
Dowie’s “Pinto Madness” article is published
- 1978, July 1** **Indiana State reckless homicide law amended;** “duty to protect persons from known dangers added to statute”; Ford initiates recall of Ford Pintos
- 1978, August 10** The fatal crash of the Ulrich Pinto occurs; Judy, Lyn, and their cousin Donna Ulrich all die in the crash on their way to play volleyball at a local church outing
- 1979, February** Ulrich’s notification of the Pinto gas tank recall arrives in the mail