

Ways to Help Prevent Child Abduction

Children

1. Never say you are alone if you answer the phone: you can offer to take a message or say that your parents will phone them back.
2. Never answer the door if they are alone.
3. Do not invite anyone into the house without the permission of a parent or babysitter.
4. Do not go into other people's homes without letting someone know where you are.
5. Never get into anyone's car without permission.
6. Do not take candy or gifts from strangers or anyone else without asking a parent first.
7. Never play in deserted buildings or isolated areas.
8. Scream and scatter books or belongings if you are forced toward a building or car.
9. Move away from a car that pulls up beside you if you do not know the driver.
10. Learn your full phone number and street address.
11. Remember that it is alright to say NO to an adult if the person wants you to do something that your parents have taught you is wrong.
12. Know that no one has the right to touch any part of their bodies that a bathing suit would cover.
13. Tell your parents, school authorities or policeman about anyone who exposes their private parts.
14. Tell your parents if someone has asked you to keep a secret from your parents.
15. Go to the nearest cashier if lost or separated from you in a store or mall.

Teens

1. Tell your parents where you are at all times, leave a written or recorded message.
2. Never hitchhike.
3. Avoid shortcuts through empty parks, fields, laneways or alleys.
4. Run home or go to the nearest public place and yell for help if you are being followed.
5. Learn to recognize suspicious behavior and remember a description of the person or vehicle to give to your parents or the police. Write down the license plate number in the snow or dirt if nothing else is available.
6. If attacked for money, jewelry, or clothing give it up rather than risk injury.
7. Feel free to call or talk to your parents and call them to pick you up at any time or place.

Parents

1. Avoid using clothing or toys with your child's name on it. A child is less likely to fear someone that knows his/her name.
2. Check all potential babysitters and older friends of your child.
3. Never leave a child alone in a public place, stroller or car. Not even for a minute.
4. Always accompany young children to the bathroom in a public place and advise them not to play in and around these areas. And always accompany your child on door-to-door activities, such as: Halloween, school fundraising projects etc.
5. Keep an up-to-date colour photograph of your child, a medical and dental history, and fingerprints on file. See our free ID Kit.
6. Be aware of everywhere your children go on the computer and keep the computer in a family room.

7. Have a secret code word, that only you and your children know. When having someone else pick up your child they must say the code word to the child or the child should refuse to go with them.