

**Prevention of Adolescent and Child Exploitation**  
**HANDOUT FOR PARENTS**  
Special thanks to your local Target Stores



As early as possible, teach your children safety rules. If they can understand traffic rules, they can and need to understand how to keep their bodies safe.

**Teach the children to know:**

1. Their full name, telephone number (including area code), street address, city, and state.
2. How to use the telephone (anytime you need to call home, let your child practice dialing):
  - Dialing 911
  - Using a pay phone
  - Using both push button and rotary phones
  - Knowing which numbers to call in different emergency situations
3. What are OK and NOT OK touches (see Appendix A)
4. The NO, GO, TELL rule. If someone tries to touch your child's private parts, s/he should say NO (forcibly); s/he should GO, leaving that place immediately and then TELL someone immediately.
  - Teach them to Yell "You're not my Daddy, You're not my Mommy" !!!
5. The natural alarm system. Each person has a conscience, something that tells him/her what is good and what is dangerous. (When someone takes a person's picture, it makes him/her feel good. They want to remember him/her or a special event in which s/he was involved. But if someone says: "Let's go to your room and take off our clothes and take pictures," s/he is likely to feel an uneasiness in his/her stomach. This is his/her natural alarm system, warning him/her of danger. If a stranger offers a child a ride in his/her car, again, this child would feel the uneasiness in his/her stomach.) Children must learn to listen to the natural alarm, for it will warn them of danger. If s/he feels uncomfortable about a person or a situation, the child should tell his/her parents and/or teachers. Parents and teachers should protect and respect the instincts of the child.
6. Not to go into anyone's home without your permission. Parents should discuss what homes the children can go into, the homes that are safe to go to in case of emergency. However, to enter any other home, they must ask your permission first.
7. What to do if someone in a car stops to ask for directions or help. The child should take two giant steps back. If the child feels uncomfortable, s/he should tell the stranger s/he will get an adult to help them. If the stranger persists, use the "No", "Go", and "Tell" rule. The child should go in the opposite direction the car is facing.

8. They should never get into anyone's car without your permission. Make it clear that you would never send someone to pick them up without first telling the child or the caretaker of the child.
9. A family password for emergencies. The child should never go with anyone unless a plan for pick-up has been pre-arranged. The only exception is if the person picking up the child knows the family password. Possible passwords could include the child's favorite stuffed animal. The password should be changed periodically.
10. What to do if their bus or ride doesn't arrive, or if they return home and you are not there. Have clear guidelines set in advance for each situation.
11. That you want to know where they are at all times. They should not go with anyone, even someone they know, without your permission.
12. The "buddy system". They should always play and walk to school together with another friend. The child should also know the dangers of construction sites, alleys, wooded areas, and even parks if they are alone.
13. They should always tell you if someone offers them gifts, money, or if they want to take your child's picture.
14. The difference between secrets and surprises. Teach your child that s/he is to keep NO SECRET's from mom and dad. If someone asks your child to keep a secret, s/he should immediately tell you. Also, tell the child to tell the adult, "No, I keep no secrets from my mom and dad." Occasionally, however, a secret can be kept so at a certain time a surprise may be given to someone. Clearly identify the difference between the two.
15. If they have a problem, who they should trust as "safe individuals": a trusted neighbor, a policeman in uniform, women with children, and store employees (especially the person at the register).
  - The child should know the difference between asking an adult for help, and an adult asking the child for help.
  - Who is a stranger? Do you know their name and where they live?
16. What they should do if they are separated from you in a store:
  - They should not leave the store.
  - They should not look for you in the parking lot.
  - They should go to the nearest cash register.
  - They should look for a name-tag or uniform. They should ask the person if they work in the store. If so, then the child can ask them for help.
17. How to answer the phone when home alone. A polite and honest answer to the question, "Are your parents home?", may be, "My mom cannot come to the phone right now. Can I have her return your call?"
18. Not to answer the door when they are home alone.
19. Not to wear clothing or carry bags with externally labeled names. Abductors use the knowledge of the child's name to establish relations.
20. You will choose to believe them if they tell you about some form of sexual abuse. Children seldom lie about such issues. Listen to them, and make it clear to them that **it is not their fault**. Then contact your local county Department of Social Services.

## TYPICAL LURES

### Use of Authority

1. Use of position of authority—use of a person’s position to demand or gain confidence of the child. (Ex. Flash a police badge)
  - Prevention: If an adult claims to be a law enforcement officer, the child should insist on calling his/her parents or police headquarters. A plain-clothed officer is aware of this and would not hesitate to have a marked car and uniformed officer come to the scene.
2. Use of emergency—falsely creating an emergency to overwhelm the child may cause the child to respond in an unwise manner (in the heat of the moment). (Ex. “Your mom was in a serious car accident Your dad sent me here from work to pick you up. We are to meet him in the emergency room at the hospital.” Or “Your house is on fire and your mom needs your spare key to get in. Come quickly.”)
  - Prevention: In any emergency, a child should turn to the closest, **trusted** adult. The family should have prearranged plans in case of an emergency.
3. Use of the name of child—the abductor uses the child’s name as a charm to fake previous relationship. (“Billy, I work with your father. Don’t you recognize me?”)
  - Prevention: List the child’s name in inconspicuous places—inside clothing and apparel rather than outside. Just because someone knows the child’s name, it doesn’t mean that they should go with them.
4. Use of threats and fear—in this case, the abductor uses either blackmail or authority to intimidate, coerce or silence the child. (“If you tell anyone, I will kill you and your family.” Or “If you tell anyone, I’ll show them these naughty pictures, and they wont love you anymore.”)
  - Prevention: Explain to your child that blackmail is against the law. Encourage the NO SECRET rule.

### Use of Innocence

1. Use of innocence to deceive—this is the most commonly used lure by abductors. They fake needing the child’s help or assistance in a specific situation to misuse the children’s benevolent spirit and lead them away from safety. (Ex. Asking directions to a common landmark. Or looking for a lost pet. Or carrying a package to a car.)
  - Prevention: Why should an adult need assistance from a child? Tell the child that strange adults should only receive assistance from other adults. If someone asks the child for assistance, the child can offer to call a trusted adult to help.
2. Use of innocence to trick—the child molester often uses innocent games to lure the child into self-exposure. (Ex. “Find the missing quarter.” Or tickling.)
  - Prevention: The child should not let anyone touch the child’s private parts, and no individual should ask the child to touch or look at that individual’s private parts.

## Use of Enticement

1. Use of enticement to lure—the exploiter may use bribery, ego-boosters, the possibility of fame, or the promised introduction to heroes or celebrities to bait the child into an unsafe situation. (Ex. “You are a beautiful girl. I am from \_\_\_\_\_ modeling agency. I’d like to take a quick photo of you. Could you just step outside for a few moments?”)
  - Prevention: Never go with someone anywhere without his/her parents’ permission, no matter how good it sounds. No one gets anything for nothing.
2. Use of enticement of affection—this is an effective lure for the child who may be lacking affection. Again, most exploitation is done by someone the child knows. A child suffering in a broken or unhappy home may be a prime suspect.
  - Prevention: Frequently show appropriate love and affection (hugs, “I love you”, etc.) to your child. Also teach your child to use the NO, GO, TELL rule.
3. Use of enticement with pornography—pornography is used by exploiters to lessen a child’s keenness to what’s right and what’s wrong. The exploiter may use it to validate that his conduct toward the child is OK. Often it’s used as a threat of blackmail as well.
  - Prevention: Stress to children the personal ownership of private parts. No one should look at theirs or have them look at someone else’s private parts, even in pictures or videos. It is against the law; Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1993 states, in section 16-15-345, “Disseminating obscene material to person under age eighteen prohibited.”
4. Use of enticement with drugs—with older children, drugs are used often as a payment for sexual favors. A child in this situation will often do anything to continue an addiction.
  - Prevention: Stress the importance of kids staying drug free. If your child has any known drug use, receive proper counsel immediately. Don’t let the importance of your reputation supersede the child’s desperate need for help.

## Appendix A OK and NOT OK Touch

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this lesson, the child will be able:

- ◆ To identify the difference between OK and a NOT OK touch.
- ◆ To identify the private parts of their body.
- ◆ To explain the No, Go, Tell rule.

**Introduction:**

There are OK touches and NOT OK Touches.

**Q:** What kind of touches make you feel good?

**A:** Hugs, Kisses, tickling, shaking hands.

These are OK touches.

**Q:** What kind of touches make you feel bad?

**A:** Punching, kicking, hitting.

These are NOT OK touches.

**Q:** Have you ever received a confusing touch, like someone shaking your hand but squeezing to hard and, and it hurt you?

**A:** Tickling, but wouldn't stop.

**Instruction:**

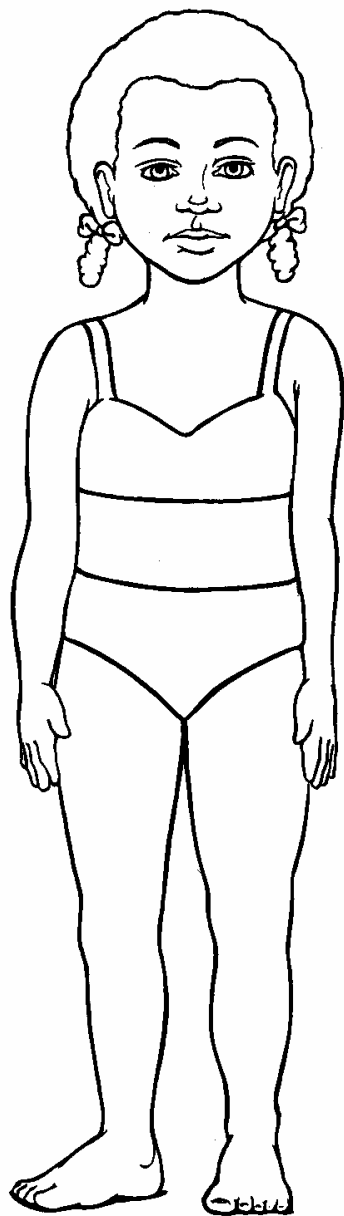
There is another type of touch, a confusing touch: that is when someone tries to touch your "private parts". Your private parts are any part of your body that is covered by a bathing suit. These parts are yours and belong to you. No one has the right to touch these. (Show the child a picture of a child wearing a bathing suit.)

**Q:** Can you point to your private parts?

No one has a right to touch your private parts. This is always a confusing touch and is a **NOT OK touch**. Sometimes, at the doctor's office or while taking a bath, someone will touch a private part for reasons of health or hygiene. But you can always ask your parents if any touch is confusing to you.

If someone wants to touch or look at your private parts or wants you to touch their private parts, say **NO**. Immediately **GO** from that place and **TELL** a trusted adult.

Swimsuit Picture — Girl



Swimsuit Picture — Boy

