

TRAPS THAT STRANGERS USE

Strangers who harm kids know lots of ways to fool children into trusting them in order to trap them. Here are some of the traps they use:

THE "MOMMY SENT ME" TRAP

If a stranger says "Your parents sent me to pick you up," it's a trap! Say "NO" run away and get help from a trusted adult.

THE "LOST PUPPY" TRAP

If a stranger tries to get you to help find a lost pet, it's a trap! Say "NO", I'm not allowed to go away with strangers! Then run away for help.

THE "ADDRESS SEEKER" TRAP

If a stranger tries to get you to find a nearby address, it's a trap! Say "NO" I'm not allowed to go away with strangers!" Then run away for help.

THE "LET'S FIND MOMMY" TRAP

If you're separated from your parents at the store, never trust strangers to help you find them. Always go to a salesperson or security guard for aid.

THE "MOVIE MOLESTER" TRAP

If a stranger at the movies sits close to you and tries to touch you... it's a trap! Get away as quickly as you can. Then, tell a theatre employee to get the manager and notify the police.

THE "SNEAKY PERSON" TRAP

Stay away from isolated and poorly lit alleys, door ways or buildings. Sneaky strangers could be hiding there.

THE "FOLLOWER" TRAP

If someone seems to be following you, it could be to trap you. Get as far away as you can and find a trusted adult for help.

THE "LAVATORY LURKER" TRAP

Strangers who want to harm kids some-times hang out in the lavatories and wait for kids who come in alone. Watch out for them and never trust anyone who tries to talk to you in a public restroom.

THE "TOUCHY PERSON" TRAP

Sometimes even people you know get too familiar and too personal with touching you. You have the right to say "Stop touching me like that", and then, tell your parents.

THE "PRESENT PERSON" TRAP

If someone offers ice cream, money, or other gifts to touch you or get you to remove your clothes, say "NO" and run away quickly to find a trusted adult for help.

"A SECRET PASSWORD"

Make sure no one can pretend they were sent by your parents to pick you up. Have a password between you and your parents that they must know to gain your trust.

"BE PHONE SMART"

Never let on that you are home alone when strangers call. Say, "My parents can't come to the phone right now!", and take a message.

A CHILDS GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE



STRANGERS CAN BE DANGEROUS

Coeur d'Alene Police Department

3818 Schreiber Way

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WHO IS A STRANGER

Anyone you or other members of your family do not know very well should be considered a stranger. Even if their faces seem familiar, like people in your neighborhood or near school, it is smart to treat them as if they were strangers. This means that you should not accept gifts, candy or money from them... or agree to get in their car...or go somewhere out of sight of others with them. Why?

BECAUSE STRANGERS CAN BE DANGEROUS!

HOW CAN THEY HARM YOU

Strangers who hurt or harm children can do so in a number of different ways. These ways are called forms of **CHILD ABUSE**. Sometimes the abuse is harmful to the body. This is called "physical abuse". Sometimes it can be harmful to the way you think...to your mind. This is called "psychological abuse".

And...sometimes it may be touching or looking at private parts of your body...or touching you in ways that make you feel uncomfortable. This is called "**sexual abuse**". All of these forms of abuse are against the law and should be reported to a trusted adult if they ever happen to you!

TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE

To be safe, here are some very important tips. Remember them when dealing with the people whom you don't know.

- **Never talk to strangers.**
- **Never get in a car with a stranger.**
- **Never let a stranger touch you.**
- **Stay and play in well-lit and monitored places.**

Remember there is safety in numbers. Stay and play in the company of other kids. Never alone.

Strangers who harm children, at first, look and act like everybody else. They try to get you to trust them. Don't be fooled by their friendly talk and sweet smiles.

WHAT ARE PRIVATE PARTS

The private parts of your body are the parts that are covered by your bathing suit. They are private because they belong only to you. Your parents can touch you to give you a bath or apply medicine. Your doctor can touch you during an examination. But, never a stranger! Say "**NO**" if anyone else tries to touch the private parts of your body.

WHO CAN WE TELL?

There are lots of people who care about you and want you to grow up safe and free from harm.

Of course, this includes your parents, members of your family, close friends and neighbors. Your doctor, your teachers and church or temple leaders also care for your welfare. The police department and many agencies in local government are especially concerned about your safety.

If anyone tries to harm or molest you...if anyone is doing it now...or has done it in the past, tell your parents or any of the people mentioned above, and they will make it stop.

REMEMBER,

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!



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