

Tips to prevent child abduction and kidnapping



1

Develop clear and open lines of communication with your children. Help them to memorise important cell phone numbers, their home number, and their home address. Build trust and encourage your children to tell you about events or situations that have made them feel uncomfortable.



2

Instil a healthy awareness of 'stranger danger'. Make sure that your children know never to take anything from strangers and that "NO" is an acceptable answer to requests for assistance from strangers.



3

Safety in numbers. If your child is going to a place they haven't been before, make sure they are going with a trusted group of friends.



4

Monitor online activity. Instruct your children about cyber safety and keep an eye on their activity.



5

Use your voice. Encourage your children to scream and run if someone is chasing them or forcing them into a vehicle.



6

School grounds are safer. When dropping your children off, make sure they have entered the school grounds before driving off. Further, ensure they remain on the school premises until you collect them.



7

Have a default safety plan. If you are going to a busy public place with your children, establish a meeting place or safety procedure in case you are separated.



8

Cell phone tracking. Activate the tracking software on your child's phone to be used in case of an emergency. Test this regularly to ensure tracking is still active.



9

Establish a 'secret' code word. Select a word that only your children, their caretakers, trusted relatives, and family friends know. Teach your children to ask for the code word if someone other than yourself is offering them a ride.



10

Explain the dangers of child abduction and kidnapping
Explain to your children in a non-threatening way.