

ADULT KIDNAPPING

Tips to always keep in mind when going about your day:

- Never have money conversations publicly. Kidnappers could assume that you are wealthy, and therefore a worthy target.
- **Do not be too friendly with strangers.** Avoid sharing valuable and personal information with people whom you have just met.
- Keep emergency numbers close by. This includes having a friend, family member or the police on speed dial.
- **Be vigilant.** Get into the habit of observing carefully and being fully aware of everything happening around you.
- Always keep your phone close by. Your phone can serve as a source of help during those times when you do not feel safe. Download a reputable safety app such as My SOS SA, Namola and many others available online.
- Attract attention when you see danger approaching. Scream, shout or run towards a bigger crowd to attract the attention of those around you. Make use of your cell phone panic button if you have one.
- Alert someone of your whereabouts. When meeting someone new, always ensure that a friend, family member or colleague knows exactly where you are going, as well as the most basic details of the person you are meeting. If possible, also share your live location.
- **Do not accept a lift from a stranger.** Once inside the car of someone potentially dangerous, escaping will be almost impossible.
- **9 Be extra cautious of the information you share on social media.** Do not reveal too much personal information on social media platforms.
- Remember, kidnappers never sleep. Though most kidnappings occur at night, some few daytime cases have also been reported.
- **Keep your finances confidential.** Some kidnappers have been known to abduct people in exchange for a ransom. These demands are most often linked to the kidnappers believing that their captor has or comes from money.
- Avoid public donations. This could give people an indication of your wealth and, in turn, place you in harm's way. Donate anonymously instead.
- Avoid being predictable. Try using a different route when going to work, school or visiting your local shopping centre. Change your routine as regularly as you can.

Intelligent Protection

