

She is a Princess * He is a Prince

NOT A PRODUCT

Parent Guide



If you ever suspect trafficking, call:

National Trafficking Hotline: **1.888.3737.888**

Mirror Ministries 24-hour Sex Trafficking Hotline: **1.509.212.9995**

Talk with your child

Would you feel comfortable talking to your child or one of their friends if they opened up to you about something sensitive? It's not always easy to maintain a safe space, but your child needs to know there is an open invitation to talk about anything they're experiencing without fear of judgment.

Keep your child safe online

For many youths, the internet is a positive and powerful space for socializing, learning, and engaging in public life. The Internet isn't a scary place, but there's no denying that it presents unique opportunities for harm. Minors face risks online, just as they do in other spaces in which people congregate. Chatrooms and social networking sites are being used to recruit victims. These questions can help you determine a standard for your home: Where will internet-enabled devices (computers, laptops, tablets, gaming consoles, electronic books) be located? What times throughout the day is the Internet allowed? What types of websites are people allowed to access both in and outside of the home? How is social media (e.g., Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Omegle) used?

Know the red flags

Grooming for trafficking can be masked in everyday conversations and exploits an individual's normal needs and desires. Signs to look for include the following:

- The sudden presence of an older boyfriend/girlfriend
- The sudden addition of a lot of new stuff or the appearance that a lot of money has been spent on them (e.g., new clothes, new hair styles, manicures/pedicures)
- Being secretive about who they are talking to or meeting
- Becoming more and more isolated from their regular friends (the groomer often does this to have as much control as possible over the child)
- Unexplained changes in behavior, temperament, or personality (e.g., chaotic, aggressive, sexual, mood swings)



Resources for Parents

Learn about sex trafficking in the Tri-Cities:

www.mirror-ministries.org

Discuss and teach healthy sexuality:

www.educateempowerkids.org

Learn Internet safety:

www.enough.org

Learn innovative, non-fearful safety programs for parents and kids:

www.safelyeverafter.com

Learn about the connection between porn and sex trafficking, get resources to help a child with a porn addiction and more:

www.fightthenewdrug.org

Download an in-depth parent's guide to sex trafficking and learn the warning signs:

www.love146.org/caregivers

Keep up with the latest technology fads and apps:

iparent.tv

10 Play It Safe Rules for Kids and Adults

1. I AM THE BOSS OF MY BODY!
2. I know my Name, Address, and Phone Number, and my parents' names too.
3. Safe Grownups Don't Ask Kids for Help!! (They go to other grownups if the need help.)
4. I never go ANYWHERE or take ANYTHING from someone I don't know.
5. I must "CHECK FIRST" with my safe-smarts grownup for permission before I go anywhere, change my plans, or get into a car, even if it is with some I know. If I can't check first, then the answer is no.
6. Everybody's bathing suit areas are private.
7. I don't have to be POLITE, if someone makes me feel scared or uncomfortable. It's okay to say NO...even to a grownup, if I have to.
8. I don't keep SECRETS...especially if they make me feel scared or uneasy. (No adult should tell a child to keep a secret.)
9. If I ever get LOST in a public place, I can FREEZE AND YELL or go to a Mom with Kids and ask for help.
10. I will always pay attention to my Special Inner Voice, especially if I get an "uh-oh" feeling.