

She is a Princess * He is a Prince

NOT A PRODUCT

Youth Leader 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**

Be approachable on tough subjects

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

Support and guide parents

For many parents, sexuality is a scary subject and technology is confusing, which makes navigating adolescence even tougher than it used to be. Many parents don't want church youth leaders talking about sex, especially with young students, yet those are the very students whose exploitation can be prevented by early awareness and education. Help parents understand the need to talk with even young children about healthy sexuality, pornography, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation. These may not be topics you address directly in your youth ministry, but if you are educating and supporting parents, your ministry will help protect their children,

Know the red flags

Grooming for trafficking and exploitation can be masked in everyday conversations and latch onto 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 Youth Leaders

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 they 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 someone 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.

Youth have dignity and worth.
Model kindness and courage.