



# Talking to Your Child about Abuse and Sex Trafficking

## Tips for Parents



### Senate Bill 9

Senate Bill 9 requires public schools to provide instruction to students relating to the prevention of child abuse, family violence, dating violence, and sex trafficking.

### Child Sex Trafficking

The exploitation of a minor who is forced, threatened, or recruited to engage in sexual acts in exchange for something of value.



### Focus on Safety

Human trafficking can happen to anybody regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, income, or geographic location.

Education and awareness are key to prevention.-focus on healthy relationships, safety, warning signs of recruitment, and exploitation.

### Online Safety

Traffickers and predators are masterful at manipulation and gaining a child's trust online before meeting in person. Social media allows for easy access to groom multiple people at a time and makes it easier to mask signs of a potentially dangerous situation.

- Set your profile to private.
- Never share personal information online.
- Do not accept social media requests from unknown people.
- Never share inappropriate/explicit pictures.
- Never plan to meet someone they have met via social media in person or in a private location.
- Think before you post, text, or share

For more parent resources: Common Sense Media



### Red Flags for Online Exploitation

If an online "friend"...

- constantly asking you to do things that make you uncomfortable
- does not take "no" for an answer
- makes you feel guilty or threatens you if you don't do what they ask
- asks to switch platforms
- gives cheat codes or online gift cards
- tells you to keep your relationship secret
- asks to meet in person without your parents
- asks for nude or sexual photos or videos
- makes promises or statements that seem to good to be true

### Conversation Tips

Let's face it, abuse and sex trafficking are difficult subjects and talking to children about them will be uncomfortable.

One of the most powerful ways to keep your children safe is to talk openly and often about personal safety.

Resource to Guide the Conversation: Hot Chocolate Talk- How to Talk with Kids About Personal Safety and Sexual Abuse



### Conversation Starters

- What is the difference between a surprise and a secret?
- Do you ever chat or message someone online that you have never met in person?
- What would you say if a person you have never met in person asks to meet up?
- What do you think is too much information to share online?
- What would you do if a stranger approaches you and asks to take your picture or offers you a modeling job?
- Who are the trusted adults in your life that you could go to for help if someone was making you feel unsafe?



### Body Boundaries

Body boundaries are the rules we have for touches that feel safe or unsafe for our own bodies. Talk to your child about why their bodies are special and private.

#### Body Boundary Violations

If someone breaks your body boundary, say **"Stop!" Get Away and Tell a Trusted Adult**

Swimsuit Covered Areas-(private parts) It is not ok for someone to touch your private parts or make you touch their private parts.

Say "Ouch"- touches that hurt your body or make you say "ouch!"

Scary- a touch that is scary to you, even if it isn't scary to someone else.

Secret- a touch that someone tells you to keep a secret.

Simply Don't Like- any touch that you don't want or like. You can say "I don't like that." or "No, thank you."

Shocked or Confused- a touch that gives you the "Uh, Oh" feeling inside.

Self-Talk- if you think you might touch someone in a way that is not ok, you can say "no" to yourself.

