

How Traffickers can target your child

- Approach a child at the mall and then convince them to go to a secondary location
- Strike up a “harmless” conversation on social media, after a few weeks of careful grooming, they’re able to manipulate children into exchanging personal information or meeting in person.

What you can do as parents to protect children:

- Discuss body safety
 - Discuss what healthy and unhealthy sexual behavior is.
 - Teach them the difference between healthy and unhealthy secrets.
 - Use proper language when discussing body parts.
- Keep the conversation going
 - Teach them to trust their instincts. If something feels wrong, it probably is.
 - Educate your child about human trafficking.
- Always know where your kids are
 - iPhones allow you to share your child’s location with your device indefinitely.
 - Take interest in their friends and their parents. Be sure to know where they live and have their contact information.
- Stranger danger
 - Discuss with your children about strangers and teach them to trust their instincts.
 - Do not leave your child alone with unknown adults and remind your child to always travel in groups.

You as a parent should understand technology

- Understanding Privacy Settings
 - Settings should be restricted to known friends not public.
- Teach internet safety
 - Check that your child is not posting sensitive information like their cellphone number, email address, address, and birthdate.
- Set rules about where and how your child uses social media
 - Require that laptops/computers stay in a common area of the house.
 - Request that you are a friend on their social media accounts.
- Online gaming site rules
 - Require that your child play in a room where you can keep an eye on them and hear their headset conversations.
 - Take interest in their games, ask them what they like about it.

Signs of Online Sexual Exploitation or Trafficking

- Frequently exists and enters the home despite prohibitions on travel.
- Works long hours for a new “job.”
- Displays signs of depression, anxiety or unusual fears.
- Suddenly changes their appearance or style of dress.
- Spends an increased amount of time online or on the phone with an unidentified “friend.”
- Receives sums of money through Venmo or PayPal