

Protection and Awareness

Dear Parents and Students,

The enclosed "Protection and Awareness" memo is an extension of the Grace Martial Arts Physical Education curriculum that many parents requested for their children. This program has powerfully connected with the world of children.

Being a safety-minded young person never has been more important than it is today! Please, use the attached hand-out as a guide to talk frequently with your child about protection and awareness topics. An informed child is a safer child.

I. Common Lures used with Children

- The subject will ask directions and then request the victim to accompany him and show him the way.
- The subject will pretend to have a disability or a problem Examples: (Can't speak English; Can't see very well; Has an injury) and will request to have his victim help in finding a location or getting somewhere.
- The subject states that his dog is lost and asks the victim for assistance in finding him. After unsuccessfully checking the area, the subject will invite the victim to accompany him while they check other locations.
- The subject will display a badge and indicate that a member of the family has been injured and request the victim to come with him to the hospital.
- The subject will request assistance with his van. He will ask the victim to get into the van, into the driver's seat and turn the key for him. The victim is then grabbed by an accomplice who is hiding in the van.

The "code word" system works well to eliminate possible trouble with strangers. The parent /guardian and child choose a word that will be used in an emergency situation. This code word must be used by anyone who needs to take the child. If a person does not know the code word, but tells the child he/she must come with them, the child should refuse to go.

II. What if someone actually tries to grab you or pick you up? What should I do?

* The child should immediately start to scream, "**Help! This is not my father/ mother!**" The child also should kick, punch, bite, squirm and wiggle as hard as possible. When the child breaks free, he/she should immediately run away.

In Christ's Love & Grace,

Brother Bob Xavier
President, Grace Martial Arts

Teaching Children How To Be Healthy And Safe