



Avery & Associates

CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY TIPS!

(FOR YOUR CHILD, HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD)



Unfortunately no home, neighborhood, child or adult, is completely immune from becoming a victim of a crime!

However, there are a few steps you and your children can take, to help keep prevent crime and increase your safety:

KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE AT ALL TIMES

Have your children ask your permission before leaving the house and give them a time to check in or be home. Preferably before dark, it is hard to describe persons and vehicles after dark.

Have them leave a phone number and address of where they will be, and if they have a cell phone, make sure their cell phone battery is charged, and that they have the ringing on and carry it with them at all times! Biggest excuse in my house, “my phone was dead”!

GET TO KNOW YOUR CHILDREN'S FRIENDS AND PARENTS

Meet their friends and parents before letting your children go to their house and keep a list of their names, address and phone numbers!

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If you can't meet their parents, call and talk to them on the phone. Ask what your children will be doing at their house, and who will be supervising them. Give them your address and phone number.

As a retired Police Officer and current licensed Private Investigator, meeting the parents at their home is a must in my book. You can learn a lot about a person by seeing the inside of their home.

HELP CHILDREN MEMORIZE EMERGENCY AND IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN KNOW HOW TO CALL 911!

I know it seems silly, but some children either don't know how or are afraid to call 911. Tell them the police are their friends.

Make sure your children have your phone number, an adult friend's phone number, and other important contact phone numbers saved in their cell phone.

Have your children memorize your phone number and their home address, and your work and cell phone numbers. If they have trouble memorizing these, write them down on a card and have them carry it with them at all times. Tell your children where you will be, and the best way to reach you.

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CHOOSE A SAFE HOUSE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Pick a few neighbors (who you trust) where your children can go if they need help. Point out other places they can go to get help, like stores, libraries, and the locations of Police or Fire Stations.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN SOME BASICS SAFETY RULES

- We know the first one, "Don't talk to strangers!" If contacted by a stranger, scream for help and run!
- Teach them to be aware of their surroundings!
- Teach them to cross the street using the crosswalk only! Make sure they look both ways before crossing the street, make sure the driver sees them, that they have a green walk sign, and that it is safe to cross. Make sure they ride their bike in the bike lane or on the sidewalk.
- Teach them how to settle arguments verbally! Role-play with them working out problems, walking away from fist fights, and what to do when confronted with bullies. Remind them that calling names, taunting others, or teasing can hurt people's feelings, make enemies, and cause physical fights.
- Tell them its ok tell the teacher or another adult what is going on.

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- Teach your kids to stay away from guns, drugs and alcohol!
- Teach them basic Fire Safety Rules! Tell them to get out of the house! I don't advocate teaching a young child to use a Fire Extinguisher!
- Let them know that they can talk to you without getting in trouble!

LOCK UP YOUR FIREARMS!

Parents please! Lock your guns up in an approved Firearm Safe and store them out of your child's reach. Do not leave the combination or key in a place where your child can find it. No matter how much you trust your child, sometimes curiosity or peer pressure can get the best of them.

The Safe Firearms Storage campaign encourages firearms owners to make safe firearms storage a priority. To encourage current and prospective firearm owners to safely lock up their weapons when they're not in use, the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) created a new public service advertising (PSA) campaign developed in partnership with the Ad Council and funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). For more information, go to their website at: <http://safefirearmsstorage.org/>

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CONSIDER THESE NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

- Get to know your local beat officer!
- Lock your doors and windows at night and when you are away from your home.
- Trim your bushes in front of your windows and doors so that they cannot be used as concealment.
- Consider getting a monitored Burglar and Fire Alarm system. They are relatively inexpensive with free or low installation and equipment costs.
- Consider installing a Digital Camera Recording System!
- Consider getting a Dog!
- Call the police and ask them to do "Patrol Checks" on your house when you are going on vacation or you are going to be away from your home for extended periods of time.
- Get to know your neighbors and their children so you can look out for one another! Tell them when you will be on vacation or gone for extended periods of time. Consider give them a key to your house and alarm code.
- Consider putting certain lights on Dusk to Dawn Timer, so as to give the appearance that you are home.

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- Work together with your neighbors! Watch out for suspicious or unusual behavior in your neighborhood. Call police if you see anything suspicious or out of the ordinary. To many times we will see something, like a strange car at a neighbor's house when they are not home, but we are afraid to call someone. Call your neighbors and ask if it's supposed to be there, or call Police! I can't tell you how many times I responded to a Burglary call, and the neighbors saw a suspicious person or suspicious vehicle but didn't call the Police, all the time! Call the Police! Better safe than sorry!

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program

Join Next Door to keep in communication with other neighbors in your neighborhood! For more information, visit their website at: nextdoor.com.

If you need help developing a neighborhood watch program, please contact **Avery & Associates at 1-844-882-8379** or visit our website at averypi.com, we will be happy to help you FREE of Charge! Thank you!

About the Author: Todd Gonzalez Lobdell is an Honorably Discharged Military Police Officer, an Honorably Retired San Jose Police Officer, and a Licensed California Private Investigator with over 30 years experience. He is the owner and qualified manager of Avery & Associates Investigations and Consulting.

Sources : Todd's 30 years plus of experience, and the National Crime Prevention Council website at: www.ncpc.org. The information provided in this document is meant to serve as a guideline only. The reader upon following any of these suggested guidelines, assumes all risks and liability thereof, and holds the Author and National Crime Council harmless.

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