

Stranger Awareness Tips

To avoid being pulled into a vehicle:

Keep a minimum of an arms distance from the vehicle.
Run in the opposite direction the vehicle is facing.
Just stay away from vehicles that don't belong to your family!

To escape out of a vehicle:

Open the door and get out.
Attempt to blow the horn.
Slam the gear shift into "P".
Pull wires from under the dash.
Jump into the rear seat to escape out the back door.
Grab the keys and turn off the ignition. Throw the keys out the window.
Press the accelerator down when at a stop sign, if there is someone in front of you.
Scream, kick and punch.
Pull off the driver's eye glasses.
Cover the driver's eyes.
Throw items out the windows to gain attention. (Items from glove box, tapes, papers, shoes, clothing, etc.)

Some good hiding places in your home or outside:

Under dirty clothes or in the hamper.
In the garbage.
Inside cabinets.
Behind bushes that cover you completely.
Inside a pipe.
In the bed of a truck
In a stack of tires.
Inside a dog house. (Look out for the dog!)

If you are trapped in a house or apartment:

Flash the lights at night to gain attention.
Try to open all doors and windows.
Stuff paper or clothing into the toilet to stop it up, the overflow may gain a neighbor's attention.

Other Tips:

Stay with a group of people. Don't walk alone.
Come up with a "Password" that only you and your immediate family members know. If a stranger comes up to you and tells you "your mother told me to come get you", you won't be fooled! If the person doesn't know the password, run away and tell an adult you can trust!
Don't be fooled if someone you don't know tells you they have a gift for you.
If you are scared and need help, run inside a store or business and scream for help. Grab an adult nearby and don't let go until they help you.
Don't let anyone you don't know take pictures of you.
If you are home alone, don't answer the door, or tell anyone you will be alone. If the phone rings, say your parent is in the shower.
Call 9-1-1 and ask for help.

If you would like to know more about how to protect your child from dangerous people, please contact Officer Cindy Mendez at 469-658-3055.

