



**1-800-I-AM-LOST**

# 10 Ways To Help Protect Your Child

## Year 'Round Safety Tips

- Tell your child about the subject of abduction in a calm and simple way as if teaching any other important coping skill.
- By age five, your child should know the names for private parts of the body and know the difference between *good touch* and *bad touch*.
- Teach your child his or her full name, address, telephone number including area code and how to dial 911 or "0" for Operator.
- Keep you child in sight at all times. Most abductions occur within a few blocks of the victim's home—even in his or her own front yard—when the child is left alone and unsupervised.
- Adults rarely ask children for directions or help. Teach your child that if this happens, (s) he should ignore the person asking and go home or to another safe place.
- Teach your child that a stranger is anyone they don't know well. Strangers can be kind and friendly, but they are still strangers.
- Do not purchase clothing or school supplies with your child's name on them. Knowing a child's name is a way for an abductor to establish rapport with the child.
- Teach your child that it's OK to run away or scream if someone is making them do something they don't want to do. They should then tell you or a trusted adult what happened.
- Never leave your child alone in a car or unattended in a supermarket or shopping mall. Teach your child to go to the nearest store clerk for help if you get separated.
- Take head and shoulder photos of your child at least once a year.



**- Bringing missing children home since 1980 -**