

Abduction

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Defining Abduction

- An *abducted child* is one who has been wrongfully taken, kept, or concealed by an abductor. Also called *victim child*.



Statistics Concerning Abductions/Kidnappings

Every year in America there are:

- ❑ 114,600 Attempted Abductions
- ❑ 354,100 Family Abductions
- ❑ 4,600 Non-Family Abductions
- ❑ 438,200 Lost/Injured/Otherwise
MISSING CHILDREN

Hold your breath for 40
seconds!

Now take a breath

***During that time.... A child was
abducted
or went missing***





More Statistics...

- **In excess of 800,000 children are reported missing each year**
- **Another 500,000 go missing without ever being reported**

What families will be facing during this crisis

(examples of the 5 stages of grief)

- DENIAL – “This can’t be happening to us”
- ANGER – “I hate them for doing this”
- BARGAINING – “If my child comes home safely, I promise to.....”
- DEPRESSION – “My life will never be the same; I don’t even want to live without her”
- ACCEPTANCE – “What can I do to help?”

(Kübler-Ross, 1969)

What to do if your child is missing

- Immediately call local law enforcement agency. (911)
- Search every place in your home, including any place where your child may crawl or hide, including closets, appliances, and trunks.
- (Locally) Call Laura Recovery Center (LRC) at 1-866-898-5723
- If you are in a store, contact management immediately. Many stores have a code "Adam" whereas employees are instructed to stop and search their department. By now, most customers also know what this means, and will help search for the missing child.

(Laura Recovery Center, n.d.)

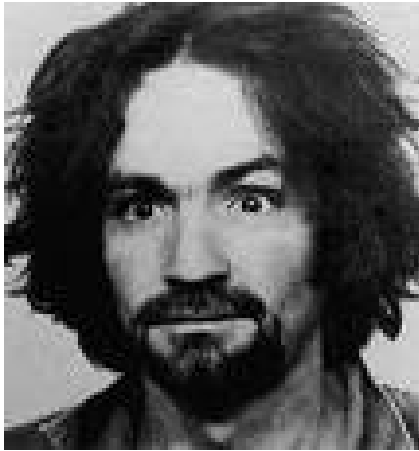
Types of Kidnapping



There are three distinct types of kidnapping

- Kidnapping by a relative of the victim, or “family kidnapping” : This includes non-custodial parents
- Kidnapping by an acquaintance of the victim or “acquaintance kidnapping”
- Kidnapping by a stranger to the victim or “stranger kidnapping”

What do abductors look like?



Or could they look like this?



The kidnappers were in their early twenties, educated, and from wealthy families.

These three young men hijacked a school bus in Chowchilla, California in 1976. They kidnapped 26 children and their bus driver.

The kidnapped victims all survived, but many, over 30 years later, are suffering psychological affects.

(Goleman, 1990)



Important Numbers and Links

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - 1-800- THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)
 - www.ncmec.org
- KlaasKids Foundation – Named after Polly Klaas (kidnapped and murdered from Petaluma, CA in 1993)
 - 1-800-587-4357
 - www.pollyklaas.org
- Laura Recovery Center – Named after Laura Kate Smither (kidnapped and murdered from Friendswood, TX in 1997)
 - 281-482-5723
 - www.lrcf.org
- Amber Alert – Named after Amber Hagerman (kidnapped and murdered from Arlington, TX 1996)
 - www.amberalert.gov
 - 432 successful recoveries



Amber Alert

Your local emergency center will contact Texas Center for the Missing. They will initiate the AMBER ALERT system, which will immediately notify the thirteen surrounding counties.

- This will alert the media and community about a child abduction, and enlist their support in locating the child and abductor.



What you can do to help in the search

- Circulate flyers immediately in your community with recent photo and any additional information: Laura Recovery Center will help in this process.
 - Child's height, weight, eye color, hair color, etc.
 - What the child was wearing
 - Where the child was last seen, including date and time
 - Contact information

(Laura Recovery Center, n.d.)



Know the Rules

- Teach your children to run away from danger.
- Never let your children go places alone.
- Know where your children are and whom they are with at all times.
- Talk openly with your children about safety.
- Practice what you teach
- Consider installing an alarm system on your house.
- Make your children part of securing your home.
- Have a list of family members who could be contacted in case of emergency.
- Be alert to and aware of your surroundings.
- Know your employees and coworkers.
- Consider varying your daily routines and habits.
- Take steps to secure personal information about yourself.
- Report any suspicious persons or activities to law enforcement.
- Remember you are your best resource!

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Abduction Post Test

1. A child should be taught that if they are home alone they should never:
 - a. Answer the door
 - b. Tell anyone on the phone that they are alone
 - c. Do their homework
 - d. a and b
2. Teach the child that it is acceptable to tell an adult, "NO", if the adult:
 - a. Wants them to do chores
 - b. Wants them to do something they do not feel is right
 - c. Asks them to help them find their dog
 - d. b and c
3. During this very emotional time, parents cannot always remember their child's most basic characteristics. For this reason, it is important for the parent to have:
 - a. A memory course
 - b. A sketch artist available to them
 - c. A current photo of their child
 - d. None of the above
4. Vital information that the emergency response team may need includes:
 - a. Detailed description of the child, with current photo
 - b. Description of the clothes the child was wearing that day
 - c. Detailed route the child usually takes to/from school
 - d. All of the above
5. Every year there are _____ lost/injured/otherwise missing children in America.
 - a. 110,700
 - b. 438,200
 - c. 276,300
 - d. 321,500

Abduction Post Test cont.

6. Every _____ in America, a child becomes abducted or becomes missing.
 - a. 30 minutes
 - b. hour
 - c. minute
 - d. 40 seconds
7. During this crisis, the victim's family will face denial, anger, _____, depression, and acceptance.
 - a. Bargaining
 - b. Envy
 - c. Happiness
 - d. Suppression
8. While searching your home for a missing child, include places they may hide, such as:
 - a. Closets
 - b. Appliances
 - c. Trunks of vehicles
 - d. All of the above
9. If your child becomes missing in a store, contact the manager immediately so they can initiate a:
 - a. Code Alert
 - b. Code Adam
 - c. Code of ethics
 - d. Code Red
10. An _____ is one who has been wrongfully taken, kept, or concealed by an abductor.
 - a. Emotional child
 - b. Attentive child
 - c. Abducted child
 - d. Ignored child



Abduction Post Test cont.

11. Every year in America there are 354,100 _____.
 - a. Attempted abductions
 - b. Family abductions
 - c. Non-family abductions
 - d. Missing children
12. Abductors could be _____.
 - a. Family members
 - b. Strangers
 - c. Acquaintances
 - d. All of the above
13. NCMEC stands for
 - a. National Center for Missing Exceptional Children
 - b. National Center for the Mentally Exceptional Children
 - c. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - d. National Center for Most Entertaining Children
14. It is important for parents to be proactive, which includes
 - a. Educating their child on safety
 - b. Reporting suspicious activity
 - c. Being alert and aware of their surroundings
 - d. All of the above, and then some
15. Parents should practice
 - a. Their piano
 - b. What they teach
 - c. Their golf swing
 - d. What they learn



Abduction Post Test Answers

1. D
2. D
3. C
4. D
5. B
6. D
7. A
8. A
9. B
10. C
11. B
12. D
13. C
14. D
15. B