



Source: www.womanatics.com

PROTECTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT

While individuals of both genders are perpetrators of sexual assault, the majority of those who commit sexual assaults are men. Even so, it is important to remember that the vast majority of men are not rapists. There are many things men (and women) can do to help prevent sexual violence from happening to others.

If you see someone in danger of being assaulted:

- Step in and offer assistance. Ask if the person needs help. NOTE: Before stepping in, make sure to evaluate the risk and rather call the police before-hand if the situation seems dangerous.
- Don't leave. If you remain at the scene and are a witness, the perpetrator is less likely to do anything.
- If you know the perpetrator, tell him or her that you do not approve of what s/he is doing. Ask him or her to leave the potential victim alone.

Tell women, when they go to a party to go with a group of friends. Arrive together, check in

with each other frequently and leave together.

Have a buddy system. Don't be afraid to let a friend know if you are worried about her/his safety. If you see someone who is intoxicated, help them to get home safely.

It is absolutely necessary that we take positive measures to ensure our children's safety and protect them from becoming victims of crime.

Define what a STRANGER is. Let your kids know that just because they see someone everyday (e.g. paperboy, neighbour, etc.) it does not mean these people are not strangers.

Teach your children their full name, your name, full address, and phone number. Teach them how to use a phone.

Teach your children the "What if...?" game, making up different dangerous situations that they might encounter and helping them play out what they would

do in that situation.

Take the time to talk to your children and be alert to any noticeable changes in their behaviour or attitude toward an adult or teenager; it may be a sign of sexual abuse.

Set up procedures with your child's school or day care centre as to whom the child will be released to other than yourself, and what notification procedure they are to follow if the child does not show up on time.

Teach your children that their body is private and no one has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. If anyone touches them in a wrong way they should: SAY NO, GET AWAY, and TELL SOMEONE they trust.

Source: www.rainn.org/get-information/sexual-assault-prevention/men-can-help <http://www.rainn.org/get-information/sexual-assault-prevention/men-can-help>