

## Important Rules for your Child's Safety

- Always ask your parents' permission before leaving the yard to play or going to someone's home. Make sure your parents always know where you are.
- If you are in a store, park or other public place and you get separated from your parents, don't wander around looking for them. Go straight to a security guard, police officer, checkout counter or lost-and-found department and tell the person
- Never get into a car or go anywhere with anyone unless your parents have told you it is okay.
- If you notice someone following you, whether they're walking or in a car, stay away from the person. Don't talk to the person or even go near the car.
- If someone tries to take you somewhere and your parents haven't said it's okay, yell "THIS ISN'T MY MOM/DAD" OR "THIS MAN/WOMAN IS TRYING TO TAKE ME AWAY."
- Don't answer someone who asks you for directions or help (like looking for a lost puppy) OR if they tell you your mother or father is in trouble and that he or she will take them to you.
- Never hitchhike or ride with anyone unless your parents have told you it is okay.
- Use the "Buddy System": never go anywhere alone.
- No one should ask you to keep a "special secret." If someone does, tell your parents or teacher.
- No one should touch you on the parts of your body that are covered by a bathing suit. You should not touch anyone else in those places, either. Your body is special and private.
- If someone you don't know wants to take your picture, tell them NO and tell your parents or teacher.
- Say NO to anyone who tries to take you somewhere when you have not asked your parents if it is okay.
- Say NO to anyone who tries to touch you or make you feel uncomfortable in any way.

## RECOVERED

Words cannot express my gratitude and thank you is not enough. David you and your staff at Missing Children Foundation have restored joy to my home. The sound of little tapping feet and my children playing in my house again. When the authorities gave me little hope you came through, searched and asked questions and called and wrote letters and got on the phone and searched for my kids like they were your own. And every time I called, you answered the phone and talked to me with such compassion. No matter how late the hour and reassured me, you would not give up on them You found my girls and blessed me financially to buy them food and clothes because all their clothes were taken when they were abducted. And I had spent all I had on lawyers and traveling to try and find them. I thank God for you and Committee for Missing Children, I will be forever indebted. God has truly given you a gift

God Bless You  
From Stanley & Family Caviness Girls



## RECOVERED



## Missing and Abducted Children Statistics: At A Glance

Missing Children statistics are helpful for everyone - parent, educator, researcher, advocate.... The numbers help us understand the battle we are fighting. As a parent, these numbers gave me a clear direction on which safety tips were the most important for my family.

- Kidnapping statistics in America estimate that **over 750,000** kids are reported missing every year. That's an average of over **2,000 missing kids** every day.
- Most kidnapped kids are abducted by someone they know.
- Every year, **more than 350,000** kids are abducted by a family member (most are parental abductions).
- **Over 40,000** kids are abducted by someone they know who is part of their family (friend, neighbor, acquaintance, etc). This type of abduction is usually sexually motivated.
- Murder is rare.
- **115** children fall victim to stereotypical kidnappings - the most troubling kind. They are abducted by total strangers, taken for keeps, held for ransom, or murdered.
- **Over 76%** of kidnapped children who are killed are murdered within 3 hours of the abduction.
- There are more runaway children than abducted children.
- **A report of child abuse is made every ten seconds.**
- More than **five children die every day** as a result of child abuse.
- Approximately 80% of children that die from abuse are under the age of 4.
- It is estimated that between 50-60% of child fatalities due to maltreatment are **not recorded as such on death certificates.**

The Committee for Missing and Abused Children **gives hope to parents and guardians.** It provides, free of charge, picture **posters of missing and abducted children.** These posters can be downloaded free of charge on our web site [www.findthekids.org](http://www.findthekids.org). Please take a moment to visit our web site and look closely at the posters. You may be able to help bring a missing child home.

# OUR MISSION, OUR HOPES

First and foremost, we are a parent advocacy group. We assist parents by providing the help they deserve and ensuring that their rights are protected.

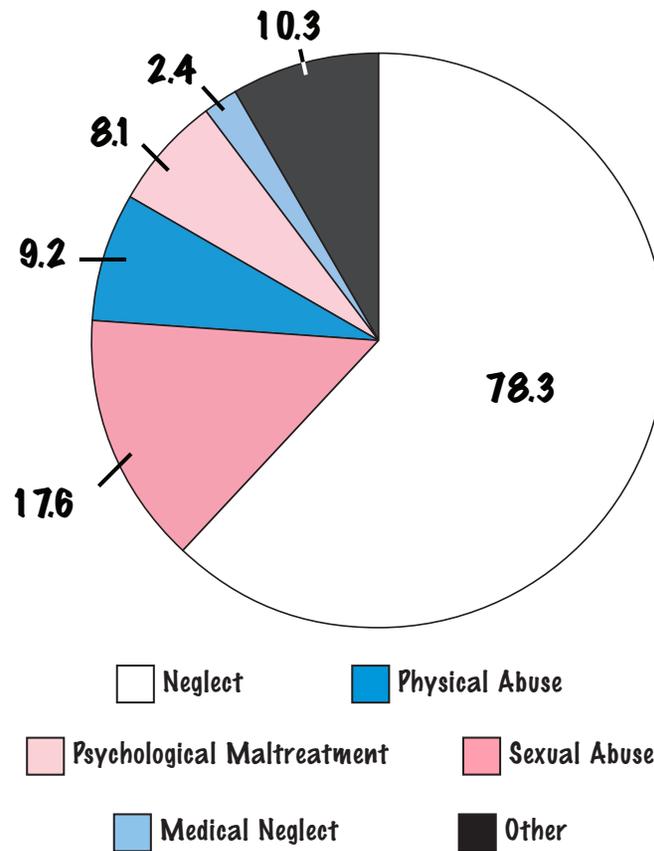
Through the dedication of our photo partners, we produce and distribute images of missing children Worldwide.

We gather and share information, serves as a clearinghouse for information and the laws about missing and abducted children, and are developing the largest web-based informational database on this subject.

Through our safety and prevention program, we distribute safety rules, posters and identity kits to schools and parents, and make them available for download from our web site.



## Types of Child Abuse



These percentages sum to more than 100.0 percent because a child may have suffered more than one type of maltreatment.



## The Committee for Missing and Abused Children



A very special program of  
The Committee for  
Missing Children, Inc.

For more information please call toll  
free 1-800-240-3750  
[www.findthekids.org](http://www.findthekids.org)