



## Summary & Discussion Guide:

### Module 2 – Grooming – Elementary School (Part 2)

#### Ways child molesters move beyond general conversations to sexual:

- Asking differences between female & male body parts (Source 1)
- Asking children if they have seen their parents having sex (Source 1)
- Child molester may respond with surprise their parents haven't taught them about these issues (Source 1)
  - They'll reassure the child that it's okay, they'll explain it
- Child molesters will create complicity – make the child believe it was their fault (Source 1, 3, 4, 5)
  - Twisting the truth to redirect the blame to the child
  - When a child believes the lies, it creates deep sense of shame and the child will hide the truth
- Child molesters will start by breaking rules and boundaries to make sure children will keep secrets (Source 1, 5, 6, 7)
  - Staying in classroom after school, accepting gifts, taking a ride in a car
  - Begin with insignificant acts but will move on to sexualize children
    - If confronted, child molesters will make excuses and remove child from their short list of potential victims
- Silence is necessary for abuse to occur (Source 1, 5, 6, 7)
  - Once the line is crossed, child molesters will actively enforce silence
    - Threats are used to create fear - - "I'll kill you dog", "Your parents will put you up for adoption"

Each of the above-mentioned items creates opportunities for bystanders to recognize danger and intercede on behalf of a child. (Source 1, 8)

#### Reflection Questions:

1. Now that you're familiar with the first few steps of the process, when and how could you possibly intercede?
2. What obstacles still exist?



## Sources

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4. Robin Sax, *Predators and Child Molesters: What Every Parent Needs to Know to Keep Kids Safe: A Sex Crimes DA Answers 100 of the Most Asked Questions* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2009), 86.
5. Michele Elliott, Kevin Browne, and Jennifer Kilcoyne, "Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: What Offenders Tell Us," *Child Abuse & Neglect* 19, no. 5 (1995): 579, 582, 584-586, doi:10.1016/0145-2134(95)00017-3.
6. David Finkelhor, Linda Meyer Williams, and Nanci Burns, *Nursery Crimes: Sexual Abuse in Day Care* (Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1988), 92-96.
7. Robin Sax, *It Happens Every Day: Inside the World of a Sex Crimes DA* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2010), 135.
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