

How Big Is The Problem...

Missing is worse than Death.

Death has finality, whereas in case of missing, one suffers every day - every hour - every minute - every second.

No figures are available about missing children in India. However, one can just visualize the numbers keeping in mind that more than 2000 children go missing (missing/lost, abducted and runaways) every day in the United States as per Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Crime Information Center (NCIC), Missing Person File.

That is a child goes missing every 40 seconds.

Within the 15 minutes of a tea break one takes, 21 children go missing.

While watching your favorite television show (1/2 hour) in the evening almost 42 children go missing.

Recently there was an article in an Indian English Daily, which stated that the number of runaway children in India is about 1 million. That is more than 2700 children runaway everyday from their homes in India. This figure does not include the number abducted children and the missing/lost children which itself is quite high.

Safety Tips For Kids

- v The Child should know his full name, his parents' name, his complete address and his phone number (including the STD Code of his city). It may seem like a lot to remember, but this is one of the most important child safety tips. Telephone may be the only way your child knows how to reach you.
 - v The child should always inform his parents about his whereabouts.
 - v The child should not talk with strangers. Children should know that a stranger is someone they don't know well. Even someone they see every day, like a neighbour or a bus driver can be a stranger. This doesn't mean that strangers are bad. It just means that a child shouldn't be alone with them.
 - v The child should not accept anything from the strangers, especially eatables (Chocolates, sweets)
 - v The child should never accept a ride or a lift from any strangers.
 - v Before going out anywhere the child should inform his parents, how he is going there, with whom he is going and when he'll be back.
- v The child should play in groups.
- v If some starts taking the child forcibly, the child should start **YELLING**. "This man is NOT MY PAPA!" or "This woman is NOT MY MUMMY!"
- v Teach the child how to call '100' in case of an emergency. Teach them how to answer the phone.

