

Take the time....Be involved

“Keeping our Children Safe”
Prepared by: Olive Bartley Johnson
Parents' Month 2015

Agenda

- Welcome and Prayer
 - Group Norms- phone policy
 - refreshments
 - restrooms
 - confidentiality
 - participation
- Team Building exercise- Shrinking Vessel
- Keeping Our Children Safe
- Summary/Closure

Group Norms

- Everyone's contribution is valid and highly respected.
- This is a safe zone so feel free to participate..
- We are responsible adults and we exercise the highest level of confidentiality possible.
- Whatever personal issues that are discussed here , stay right here!
- We ask that you put your cell phones on vibrate/ silent.
- In case of an emergency, feel free to step outside and take a call.
- We listen attentively whenever someone is sharing without interrupting, as each person will get a chance to share.
- Whereas we would love to hear your thoughts, feel free to say “pass” if you feel very strongly about a particular issue, you will not be judged by your silence.
- We look forward to a robust discussion!!!

Team Building Exercise

All Aboard

- This activity requires working together in close physical proximity in order to solve a practical, physical problem.
- It tends to emphasize group communication, co operation, patience and problem solving strategy, as well as issues related to physical self and physical proximity.
- There are many variations to this activity.
- The whole group will try to fit in an area that is constantly shrinking.
- Each time the group succeeds, the area is deliberately shrunk to challenge them to work closely as a unit and depending entirely on each others coping skills.
- The aim is to see how far the group can go!
- Please secure all valuables such as jewellery before hand, as the going can get rough at times. ALL ABOARD!!!!!!!

Some Facts and figures

- According to the Jamaica Observer there has been over 10,000 cases of child abuse in 2013
- By September 11, 2011, over 1000 children went missing
- For 2015, 847 children have gone missing
- [http://www.missingpersonsjamaica.com/index.php?action=searchresults&sortby=datelast&sorttype=DESC&group=Child&city\[\]=&pclass\[\]=](http://www.missingpersonsjamaica.com/index.php?action=searchresults&sortby=datelast&sorttype=DESC&group=Child&city[]=&pclass[]=)

Is there a need to keep our children safe?

- From time immemorial children have always come under attack from society .
- Remember Baby Moses
- And don't forget Baby Jesus and how His parents had to flee in the middle of the night in order to protect Him!
- And today we have baby Jamaica to keep safe!!





How Do I Keep My Children Safe Without Making Them Fearful?

- **DISCUSS**-Listen to group's responses
- Arm them with love and attention.
- Top up their emotional Bank Account
- Prepare them with the correct information(Personal Data)
- Teach Them about Their bodies and their sexuality (DO NOT ALLOW STRANGERS TO DO THIS) Discuss whose job it is to teach my child about physical changes in their bodies
- https://www.ted.com/talks/julia_sweeney_has_the_talk#t-3324

Keeping Children safe Without Making them Fearful (cont'd.)

- According to Dr. Phil, here are 5 Top Ways For Parents to Protect Their Children:
- We need to keep them safe from:
- Social Media
- Sexual Predators
- Violence in the Homes
- Bullies
- Can you think of anything else from which we need to protect our children

In Summary

- Here are 31 Tips to Protect our Children as was set out by the National Child Month Committee May 2015 Calendar:
- Children's Safety And Security Our Priority

- Just in case you or, someone you know might need the support .. (DON'T HESITATE CALL!!!!)
- **Child Development Agency** 948-6678/948-2841/922-8857
- **Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Offences & Child Abuse(CISOCA)-926-4079**
- **Coalition for Better Parenting(CBP)** 984-1886.Email:better_parenting@yahoo.com
- **Child Guidance Clinic Bustamante Hospital for Children** 926-5721
- **National Parenting Commission(NPSC)** 967-7977/422-3679
- **Early childhood Commission** 922-9296-7 Email: communications@ecc.gov.jm
- **Community Mental Health Unit** 930-1152
- **Office of the Children's Registry** 1888-7768328 reports@ocr.gov.jm/www.ocr.gov.jm
- **Mc Cam Child Development Centre** (Dr. Pauline Watson) 977-0189/977-6496
- **NB** You and your child should know the telephone numbers of the nearest Police and fire stations as **119** is not always reliable .