



The Children's Assessment Center

Does a Sex Offender Live in Your Neighborhood?

Try not to panic

- In actuality, there are sex offenders all around us every day and we just do not know who they are.
- Remind yourself that at least you know who this one is, so you can do a better job of protecting yourself and your children.

Educate yourself

- Over 90% of sex offenders are known to victims
- Understand that there are different types of sex offenders and that the majority are not "preferential" offenders (individuals who stalk kids for sexual purposes), but rather "situational" offenders who are usually not physically violent in addition to the sexual deviancy
- Know the ways in which sex offenders gain access to your children (watch for unsupervised kids, people who give them gifts or special privileges, trick them into believing that the abuse is partly their fault, etc.)
- Learn the signs and symptoms of sexual abuse
- Learn the restrictions placed on sex offenders who are placed in the community through the probation department (leg monitor, curfew, mandated treatment, etc.)
- Do not take the law into your own hands! Know who to call if you observe a sex offender doing things that seem inappropriate:
 - The Council on Sex Offender Treatment at 512-834-4530
 - The Center for Sex Offender Management at 301-589-9383
 - Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, Sex Offender Unit at 713-755-2000

Educate your children

- About the importance of open communication with you no matter what
- About how sex offenders can appear to be pretty nice people
- About how tricky and manipulative sex offenders are
- About how sex offenders are usually someone that they know and that it is never the child's fault if they are abused or tricked

Become involved and support legislation to make tougher consequences for sex offenders!