

## OPERATION SAFE CHILD

### THANK YOU'S

Thanks to the Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview School District #89 administration and each principal for their very kind cooperation.

Lexington Elementary School—Louise Farrar, Principal

Washington Elementary School—John Boyd, Principal

Irving Elementary School—Bonita Cosby, Principal

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Lincoln Elementary School—Dr. Diane Weitzman, Principal

Emerson Elementary School—Karen Petties, Principal

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## OPERATION SAFE CHILD

# STUDENT SAFETY REVIEW



**A NON-PROFIT 501 C3 EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

**DEDICATED TO  
CHILD SAFETY  
CRIME PREVENTION  
REDUCING ILLEGAL DRUG USAGE  
DISCOURAGING ILLEGAL GANG RECRUITMENT  
MAYWOOD, ILLINOIS  
2006-2009(c)**

**WWW.OPSAFECHILD.ORG**

## THE MISSION OF OPERATION SAFE CHILD

Operation Safe Child is a collaboration between the Village of Maywood and the Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview School District #89. The primary mission of Operation Safe Child is to keep children safe by teaching them what to do in dangerous situations such as abduction attempts, illegal drug activity, gang activity, and when they are home alone. Operation Safe Child also teaches children good character habits and to think critically about the ultimate end results of criminal activity. The purposes are to reduce crime in the community and to encourage the students to grow to become productive citizens. Although the Advisory Council for Operation Safe Child provides some instruction, the majority of the instruction is provided by Officers from the Maywood Police Department.

### Purposes

- To prevent injury and harm to children.
- To teach children what they can do in difficult situations.
- To help children identify with law enforcement, fire, and paramedic personnel.
- To help children develop their critical thinking in regard to harmful activities.
- To help children develop positive character values that will help them to become law abiding, productive citizens.
- To bring law enforcement, fire, and paramedic personnel into the classroom so that school children can get acquainted with them and learn their values and career paths.
- To increase student achievement by reducing student disruptive behaviors.
- To eventually reduce the crime index in Maywood, IL.
- To save tax dollars and to reduce property losses due to reduced criminal activity.
- To develop digital video and musical media that will facilitate these changes.



## INSPIRATION AND DEDICATIONS

The Operation Safe Child efforts were inspired by the work of the Maywood Police Department and especially the work of Maywood Police Sergeant James O. Robinson. The Operation Safe Child efforts are dedicated to Deceased Hillside Police Lieutenant Jose Montoya who, as a School District #89 School Board Member, was an early supporter of Operation Safe Child and to Deceased Maywood Police Officer Tom Wood.

## OPERATION SAFE CHILD ACTIVITIES

Operation Safe Child presents ten 45 minute teaching sessions each semester in each of six Maywood elementary Schools. Operation Safe Child serves approximately 700 fourth and fifth grade students and 350 sixth through eighth graders. The 2007 and 2008 topics include six standard police presentations and lessons given by Maywood Police Officers as well as Operation Safe Child Advisory Members.

The twelve officers giving the lessons are Maywood Police Chief Elvia Williams and Officers David Gude, Wayne Wheeler, Wayne Welch, Terrence Powell, Patrick Grandberry, Deon Sams, Robert Welch, Dana Lewis, Dennis Diaz, Sergeant Theodore Yancey, Detective Elijah Willis, Sergeant Sonya Horne, and Community Policing Officer Pirsia Allen.

The topics include presentations on avoiding drugs and gangs, stranger danger, avoiding abduction, appropriate interactions with the police, police evidence gathering, Halloween safety, and Home Alone Safety. All of the presentations provide much information while emphasizing the long term consequences and the life destroying effects of certain negative behaviors. The students are extremely interested and do internalize the information. Three student were actually saved from attempted abductions by utilizing the instruction recently given in Operation Safe Child lessons. Additional lessons are taught by Operation Safe Child Advisors that emphasize good character habits, critical thinking to avoid trouble, anger management, conflict resolution, aggression replacement, and the financial value of education.

# Meeting the Police\*

## Appropriate Interactions with Police

### Some Things for Kids to Remember:

1. The job of police is to serve you and to protect you.
2. The job of the police is to keep order in the community.
3. The police are here to help you when you have trouble.
4. The police care about your safety and welfare.
5. Always treat the police with respect.
6. Do not run from the police.
7. Do not fight with the police.
8. Do not make sudden moves around the police.
9. Do not go into your pockets, purse, or book bag around the police
10. If you are arrested, you have the right to call your parents.
11. If the police come to your house, you do not have to let them in unless they have a warrant.
12. Obey the police.
13. Do not break the law or disobey the law.
14. It is the job of police to catch and arrest anyone breaking the law.
15. It is the job of police to catch and arrest anyone selling illegal drugs.
16. It is the job of police to catch and arrest anyone that steals or commits robbery.
17. It is the job of police to catch and arrest anyone that joins a gang or who tries to get others to join a gang.
18. It is the job of police to catch and arrest anyone that fights, injures, harms, or murders another person.
19. Always be law abiding.
20. Thank the police for being willing to help you and keep you safe.

\*From remarks at Operation Safe Child class sessions by Maywood Police Chief, Elvia Williams, Sergeant Sonya Horne, and Community Policing Officer Pirsia Allen



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# Operation Safe Child

Good Character Habits for Kids

1. Honesty - Telling the truth, not lying, not cheating, not stealing
  2. Integrity - Inner strength, doing the right thing
  3. From - Keep doing what you say
  4. Loyalty - Supporting someone worth
  5. Concern for others - Caring and helping others
  6. Law-abidance - Obeying rules and laws, making the world better
  7. Obedience to parents, teachers, and police
  8. Respect for others - Being polite and kind to everyone
  9. Fairness - Treating everyone equally
  10. Pursuit of excellence - Doing everything the best you can, looking for ways to improve
  11. Accountability - Admitting to what you do wrong, correcting it, taking responsibility
- www.opssc.org

# Halloween Safety \*

1. Trick or Treat in groups and stay with your group.
2. Do not go out alone.
3. Have an adult with you.
4. Have a plan about where you are going.
5. Carry a flashlight and wear warm clothing.
6. Watch out for cars. Look both ways before crossing the street.
7. Go only to the homes of friends and neighbors that you know.
8. Do not take candy or money from strangers.
9. Do not go to the homes of strangers.
10. Do not go inside any homes.
11. Do not go into dark alleys or other dark places.
12. Be alert—Know who and what is around you.
13. Wear bright colors so you can be seen.
14. Don't wear costumes that will make you trip and fall.
15. Don't wear costumes that have eye holes that are too small.
16. Throw away unwrapped candy.
17. Have your parents check all candy and treats.
18. Do not play tricks on friends.
19. Always be careful.
20. Have Fun!!!

\*From Halloween Safety remarks at Operation Safe Child Sessions by Maywood Police Department, Community Policing Officer, Pirsia Allen.

**It Is Better to Wait**

1. Doing certain things too early leads to poverty and a hard life if it is necessary.
  2. Stay away from trouble.
  3. Stay out of trouble because situations.
  4. Do not let anyone talk you into doing anything wrong.
  5. If you let others talk you into doing wrong you will be the one to suffer for it.
  6. Anyone who tries to talk you into doing wrong is not your friend.
  7. Push away and pull away from trouble.
  8. Good things come to those who wait.
  9. The longer you wait the better off you are.
  10. Wait until you are twenty-one and married.
  11. Research says the longer you wait the wealthier you are likely to become.
- Good Advice - Do Not Get into Wrong Deals or Bad Life**
- 
- Do Not Do Right Deals or Good Life**
- 

**GANG FACTS\***

1. A person that joins a gang can expect to be picked up by police and arrested within six months.
2. People are asked to join gangs in order for the gang to make money off of them. People are recruited to join gangs so that gangs can put them out on the street to sell illegal drugs.
3. **Drug pushers do not earn big money.** People on the street selling drugs earn about \$3.50 per hour. Wal-Mart and McDonalds workers earn \$7.25 to \$8.00 per hour. In other words, the lowest paid legal workers earn twice as much as illegal drug pushers and they don't have to go to jail for it.
4. Wearing a hat backward and tilted to one side is a gang sign and can get a person beaten up or shot because they are showing wrong gang signs. In other words, wear your hat straight and your pants up.
5. Gangs tend to recruit people who drop out of school or who are loners or who have been abused and who are very angry.
6. **People who join gangs give away their future opportunities.** They go to jail, get prison records, and then are prevented from getting good paying jobs.
7. **Joining a gang causes trouble for your whole family.**
8. Gang members and drug pushers have to pay lawyers, bail, and they lose whatever job they did have.
9. **If a gang member and drug pusher starts using drugs then they are poisoning their body and poisoning their brain.**
10. **If a girl joins a gang, several things happen. A girl gang member can expect to become a paid or unpaid prostitute. She can expect to have a baby soon. She can expect to get a disease. She can expect to get incurable AIDS. She can expect to spend many years in jail. She can expect to remain poor for most of her life. Boys who join gangs can expect the same things.**

**THERE ARE NO RICH DRUG PUSHERS.**

**THEY ALL GET CAUGHT AND THEIR PROPERTY GETS CONFISCATED.**

\*From remarks at Operation Safe Child class sessions by Maywood Police Officers Gude, Wheeler, Sams, Welch, Diaz,

## What Every Kid Should Know

### About Illegal Drugs:

Unfortunately there are many dangerous and untrue ideas about illegal drugs in our community. Gang members have tried to get foolish students to sell illegal drugs and to become addicted to these illegal drugs. Therefore, students have to be warned. Illegal drugs are against the law for good reasons.

### Things to know about drugs:

1. Drugs were originally invented to help sick people.
2. Drugs are substances that alter the functioning of the body.
3. Illegal drugs and alcohol function by poisoning the brain.
4. Illegal drugs and alcohol are called intoxicants because they put poison into the body. Toxic means poisonous.
5. Never touch illegal drugs. Some drugs can be absorbed through your skin.
6. Illegal drugs cause people to lose their goals, dreams, and ambitions.
7. Marijuana puts tar into your lungs and makes a person not able to run fast.
8. Marijuana also destroys brain cells so that eventually the user loses part of his ability to learn and memorize.

## So, What Is In?

1. Intelligence
2. Studying to make something of your self
3. Staying away from distractions
4. Creating a stable marriage
5. Obeying the law
6. Building the community
7. Being organized
8. Using technology
9. Building alliances
10. Looking down the road, seeing the trends
11. Seeing that crime and going to prison create poverty
12. Seeing that early sex creates AIDS and poverty
13. Using direct action to get jobs done now
14. Staying in school—Going for the best
15. Pursuing excellence
16. Surrounding your self with excellence

**We have been to the top of Moses' and Rev. Martin Luther King's mountain. And, we have looked over and seen something better. We see that we can do something better with our lives.**

**Operation Safe Child Says:**

**Do the Right Things, Now.**

# Passé

## Passé is French for “It is Past.”

With the election of a new and Black President as an example: We have been to the top of the mountain with Barack Obama and we have looked over and seen something better.

**Now, we see that some things we have been doing are passé and are things of the past.**

## The Following Things Are Passé:

1. Droopy, draggy pants are so out of style and pre-historic.
2. Being computer illiterate is Stone Age.
3. Crime and dishonesty demean our history and ruin our future.
4. Joining gangs is antiquated.
5. Pushing drugs on the streets is so five minutes ago.
6. Getting high is slow poison for your brain and is old history.
7. Using illegal drugs is an old-timey distraction.
8. Selling illegal drugs is cultural slavery and genocide.
9. Getting high is procrastinating and not coping with problems.
10. Falling for mass distractions is ancient history.
11. Flirting around with as many as possible is an old-style way leading to AIDS.
12. Thinking only of your self is a toddler’s mental deficiency.
13. Short sightedness is short minded and slow thinking.
14. Excuses are so not working and do not get today’s jobs done.

1. People take illegal drugs in order to cope with problems. Unfortunately, the drugs do not cure the problems and only make them worse.
2. Illegal drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamines are very addictive and can cause a person to spend all their money, get into crime, and then go to jail. After getting a criminal record, those persons often cannot get a good job and they have to live poor and in poverty for the rest of their lives.
3. Some young people are dumb enough to think they can make a lot of money by selling illegal drugs. The opposite is true. Illegal drug sellers make very little money. And, what they do make is confiscated when they go to jail.
4. There are no rich drug pushers. They all get caught, go to prison, and have their property confiscated.
5. Drug sellers and users cannot be proud of themselves.
6. Selling and buying illegal drugs is selling and buying poison for the community and is genocide.
7. Illegal drug sales cause the loss of billions of dollars that could be used for better schools & health care.
- 8. If you see illegal drug sales or feel you are in danger from drug sellers, call the Police at 911.**

\*From the remarks about Illegal Drugs at the Operation Safe Child Sessions by the Maywood Police Department, Detective Sergeant Theodore Yancy.

# Stranger Danger: Avoiding Abduction\*

Unfortunately some dangerous predators have attempted to abduct or kidnap some of our children. Therefore, students have to be warned.

## Things to know:

1. Stay away from strangers.
2. Do not take candy or money from strangers.
3. Do not talk to strangers.
4. If a stranger tries to talk to you, run away fast.
5. Never get into a stranger's car or van.
6. If a stranger follows you, go to a safe house and ask them to call 911.
7. If a stranger tries to grab you, kick, bite, scratch, and do anything you can to get away.
8. Memorize the stranger's appearance, the color and type of car and the license plate number.
9. Tell your parents and the police.

If you say **NO** to early sex, several other things will happen.

1. You can grow to your fullest potential.
2. You can make friends with good people who will not drag you down, but who will help you up.
3. You can stay in school and attend school every day.
4. You can get into more after school activities and sports.
5. You can eventually create a stable marriage and a good family.

## THE CONSEQUENCES IF YOU DO NOT SAY NO.

If you do not say NO to early sex, the consequences are:

1. **Early sex and early pregnancy are two factors that are associated with life-long poverty.**
2. **Early and promiscuous sex transmits 29 venereal diseases including HIV/AIDS that cause bad health and can lead to death.**
3. **Eventually, you will feel like a fool.**

## Operation Safe Child Says: Sex Too Early Condemns People to Poverty and Bad Health.



# YOU HAVE THE CHOICE TO SAY NO

1. If you say **NO** to early sex, several things will happen.
2. You will not become pregnant or have a baby.
3. You are not likely to get a sexually transmitted venereal disease or **AIDS** and death.
4. You can focus your energy on sports and go for the best.
5. You eliminate a major distraction that causes people to drop out of school.
6. You can concentrate on your studies and get better grades so that you may become eligible for scholarships.
7. You are more likely to go to college and to be one of those people who earn an extra two million dollars.
8. You are more likely to become wealthy.
9. More people will admire you.
10. You will be more confident because you will not be ashamed, but be proud of yourself.
11. You will cut down the gossip about you.
12. You will not be fighting about a failed relationship.
13. You are not likely to be crying about broken promises.
14. You are not likely to feel like a fool for believing someone that didn't really care about you.
15. You will not have to go to court to try to collect child support.
16. Always tell your parents if anyone tries to touch you wrongly.
17. Walk in safe places.
18. Walk to and from school in groups or with your parents.
19. Do not walk through alleys or dangerous places.
20. Stay away from trouble.
21. If you see trouble ahead such as strangers, gang members, or illegal drug sellers, cross to the other side of the street. But, look both ways first.
22. If you have trouble with strangers or bullies, tell your teacher or principal and your parents.
23. When you are afraid, tell your parents and ask them to walk with you.
24. If you feel you are in danger, **call the Police at 911.**

\*From the Stranger Danger remarks at the Operation Safe Child Sessions

by the Maywood Police Department, Detective Elijah Willis.

# CONTROL YOUR ANGER WITH S.T.U.F.F.

ANGER S.T.U.F.F. means

**S = Stop**

**T = Think**

**U = Use your anger**

**F = Find ways to make things better**

**F = Forgive**

**Why should you Stop?**

If you do not stop, you are likely to get into a lot more trouble.

**How do you Stop?**

Recognize the signs that you are angry and let those signs signal you to stop.

**Why should you Think?**

If you do not think, you miss chances to control your anger and turn it into something good.

What should you think?

Think about the consequences if you act out of anger.

Think about what could be better.

**Why should you Use Your Anger?**

Anger is a powerful motivating force that can accomplish many good things if turned in the right direction.

**How do you Use Your Anger?**

Think about what made you angry.

Think about what was wrong and how to make it better.

# CRITICAL THINKING ABOUT TROUBLE

1. What are the early warning signs that trouble is coming?
2. What are some strategies to avoid trouble?
3. What is the apparent story? What were you told?
4. What is the real story?
5. What is the surface story from different points of view?
6. What are the hidden aspects of the story or the situation?
7. If they really liked you, would they ask you to do anything wrong?
8. If they really love you, would they ask you to do anything that might harm you?
9. If they really love you, would they ask you to do anything that might get you into trouble?
10. What is the real purpose?
11. What are the likely consequences of a wrong act?
12. What are the long term consequences of a wrong act?
13. How will a wrong act affect the rest of your life?
14. What are the long term implications of each decision?
15. What are other consequences, both positive and negative?

**KNOW YOUR VALUE!**

**STAY AWAY FROM TROUBLE!**

# The A, B, C's of Operation Safe Child

- A Abide by the law and attend school every day.
- B Be on time and be righteous.
- C Correct mistakes and climb higher.
- D Do the right thing and do your homework.
- E Eat right and excel by trying for excellence.
- F Flee bad situations and find something good to read.
- G Go straight home and avoid gangs.
- H Have a good attitude and help others.
- I Ignore illegal drugs that are used by idiots.
- J Jump for joy that you are good.
- K Keep your conscience clean and keep promises.
- L Lead in the right direction and look for ways to improve.
- M Make money by studying and working.
- N Never lie, cheat or steal.
- O Obey parents, teachers, and police.
- P Predict paying for wrong a long time.
- Q Quit giving excuses.
- R Respect everyone and read as much as possible.
- S Stay in school until you graduate from college.
- T Try your best and treat everyone fairly.
- U Use good character habits.
- V Value yourself.
- W Wait for the right time, work hard and watch out for strangers.
- X X-Ray your actions and attitudes.
- Y Yearn to be right.
- Z Zoom high by reading, writing, computing, and studying.

## Why should you Find Ways to Make Things Better?

If you use your anger constructively, you may be able to correct or eliminate some of those things that made you angry. Remember Rosa Parks, Rev. Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela

## How do you Find Ways to Make Things Better?

Analyze the situation.

Decide what needs to become better.

Develop a vision of what better will look like.

Assess what is needed in order to make things better; to make the vision come to life.

Speak the vision; talk to others who also want to correct the situation.

Get needed help and cooperation.

Get needed resources.

Do what it takes to make the vision become reality.

## Why should you Forgive?

If you do not forgive, you will suffer damage to your life and to your body. Anger causes students to be unable to learn.

Anger causes adults to become sick in their body. Anger causes some people to commit crimes and to go to jail. Forgiveness gives you a clearer vision of the situation and gives you more understanding and control over the problem. Anger and unforgiveness makes you look ugly.

**Forgiveness makes you a stronger person.**

**How do you Forgive?** Pray for the welfare of the person that made you angry. Throw it off. Forget it. Be proud of yourself for doing something better than being ugly and angry.

**Anger S.T.U.F.F. Means**

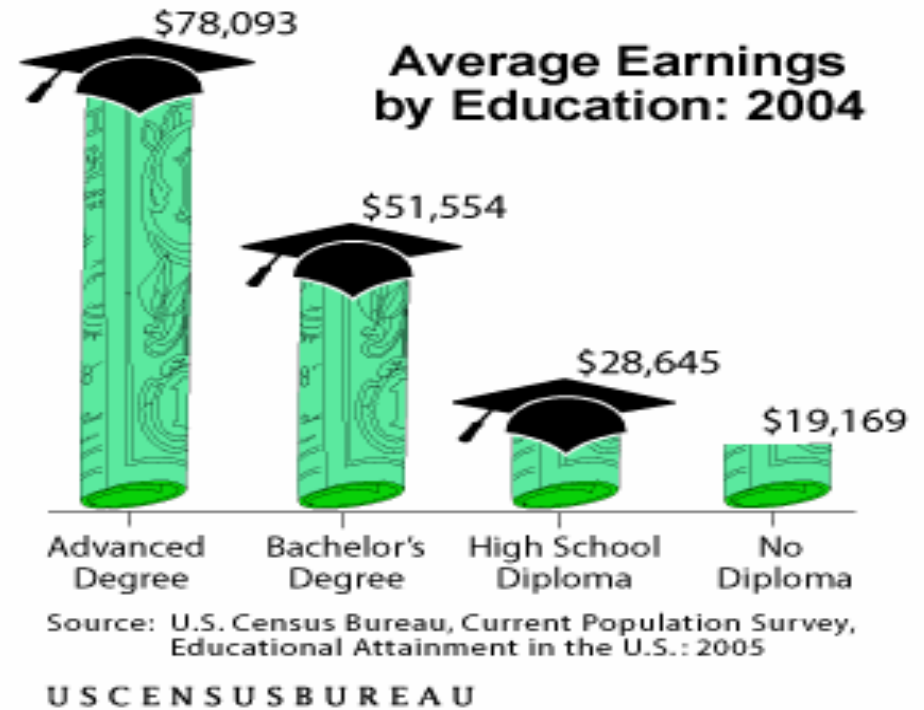
**Stop, Think, Use your anger,**

**Find ways to make things better, Forgive.**

# MAKING YOURSELF

## A MILLIONAIRE

1. Do the right things, now. If you do, you are likely to become a millionaire.
2. Make friends with good people who will not drag you down, but who will help you up.
3. Stay in school. Attend school every day. Get into after school activities and sports.
4. Study to make something of yourself.
5. Learn computer skills. Learn a trade.
6. Go to college. College graduates earn \$2,000,000 extra. The more education you get, the more you earn.
7. Get a job and then be a dependable worker.
8. Be on time and work hard.
9. Be honest. Be grateful. Use good character habits.
10. Be a thinking person and be intelligent.
11. Obey the law. Disobeying the law is the fool's road to prison and poverty.
12. Stay away from distractions such as violence, gangs, illegal drugs, alcohol, or early sex.
13. Build the community.
14. Create a stable marriage.
15. Be organized.
16. Use technology.
17. Build alliances.
18. Look down the road, see the trends.
19. See that crime and going to prison create poverty.
20. See that early sex creates AIDS and poverty.
21. Use direct action to get jobs done now.
22. Stay in school—Go for the best.
23. Do not make excuses. Pursue excellence.
24. Surround yourself with excellence.
25. Focus on the positive. Worship.



Adults age 18 and older with a bachelor's degree earned an average of \$51,554 in 2004, while those with a high school diploma earned \$28,645, according to tabulations released by the U.S. Census Bureau. Those without a high school diploma earned an average of \$19,169. The series of tables, [Educational Attainment in the United States: 2005](#), also showed advanced-degree holders made an average of \$78,093.

**Operation Safe Child Says:**  
**To Become a Millionaire,**  
**Do the Right Things, Now.**