



Safety Planning Tips*

Debrief with the Youth Upon Return From AWOL:

- **WELCOME** the youth back and inquire as to their immediate needs.
- **Debriefing Tool (Attachment B of 16-OCFS-ADM-09)**
 - Do not read the tool to the youth.
 - Become familiar with the questions on the tool and engage youth in conversation relevant to the questions.
 - Rephrase the questions as needed without changing the content for a more comfortable conversation.
 - If you are new to using the tool, keep a copy nearby and refer to it as needed. Explain to the youth that this is guidance for you, not for them.
 - Ensure the youth does not obtain the tool from you.
- **Update the Safety Plan based upon the discussion.**

WHAT NOT TO DO	WHAT YOU CAN DO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Not Make Assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How the youth feels about the trafficker ○ Whether the youth is ready to leave the life ○ Whether the youth thinks of self as a victim (or do you?) • Do not take the youth’s reaction personally • Do not project your own ideals onto the youth • Do not ask unnecessary questions or for details • Do not judge • Do not display disappointment or disapproval • Be aware of body language, facial expressions, voice fluctuations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide encouragement and support • Affirm, affirm, affirm! • Understand teen development: Cognitive, Social-Emotional, Physical • Recognize the impact of trauma on cognitive development/decision making • Cultural sensitivity, Gender sensitivity • Address the culture shock of the reality of leaving the life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Making a lot of money in one night versus making little money in one month ○ Schedule regulation issues ○ Lack of self-efficacy • Anticipate stress and plan for stress reduction • Recognize the power dynamic • Assess your own expectations and biases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do you want to “rescue” the youth? ○ How do you really feel about trafficked youth?

*Extracted from the Safety Planning WITH Trafficked Youth workshop created by Selina Higgins, Ann Marie Pendleton and Jessie Boye-Doe. Copyright 2019. All Rights Reserved.

To inquire about upcoming sessions, or to book a session of the workshop Safety Planning WITH Trafficked Youth for your program or agency, please email: Traffickingtraining@acs.nyc.gov