

Breaking the Code of Silence: talking points for 5th grade students

* The emphasis for 5th grade students who view Breaking the Code of Silence should center around the “3 R’s”: **Recognize, Resist, Report**

Recognize: Recognizing a situation that could cause harm to self or others

Resist: Whenever you are in a situation that is uncomfortable or others are trying to get you to do something you don’t want to do or know that you shouldn’t do, you have the right to walk away

Report: Anytime someone is doing something harmful to himself, to you, or to others, you have a responsibility to seek out a trusted adult and tell them. By doing this, you potentially might be saving your life or the life of others who might be in harms’ way.

What did you hear the police officer say in the video about “beer” parties? What would you do if you were at a party and there was alcohol or other drugs there? Do you have a plan with your parents about how you would get out of that situation? Would you call home and ask to be picked up? Would you tell your parents about what was going on at the party? Why or why not?

What did the mom say in the video about the party her daughter went to? What did her daughter do that made her proud? What did the mother NOT do that made her worry? What could have happened at the party that made the mom worry?

Snitch vs Responsible Reporting:

What is the difference between being a “tattle tale” and a “responsible reporter”?

Give some examples of when you might “tattle” on someone

- * secret admirer’s
- * gossip
- * telling the teacher about someone “cutting in line”

Give some examples of when you might report something responsibly

- * someone drowning
- * someone with a weapon
- * someone drinking alcohol, smoking or using other drugs
- * someone talking to a stranger in a chat room

Who would you talk to about a concern you might have for another’s safety including your own?

- * a parent?
- * a teacher?
- * someone from your church?
- * a friend? Why would telling a friend not be the best choice?

What do you think you would do if you were concerned about something dangerous happening to a friend or a fellow student? Do you think you could report it? Why or why not?

