

# SAFETY MATTERS



## Tailgate Safety Talks for School Employees

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### Preventing Assault – Be Alert, Be Aware

Recent reports have indicated that college aged students and collegiate faculty are among those at highest risk for being sexually assaulted. Being aware of this risk, looking out for others, and keeping a clear head are the first steps to staying safe.

Granted, we cannot prevent a perpetrator from committing a crime, practical steps can be taken to improve safety measures and reduce risk.

- ❖ **Trust your gut.** If you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, trust your instincts. Your own safety is priority.
- ❖ **Your cell phone is a valuable tool.** Be sure that it is fully charged before you leave home and set a plan with a family member or friend to communicate if your phone battery dies.
- ❖ **Be mindful of social media posts.** Posting information about your whereabouts provides information that is accessible to anyone. Do not post anything on your online profile that you don't feel comfortable telling a stranger.

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Southern California Schools  
Risk Management

- ❖ ***If you must, lie and leave!*** Don't be concerned with hurting someone's feelings. If you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, make up an excuse to leave rather than staying in a potentially dangerous situation. Remember, your own safety is priority.
- ❖ ***Look out for others.*** If you see something questionable or risky, intervene by contacting campus police or security. By taking action you may prevent a crime from being committed.
- ❖ ***Be aware of your surroundings.*** Be mindful of potential risks, think of a safe exit strategy, and have your phone charged and on-hand.

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