

Pedophile Awareness



Six-Step Program:

1. **Let the suspect know you've got your eye on them.** If you believe a guest may be acting inappropriately, go up and introduce yourself to the person as a staff member. Ask the guest if you can be of assistance or answer any questions about the facility and its amenities. This will spotlight the situation and alert the suspicious patron that he/she is being watched. After removing their anonymity, the suspect will be inclined to leave or at least cease whatever behavior is making you uncomfortable.
2. **Identify what is of concern to the suspect.** If the suspicious behavior continues, let the suspect know specifically what you observed them doing that was considered inappropriate (i.e. using a camera phone near a wading pool or bumping into children). Exposing behavior helps eliminate the risk.
3. **Explain why the conduct is inappropriate.** Clearly inform suspects why their behavior is considered unsuitable. Tell them that their conduct is against the facility's policy.
4. **Give the suspicious guest specific instructions.** Spell out for them how you expect them to conduct themselves and what the parameters of appropriate behavior are. Make sure they understand that they will be asked to leave if the misconduct continues.
5. **Notify facility management immediately about the incident.** By alerting a supervisor about the incident, management will be able to notify the rest of the staff about what to look for and document the incident. They can also decide if law enforcement or other authorities need to be contacted.
6. **Get law enforcement assistance before trying to detain someone.** For your own safety and the safety of others, do not try to apprehend or detain a suspected offender. Get law enforcement or security involved if the threat is serious. Sex offenders are just as capable of violent behavior as any other criminal.

*Developed by Richard Dangel, Ph.D., president/CEO of Praesidium Inc.