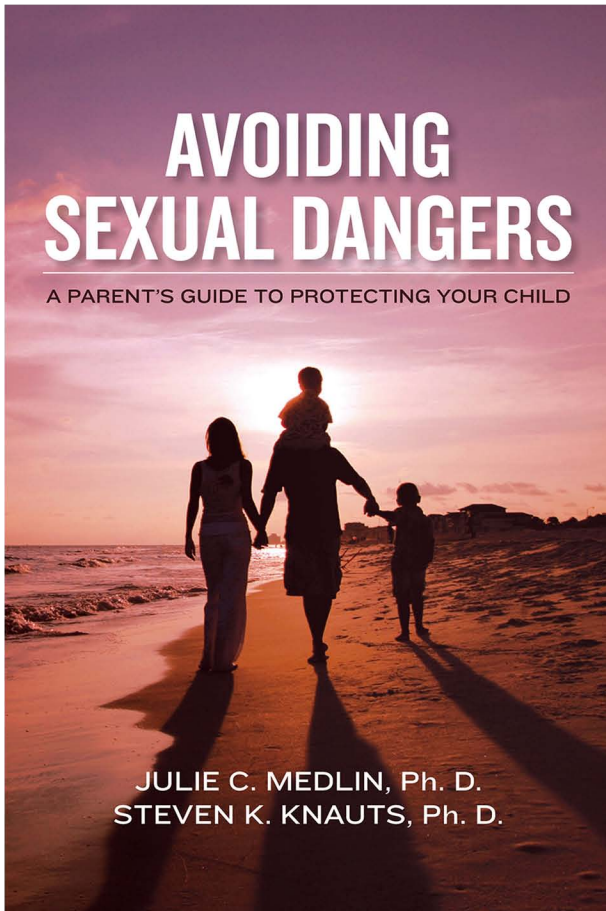


AVOIDING SEXUAL DANGERS

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO PROTECTING YOUR CHILD



“Avoiding Sexual Dangers is an excellent resource for parents and professionals.”

Kimberly E. Bond, Ed.D., Program Director for Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services

“This book is a must-have for both parents and therapists.”

Sheri Hardin, LCSW, Therapist and Mother

“Reading this book was one of the most important things I have done for my child’s well being.”

Steven Stoller, Investment advisor and Father

“I found the material about internet safety particularly helpful. It is packed full of practical information and tips.”

Amy Smith, mother of son and daughter

Now that children have easy access to the Internet through their cell phones, gaming systems, and other devices, how can parents protect their children from pornography and online sexual solicitations? From child molesters? From other children who have been exposed to porn and are acting out sexually?

Avoiding Sexual Dangers outlines clear, easy steps to help you protect your children and teens, both online and in the community.

Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) &

www.avoidingsexualdangers.com



Dr. Medlin is a clinical psychologist who has expertise in evaluating and treating sex offenders and sexual abuse victims. Dr. Medlin graduated from Harvard University magna cum laude, with a BA in psychology, and she earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Florida. Dr. Medlin serves as the Director of the Medlin Training Institute (MTI), which provides training for professionals in the area of sexual abuse and sexual deviancy. Dr. Medlin published "Responsible Living," a sex offender treatment manual, along with a CD-ROM entitled "Breaking Through Denial." Dr. Medlin has provided numerous trainings for mental health professionals and correctional staff. Dr. Medlin has testified as an expert in court over 150 times, and has served as the sex offender treatment consultant to the Probation Division of the Georgia Department of Corrections. Dr. Medlin is Past President of the Georgia Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers. She also served on the Georgia Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Advisory Council and on the Georgia Sex Offender Registration Review Board. In addition, Dr. Medlin has appeared as an expert on television programs for CNN and Discovery Health, as well as several nationally syndicated programs.



Dr. Knauts is a clinical psychologist who specializes in assessing and treating sexual issues in children, adolescents, and adults. Dr. Knauts graduated from the University of Utah magna cum laude with a BA in Psychology. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Florida. Dr. Knauts has done clinical work at several forensic facilities, including North Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center and Florida State Hospital. In addition to "Avoiding Sexual Dangers," Dr. Knauts co-authored a CD-ROM called "Breaking Through Denial." He has provided group and individual therapy for adolescents and adults with sexual problems, and has provided individual therapy for children with sexual and/or behavioral problems. Dr. Knauts has conducted psychological, psychosexual, and parenting evaluations, and has testified as an expert witness on numerous occasions. Dr. Knauts has conducted trainings for other mental health professionals, foster parents, and the community. He has given presentations for such organizations as Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, Georgia CASA, the Georgia Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, and the National Organization for Victim Assistance.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW & STORY TOPICS

Dr. Julie Medlin and Dr. Steve Knauts, co-authors of [Avoiding Sexual Dangers](#), are available as expert resources to discuss sexual behaviors in children, sexual abuse, sex offenders, online pornography, and more.

- **How can parents protect their children from sex offenders?**

While many parents focus on “stranger danger,” the truth is that most sexual offenses are perpetrated by someone the child knows and trusts. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts alert parents to helpful clues that suggest when they need to be cautious about a particular adult or teenager.

- **Steps parents can take to protect their children from online pornography**

More and more children are seeing hard-core pornography at earlier ages, which can have a drastic impact on their sexual development. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts demonstrate the various ways children can access pornography online, and how parents can prevent such access.

- **What can parents do about “sexting?”**

A relatively new phenomenon, “sexting” has caused a lot of problems among children, some of whom have been emotionally scarred by having pictures they thought were private distributed widely among their classmates. Other kids have been criminally prosecuted for the manufacture and distribution of child pornography. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts discuss how parents can talk to their children about “sexting,” and warn them of the potential dangers.

- **The hidden danger – children who act out sexually**

Parents who are aware of the dangers posed by adult and adolescent offenders may be surprised to learn that even young children can engage in inappropriate or even abusive sexual behavior. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts talk about where such behaviors can take place, including daycares and restaurant playgrounds. They also give parents guidelines on how to limit the danger posed by such behaviors, and how to handle such a situation if it arises.

- **Why don't more parents use parental controls?**

Most commonly used computer and game systems come with built-in parental controls that can keep children from viewing Internet pornography. Yet time and again well-meaning and responsible parents do not implement these controls. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts discuss why more parents do not use these controls, and dispel some myths about their effectiveness.

- **Talking to kids about sexual abuse**

It's hard enough talking to kids about healthy, normal sexual behavior. Talking to them about sexual abuse – both to warn them about the possibility and to help them if they have already been abused, can be a daunting task. Dr. Medlin and Dr. Knauts show parents how to best approach this tricky subject with their kids and the main points to get across. The doctors also demonstrate how to talk to a child who has disclosed sexual abuse, and what to do (and NOT to do).

Dr. Medlin can be reached at juliemedlin@mindspring.com or (404) 585-1249 and Dr. Knauts can be reached at sknauts@medlintc.com or (404) 797-8728.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Dr. Julie Medlin and Dr. Steve Knauts, co-authors of [Avoiding Sexual Dangers](#), are available as expert resources to discuss sexual behaviors in children, sexual abuse, sex offenders, online pornography, and more.

1. Who do you hope to help by writing [Avoiding Sexual Dangers](#)?
2. What steps can parents take to protect their children from sexual abuse?
3. How can parents spot a potential sexual abuser?
4. How can parents help their children avoid high-risk situations?
5. What are the signs that a child may have been sexually abused?
6. What is normal sexual behavior in children?
7. When should a parent become concerned about their child's sexual behavior?
8. Can children be molested by other children?
9. How can parents protect their children from other children who are acting out sexually?
10. What should a parent do if they suspect their child has been sexually abused?
11. What is the harm of a child being exposed to pornography?
12. Which children are most likely to seek out pornography?
13. What can parents do to protect their children from seeing pornography?
14. When does a parent need to seek help for a child who has seen pornography?

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