LETTER TO PARENTS: *Children & Youth Personal Safety Program* High School Grades (9-12)

<u>Place on parish or school letterhead</u>

(*Date*)

Dear Parents,

The safety of your children is always uppermost in your mind. We have taken many additional steps in recent years to do our part in ensuring that your children will be in a safe place when they are participating in a program in (*your parish or school*). All of our staff and volunteers have received the required background checks and training. We are implementing a program to help your children recognize the steps they can take to keep themselves safe. Lesson plans have been prepared for different age groups among the students. [We are also providing information materials (enclosed) for you that may help you with matters that can affect your own child or children's safety.] [You may also find two very useful publications on the internet as follows:

"Child Protection" in English: www.missingkids.com/en_US/publications/NC01.pdf

"Child Protection" in Spanish: www.missingkids.com/en_US/publications/NC02.pdf

"25 Ways to Make Kids Safer" in both English & Spanish:
 http://www.take25.org/res/pdf/SAFETIP-ES.pdf

We strongly encourage you to download these two items.]

You are encouraged to spend some time reviewing this information yourself, and then sitting down with your children. Naturally, household policies change during these years of high school to reflect a growing maturity and sense of responsibility on the part of your son or daughter. Our goal is to equip both you and your children with the knowledge that can help to keep them safe.

The basic point is that parents need to be involved with their children. The more you know about the daily events of your children's lives, the better you are able to spot any danger signs that may surface. The more regular your communication with your children, the more free they are to come to you with their concerns.

May our Lord bless you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

/S/

(Pastor, DRE, Youth Director or Principal)