



THE AUTHORITY LURE

News Anchor Script

LEAD IN:

ANCHOR 1: In today's newscast, we'll examine the dangerous realities of blindly obeying authority figures in our lives.

ANCHOR 2: As minors, we are taught to respect and obey people in positions of authority. However, some people abuse that privilege. They may be our coach, a step-parent, relative or family friend.

ANCHOR 1: Some sexual predators seek out and exploit roles of authority to intimidate teens into abuse. They may even pose as detectives, police or truant officers, complete with fake badges, uniforms or strobe car lights to appear authentic.

ANCHOR 2: In this news clip, watch how easily teens are lured into potentially dangerous situations by someone posing as a person with Authority.

ROLL TAPE: News Insert #1: Authority Lure (1:28)

TAG:

ANCHOR 1: Even as minors, we have the right to say "No" to **any** authority figure who tells us to do something that is illegal or makes us feel unsafe.

ANCHOR 2: Keep in mind that it may be especially difficult to stand up for our rights when the person in authority is someone we know. Still, we need to stop their exploitive behavior and report them.

ANCHOR 1: Teens should be especially careful if someone they don't know accuses them of a crime, and then demands that the teen come with them. When in doubt, always remember: you have a legal right to request a uniformed police officer in a marked police car.

ANCHOR 2: Thanks for watching. Please join us next time when we demonstrate how lending a helping hand may put teens in compromising situations.

LOCAL TIE-INS:

- 1.) Interview fellow students. Ask, "Has anyone in a position of authority ever made you feel weird or uncomfortable?" "What did you say or do?"
- 2.) Interview local authorities about how to verify a law enforcement official.
- 3.) Show how easy it is to obtain a phony badge from the Internet.
- 4.) Create your own local tie-in.



News Clip Transcript: Authority Lure

News Clip #1: Authority Lure

Runs: 1:28

SUPER: Amy Brewbaker/College Student

SUPER: Ken Wooden/Child Safety Expert

"There's a stakeout up there. Just stay right there. Don't move."

After the simple flash of a badge, college student Amy Brewbaker believes everything this man has to say. He's safety expert Ken Wooden, but he could have easily been a sexual predator.

{Stanke cam at the Park}

"Okay, it's clear."

"You did good."

"Thank you."

"Bye-bye."

Wooden shakes Amy's hand just long enough for her to realize that she's made a mistake.

{Amy Brewbaker/College Student}

"I thought maybe he was undercover or something."

"He showed me his badge so I thought it was legit. I don't know. Oh... that's so scary."

{Ken Wooden and Jim Toggweiler, 15 years old}

"I need to ask you a question or two. Just come over here."

"Everything's cool."

As you can see, this lure is especially dangerous for teenagers... easily intimidated when accused of shoplifting or other crimes. The solution: Demand a uniformed officer in a marked car before going with anyone who says they are a policeman.

{Ken Wooden/Safety Expert}

"You can go into any security store and buy these things."



News Clip Transcript: Authority Lure

(continued)

To make matters worse, victims are intimidated.

{Wooden interview w/Shannon}

“Anyone with authority simply tells the child what to do, where to go, and to keep quiet afterwards.”

“You have a nice day...”

Even after the lure, Jim Toggweiler acknowledges that he fell for it, but still doesn't understand what he did wrong.

{Ken and Jim}

“Did you have any doubts at all when I came up to you and you crossed the street?”

“Not really.”

{Jim Toggweiler}

“It didn't seem like I was in trouble or anything and you had a badge.”

END.