

Title: HOME ALONE

Length: 60 sec.

PARENTS SOMETIMES ASK “AT WHAT AGE IS MY CHILD OLD ENOUGH TO STAY HOME ALONE?”

I’M _____, DIRECTOR OF _____ COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES...THERE IS NO MAGIC AGE AT WHICH A CHILD IS OLD ENOUGH TO STAY HOME ALONE...THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SEVERAL THINGS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE MAKING THAT DECISION...

THE FIRST IS YOUR CHILD’S ABILITY TO CARE FOR HIM- OR HERSELF...DISCUSS SAFETY RULES THOROUGHLY AND POST THEM IN PLAIN VIEW...YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW THEIR ADDRESS AND HOW TO CALL 9-1-1...

HAVE A DISCUSSION ABOUT STRANGER DANGER AND ANSWERING THE DOOR...THERE SHOULD BE A TRUSTED NEIGHBOR WHO IS HOME AND AVAILABLE IF NEEDED...

AND, BE SURE TO EASE INTO THIS A LITTLE AT A TIME...YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW WHERE YOU WILL BE AND WHEN YOU’LL RETURN...AS YOUR CHILD GROWS MORE CONFIDENT, YOU CAN INCREASE THE TIME AND DISTANCE THAT YOU ARE AWAY...

BUT REMEMBER THIS – YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR SAFETY WHEREVER YOU ARE...

I’M _____, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN SERVICES...FOR MORE ON WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT _____.