



*Specialised*  
Security Services



**PROJECT:**  
**THE KIDNAPPING**  
**OF CHILDREN**  
**AND THE LAW**

*The offence of kidnapping is the unlawful and intentional deprivation of a person's freedom of movement and/or, if the victim is under the age of 18 years, the legal custodians of the said child, of their control of the child.*

**CRUCIAL QUESTIONS WHEN IT COMES TO  
EXPLAINING THE KIDNAPPING OF A CHILD:**

**CAN A PARENT BE CHARGED WITH KIDNAPPING  
HIS/HER CHILD?**

- In the case of *S v Hoffman*, the Court held that a parent cannot commit the crime in respect of his/her own child.
- However, if there is a parenting plan in place that has been made an order of the court, and the said parent acts contrary to that order, he/she may be charged with contempt of court.

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## **IS THE DURATION THAT THE VICTIM IS HELD IN RESPECT OF THE KIDNAPPING RELEVANT TO THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENCE?**

- No, in the 1983 case of *S v F*, the court held that the kidnapping of 40 minutes was sufficient for the offence to have been regarded as completed.

## **SENTENCES IN REGARD TO A SUCCESSFUL CONVICTION OF A CHARGE OF KIDNAPPING:**

- If a person is convicted on a charge of kidnapping alone, the minimum prescribed sentence is that of 5 years imprisonment.
- If the accused is, however, convicted on more than one charge, the sentence will differ. In instances where the accused is convicted on a charge of kidnapping as well as rape of a child under the age of 16 years, the minimum sentence is life imprisonment.

## **HOW OFTEN ARE PEOPLE KIDNAPPED IN SOUTH AFRICA:**

- According to statistics for the 3-month period from October 2022 to December 2022, 45 kidnappings were reported to the South African Police Services daily.
- As of the 2022-2023 fiscal year, there were 15,343 kidnapping cases in South Africa.

## **WHAT TO DO WHEN A PERSON IS KIDNAPPED:**

- Report the matter to the nearest police station immediately.
- There is *no* waiting period to report a missing person.
- The first 24 hours are crucial as they drastically improve the chances of the authorities finding a missing person.

## **HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AGAINST A POSSIBLE KIDNAPPING:**

- Children are the most vulnerable members of our society and are at risk of being abducted within seconds.
- They tend to trust older individuals or those in positions of authority, such as teachers or pastors.

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- Worldwide statistics reveal that attempted stranger abductions usually target children around the age of 11, while completed abductions with sexual motives typically involve children around the age of 14.
  - Most non-family abductions are driven by the perpetrator's sexual interest in the child.
  - About two-thirds of stranger abductions occur with the perpetrator in a vehicle. In South Africa, adults are at higher risk of being kidnapped for ransom, while children are usually targeted for sexual assault.
  - The fact remains that a child goes missing every 5 hours in the country.
  - Although 77% of missing children in South Africa are found, at least 23% remain missing, trafficked or found deceased.
  - Research highlights that children with physical or mental disabilities are at greater risk of abduction or being victims of physical or sexual abuse.
  - Kidnap survivors often experience stress reactions, such as denial, impaired memory, shock, numbness, anxiety, guilt, depression, anger, and a sense of helplessness.

### **SAFETY TIPS:**

- Be vigilant in public places.
- Teach children to be wary of strangers and not to accept lifts from strangers.
- Never leave children alone or unattended.
- Children should avoid alleys or shortcuts.
- When in a public place, children should never walk alone.
- Children should never leave home/school without informing their parents of their route home or their whereabouts.
- Children should use their smartphones in a responsible manner and share their "live location" wherever they go, for example, when leaving their school/home, visiting with friends or travelling in a taxi/Uber.
- Parents should explain that they need to be vigilant at all times – never walk while texting or whilst busy on a cell phone.
- With smaller children, strict rules must apply with regard to who may collect children from pre-school.
- Never allow children to visit friends if you do not know the parents, know where they stay and confirm the visiting arrangements.
- Children should never be allowed to walk alone, especially in desolate or empty places and never alone at night.
- Parents and children should refrain from sharing personal information on any social media platform.
  - Never reveal your home address.
  - Refrain from showing details of the school the child is attending.

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- Refrain from boasting and sharing a lifestyle showing wealth.

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS KIDNAPPED:**

- Report the matter to your nearest Police station immediately.
- Furnish the police with:
  - A current and clear photo of your child.
  - Give the child's physical details:
    - Date of Birth.
    - Age.
    - Height.
    - Weight.
    - Colour of hair.
    - Colour of eyes.
    - Any distinctive scars/markings/tattoos/piercings.
  - Give an accurate description of what clothes he/she was wearing.
  - Explain the place and the circumstances of when he/she was kidnapped.
- Reach out to other organisations who assist with finding missing children in South Africa.
- These organisations work together with the police and support distressed families by distributing flyers and posting notifications on social media.
- Involve the media and other social networks.

## **PREVIOUS RELEVANT PROJECTS:**

- <https://mikebh.link/GuCNjq>
- <https://mikebh.link/bjtR01>
- <https://mikebh.link/JFv4Df>
- <https://mikebh.link/Dtt9op>
- <https://mikebh.link/gtf0jn>

**CONTACT MR MIKE BOLHUIS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES, RECOMMENDATIONS, PROTECTION, OR AN INVESTIGATION IF NEEDED.**

**ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED WITH THE  
UTMOST PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY.**

**FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO EVERYBODY.**

Regards,

Mike Bolhuis  
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<https://www.facebook.com/MikeBolhuisOfficial>

**EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:** All potential clients need to be aware that owing to the nature of our work as specialist investigators there are people who have been caught on the wrong side of the law - who are trying to discredit me - Mike Bolhuis and my organisation Specialised Security Services - to get themselves off the hook.

This retaliation happens on social media and creates doubt about our integrity and ability. Doubt created on social media platforms is both unwarranted and untrue.

We strongly recommend that you make up your minds concerning me and our organisation only after considering all the factual information - to the exclusion of hearsay and assumptions.

Furthermore, you are welcome to address your concerns directly with me should you still be unsatisfied with your conclusions. While the internet provides a lot of valuable information, it is also a platform that distributes a lot of false information. The distribution of false information, fake news, slander and hate speech constitutes a crime that can be prosecuted by law. Your own research discretion and discernment are imperative when choosing what and what not to believe.

**STANDARD RULES APPLY:** Upon appointment, we require a formal mandate with detailed instructions. Please take note that should you not make use of our services – you may not under any circumstance use my name or the name of my organisation as a means to achieve whatever end.

**POPI ACT 4 of 2013 South Africa:** Mike Bolhuis' "Specialised Security Services" falls under Section 6 of the act. Read more here: <https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/>

**SSS TASK TEAM:**

<https://mikebh.link/sss-task-team>

**SSS CYBERCRIME UNIT:**  
<https://mikebh.link/sss-cyber-team>



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