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Fighting for street children

'TARGET' RADIO DRAMA RESOURCE



Commissioned by Railway Children delivered in partnership with
Young Runaways (Action for Children) & Unity Radio (Manchester)

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'TARGET' RADIO DRAMA RESOURCE

Action for Children's Young Runaways Project supported young people and families in Liverpool for 12 years before sadly closing in May 2017. The project supported children aged 7-17 who had run away or gone missing or were at risk of going missing. We also offered family support and worked with parents and carers to reduce or stop running away incidents and support everyone with the issues causing the child to go missing in the first place.

After working with runaways for such a long time we wanted to leave something behind that schools, youth groups and other organisations could use to raise awareness with young people. Something that could help people understand why young people go missing, something that would raise awareness, educate and ensure young people felt that were not alone.

During 2016 twelve young people started a 12 week radio project with Unity Radio (www.unityradio.fm). The group produced, recorded and broadcasted their own two hour radio show, and as part of the show the young people wrote and performed their own radio drama.

We thought the best way to help young people learn about keeping safe and the risk and dangers of going missing was to hear it directly from other young people themselves.

We have created this resource that centres on the young people's radio drama "Target". The resource provides a session plan with guidance for discussion, an evaluation and information about where to get support.

We hope that you find this resource helpful and would love to hear your feedback.

"I THINK IT'S REALLY GOOD THAT WE ARE GETTING THE TOPICS OUT THERE, AND THEY ARE COMING FROM PEOPLE OUR AGE. WE HEAR ADULTS TALK ABOUT IT BUT YOU JUST GO YEAH YEAH YEAH WHATEVER BUT IT IS DIFFERENT WHEN YOU HEAR IT COME FROM PEOPLE THE SAME AGE AS YOU"

Young Person – Radio Team

INFORMATION ABOUT USING THE RESOURCE

- This resource is designed for young people aged 13 and over, KS3/4.
- It can be delivered on its own or within PSHE lessons.
- The resource aims to develop skills and attributes such as resilience, self-esteem, risk-management, team working and critical thinking in the context of learning grouped into three core themes: health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world.
- This resource will help pupils “develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe, and prepare for life and work in modern Britain” as outlined in PSHE Association curriculum guidance.*
- The association also states “that well-delivered PSHE programmes have an impact on both academic and non-academic outcomes for pupils, particularly the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.” This resource is extremely useful for vulnerable pupils and students.
- The resource works best in a 45 minute time slot.
- This resource can be used to support staff and children when faced with issues surrounding running away, staying out late and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
- Additional information is provided about the risk and dangers facing young people when they go missing or stay out late, the reason why young people stay away from home and national statistics about the issue.

* <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/curriculum>

'TARGET' RADIO DRAMA - LESSON PLAN

Topic/themes to be covered - Running away, going missing, staying out late, child sexual exploitation, risk and dangers facing teenagers

Aim of session - to use the radio drama to raise awareness of the above, encouraging discussion of the risk and dangers of going missing and running away from home/school/care

Target Audience - KS3-4, Yrs 8-11 Ages 13+, those at risk of going missing/staying out late or those known to be already going missing

Covers PSHE areas - resilience, self-esteem, risk management, team working and critical thinking, health and wellbeing, relationships and keeping self-healthy and safe.

Using the resource - best used in a PSHE session where staff have around 45 minutes to listen to the radio drama and use the discussion questions for learning and development.

Teacher/Leaders Notes

Please take time to consider the ways in which you will create a safe learning environment. This could include ground rules or a group contract, drawn up in collaboration with the young people. There may be occasions throughout this session when young people choose to share their own experiences. These discussions should be dealt with sensitively and any disclosures should be shared in line with your organisation's safeguarding or child protection policy.

Prior to the session -

- Listen to the radio drama (linkgoeshere.com), familiarise yourself with the storyline and be prepared for any potential questions/queries
- Be aware of why young people run away or go missing
- Add to the list of support groups any local groups or people in your school/organisation that can help

Be aware that young people may share sensitive information or need to speak with a teacher/worker after the session- make sure you have arrangements in place for this.

We have a survey page at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/targetplay we would really appreciate the feedback from the above questions and also some feedback from yourself on the resource. Please use the link above.

Session Plan	Resources
<p>Welcome to the session/setting the scene Set some ground rules for the session and explain that some of the things discussed in the session may be sensitive or may raise questions or concerns, ensure that the young people know they can speak to you after the session.</p> <p>Explain to the group that they will learning about risk and dangers of running away and going missing. Tell the group that the session includes a radio drama created by other young people who want to help other young people to keep themselves safe.</p>	
<p>Runaways Quiz In groups or individually ask young people to complete the Runaways Quiz Sheet. When the quiz sheets have been completed as a whole group go through the questions and answers.</p> <p>Discuss with the group if any of the facts are surprising to them.</p>	<p>Runaways Quiz (Sheet 1) Runways Quiz Answer Sheet</p>
<p>Why do young people run away or go missing? In pairs or as a large group generate a list of reasons why young people may run away or go missing.</p> <p>Involve the group in a feeding back their lists and the reasons why some young people may go missing or run away from home/care. Use Sheet 2 to prompt the group if there are any gaps.</p> <p>Ask the group what risk they think young people who go missing or stay out late can face?</p> <p>Do they know anyone or have worries about a friend or person who is going missing/stays out late. Remind them you will be around to talk to people at the end of the session.</p>	<p>Sheet 2 – Risks of going missing</p>
<p>Radio Drama - Target Ask the group to listen carefully to the story of Chloe & Tyrone in Target Radio Drama.</p> <p>Remind the group that you will be asking questions about the story so to pay attention to the detail of the story.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nd9qJubCC3Y 'Target' Computer, Internet Speakers Target Script</p>

<p>Radio Drama – Group Discussion Discuss the characters and the decision they made during storyline using the following discussion points. This could be done in small groups, splitting the question between the groups.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why do you think Chloe was happy to stay out and not go home? 2. What do you think home was like for Chloe? 3. Why do you think Tyrone targets Chloe? 4. What could Chloe’s friends have done? 5. Why did Tyrone lie about his age? 6. Do you think Tyrone really cared for Chloe? 7. Do you think Chloe and Tyrone’s relationship is healthy? 8. What risks can you identify in the story? And who is at risk? 9. What should Chloe’s friends do? 10. Will it be easy for Chloe to end her relationship with Tyrone? 11. Do you think he has done this before? 12. What professionals could help Chloe? 13. What advice would you give Chloe? 	<p>Sheet 3- List of discussion questions</p>
<p>The Target Cast – Thoughts and feelings Use the web link to play the cast’s thoughts and feelings about the storyline of the radio drama.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taC0e2tUmpc ‘Target- cast discussion’ Speakers</p>
<p>Additional Questions & Information Share with the group that there is always help and support out there with any problems or worries they may have. Remind them of any specific services you may have to hand in your organisation. Summarise the key points about running away, the risks and dangers and how to get help. Give out the useful phone numbers sheet.</p>	<p>Sheet 4- Additional Information Sheet</p>
<p>Feedback and Evaluation To gauge what impact the session has had and if it has given the group new and useful information complete a raise of hands evaluation for the following questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have you learnt something new about why YP may go missing? 2. Do you have a better understanding of the risks missing YP face? 3. Has the session increased your awareness of CSE? 4. Do you feel you would be able to support a friend who was thinking of going missing/running away? 	

SHEET 1-THE RUNAWAY QUIZ



1. **How many young people under the age of 16 run away each year?**
 - 20,000
 - 60,000
 - 100,000

2. **What is the main reason that children run away?**
 - Because they are in trouble with the police
 - Family problems
 - Bullied at school

3. **At what age are children most likely to run away?**
 - 9-11 years
 - 11-13 years
 - 13-15 years

4. **What would help stop a young person from running away?**
 - Bars on the windows and the doors locked
 - Having support from family, friends and teachers
 - Having nowhere else to go

5. **When a young person runs away, where are they most likely to spend the night?**
 - On the streets
 - With friends or relatives
 - In a hotel

6. **If you run away you are more likely to get involved with drugs, crime and other risky things.**
True or false

7. **Who stays away for longer, boys or girls?**
Boys or Girls

8. **A person who runs away as a child is more likely to have problems as an adult.**
True or false.

THE RUNAWAY QUIZ - ANSWERS



1. **100,000.**

This number comes from research carried out by The Children's Society with young people in schools across the country and is based on children/young people who stayed away from home for at least one night (Still Running III, 2011).

2. **Family problems.**

This could be because of arguments at home, violence, issues with parents/carers or being forced to leave.

3. **13-15.**

This is the age group that runs away the most.

4. **Having support from family, friends and teachers.**

If young people have someone to talk to who will try and help, they are less likely to make a sudden decision to run away. Young people have identified the importance of being listened to and having a good network of support. (Reaching Safe Places, 2014).

5. **With friends/relatives.**

Most young people who run away stay locally and are only away for a few nights. Some stay away for longer and can lose contact with home or care, often resorting to crime to survive or staying in risky situations.

6. **True.**

If you stay with a good friend or relative, the situation may not be risky. However, if you end up on the streets or staying with people you've just met, there is a risk that you will be offered drugs or expected to do things in return for staying in someone's house. If you run away with people who take risks or commit crime, there is a high chance you will get drawn into that too.

7. **Boys.**

On average, boys stay away for longer and this can increase the risks they face. Sometimes boys can be reluctant to talk about their feelings and it is important that they are encouraged to think of people they trust and can talk to.

8. **True.**

This does not mean that everyone who runs away as a child will have problems as an adult. However, running away as a child has been linked to a greater risk of being homeless as an adult (Shelter, 2011). If a young person gets involved with drugs or crime when running away, or gets sexually exploited, this can affect how they feel and behave when they are older.

SHEET 2 – RISKS OF GOING MISSING

Children and young people run away for many different reasons: sometimes because they feel sad or upset with things happening in their lives; sometimes because there are difficulties at home, such as relationship breakdown or other family pressures; and sometimes because they are living in Care and want to see their family or friends.

We know that from working with lots of children and young people things feel worse when:

- They have no one to talk to about their problems.
- They don't know what else to do.
- They feel that they are not getting any support to help with what makes them run away.

REASONS FOR RUNNING AWAY

Some of the reasons young people say have caused them to run away:

Physical and sexual abuse, victims of crime, alcohol and drugs, bullied, attacked, target of child sexual exploitation (CSE), get in with the wrong crowd, grooming, thrown out, to be with boyfriend/girlfriend, pregnancy, sexuality, culture/religion, parents' mental health/drug/alcohol use, divorce, parent's new partner, involved in crime, neglect, to be with family.

RISKS OF RUNNING AWAY

Victim of crime, CSE, involved in substance abuse, sexual abuse, mental health, grooming, substance misuse, poor hygiene, involved in crime, missing education, poor health, poor emotional wellbeing.

RUNNING AWAY STATISTICS

- Every 5 minutes a child in this country runs away from home or care.
- Runaways have been reported as young as 8 years old.
- One in six young people who run away end up sleeping rough.
- One in six young people who run away say they have stayed with someone they have just met for at least some of the time they were away.
- One in eight young people who run away resort to begging or stealing to survive.
- One in twelve young people are hurt or harmed as a direct result of running away.
- One in nine young people have said they have done 'other things' in order to survive.

Source: Still Running III, The Children's Society, 2011

SHEET 3 - TARGET DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think Chloe was happy to stay out and not go home?
2. What do you think home was like for Chloe?
3. What could Chloe's friends have done?
4. Why did Tyrone lie about his age?
5. Do you think Tyrone really cared for Chloe?
6. Do you think Chloe and Tyrone's relationship is healthy?
7. What risks can you identify in the story? And who is at risk?
8. What should Chloe's friends do?
9. Will it be easy for Chloe to end her relationship with Tyrone?
10. Do you think he has done this before?
11. What professionals could help Chloe?
12. What advice would you give Chloe?

SHEET 4 - IF YOU'RE THINKING OF RUNNING AWAY

IF YOU'RE THINKING OF RUNNING AWAY

It might feel like there's no way to fix the problems that are making you think about running away. If you can, tell your parents or the person who cares for you how you feel. It may be possible to work together as a family to change things for the better.

If the problem is as serious as abuse and a parent is involved, then talk to a teacher or counsellor/mentor at school, a good friend's parent, a close relative, or another trusted adult. Let that person help you find somewhere safe to stay. It might be hard to share this secret because you may feel ashamed or afraid of getting someone in trouble, but remember that abuse is never your fault.

IF YOUR FRIEND OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS THINKING OF RUNNING AWAY

If your friend is thinking about running away, warn them about how tough it will be to survive on the streets. Your friend is probably scared and confused. Try to be supportive and help your friend feel less alone. Remind your friend that, whatever the problem is, there are other ways to deal with it, even if neither one of you can think of the ways right now. A trusted adult will know how to help.

It takes courage to tell a trusted adult that your friend is about to run away, but try to do this as soon as possible. Being a real friend doesn't mean keeping a secret when it can hurt someone. It means doing the best thing possible for your friend. And running away isn't a solution for either of you. It only leads to more problems and danger.

TARGET RADIO DRAMA SCRIPT

This play is based on a series of improvisations that young people created during workshops. The young people were all from the Liverpool area and some terms or language may be unfamiliar - these are explained in brackets.

SCENE 1

Narrator: Chloe, Ellie and Amelia are at Amelia's house and they have just made their way home from school. Chloe is getting mouthy because she is hungry, the girls also had planned to go window shopping in town and stopped at home to get changed instead.

Chloe: Have you got anything to eat?

Ellie: Isn't this lad proper fit on insta?

(Instagram, social media) (Fridge opening)

Amelia: There's nothing to eat! Let's go out and get something.

(TV in the background)

Chloe: We can catch the bus if we leave now. (Front door slamming)

SOUNDS:

- Ringtone
- Car Driving
- Front door shutting
- Mobile phone alert
- TV in the background
- Fridge opening

SCENE 2

Narrator: Ellie and Amelia leave for the bus while Chloe dragged behind dreading the rest of the day. She didn't want to go shopping, she's usually just chilled.

Narrator: The bus pulled up (with a big splash), the girls paid the driver and went to sit at the back of the bus. In front of the girls was a tall rigged out (well dressed) young man.

Amelia: Hurry up Chloe we're going to miss the bus.

Ellie: Are you messing? I've only got enough for 6 chicken nuggets, proper fuming (angry).

Chloe: Chill down, I'm going as fast as I can and nobody's bothered Ellie.

Ellie: Omg Amelia look how heavy (nice) that cap is.

Amelia: That's sick (nice) that.

Chloe: Ay what are we even going to town for it's proper effort (time).

SOUNDS:

- Splash
- Bus noise
- Engine Noise
- People in the background

SCENE 3

Narrator: The girls got off the bus at the City Centre with a variety of people with rollers in their hair, PJs (pyjamas) with brown ugg boots and makeup that's just been done. The girls then headed to McDonald's.

Ellie: Can I have 6 chicken nuggets please and can I use this voucher to get a strawberry lemonade?

Amelia: Come on Chloe let's go to the KFC.

Chloe: Arr you're proper effort you, you know

Narrator: Amelia and Chloe walked to the KFC (while Ellie ate her chicken nuggets) (Chloe rings Ellie)

Chloe: S'appenin (Hello), I'm getting off me, it's proper boring, are you coming with me or not?

Ellie: Nah, I'm staying in town me, you know

Chloe: Oh yeah, go on, see yers in a bit (annoyed)

Amelia: What's she chattin? (saying)

Ellie: Dunno, chatting madness, proper buttin (rejecting them) me and everything.

Narrator: Amelia and Ellie was shocked by the fact that Chloe had buttin them.

SOUNDS:

- Ringtone
- Girls talking
- Hang up sound

SCENE 5

Narrator: Chloe makes her way home and as soon as she gets home Chloe and her mum break into an argument, and Chloe's mum wouldn't stop asking questions about where she had been.

(door shutting)

Chloe's mum: What time is this then?

Chloe: You know where the clock is.

Chloe's mum: Who do you think you are?

Narrator: Soon after Chloe's lecture, she gets a request from Tyrone on snapchat and adds him as soon as. After some time of Chloe and Tyrone talking over snapchat Tyrone asks Chloe to meet up with him in the park.

Tyrone: Hiya gorg (gorgeous) what's up?

Chloe: Hello sunshine, nothing my mum's just weird isn't she.

Tyrone: Want a bit of this?

Chloe: I don't feel so good.

Tyrone: You getting on this joint then it will make you feel better you know.

Chloe: Go on.

(Inhales and exhales smoke)

Narrator: Chloe and Tyrone chill and smoke weed and get drunk for the whole day.

Tyrone has been trying to get close to Chloe and has been putting his arm around her and trying to kiss her.

Chloe starts to feel uncomfortable and rings Amelia.

(Chloe rings Amelia)

(Dialing tone)

Chloe: Hiya Amelia I'm in a load of trouble at the moment.

Amelia: Arrrrr girl what's happened?

Chloe: I'm out with Tyrone at the park, he's really nice, he's offered me a drink and a spliff (cannabis) and that and I thought ok why not. But then he's been putting his arm around me and trying to go further and that but I'm not sure I want to be with him. Now he's worried that I'm going to grass on him and he's started threatening me. I don't know what to do?

Amelia: Are you on your own? Is Tyrone still with you?

Chloe: I don't feel well, I think I'm gonna be sick.

Amelia: Are you ok Chloe?

Chloe: I don't feel good at all (Chloe goes sick)

Narrator: Chloe is so unwell, she passes out. Tyrone then rang an ambulance and left her. (ambulance sirens)

Chloe ends up in hospital in a terrible state. Chloe's mum receives a call from A+E to let her know what had happened to Chloe but she is barely bothered.

Amy and Amelia were walking towards the hospital when a man pulls up beside with a loud screech across the concrete, violently opening his door, hopping out of his car and aggressively marching towards the girls.

Tyrone: Have either of you spoke to that Chloe?

Amelia: Yeah why? Who are you?

Amy: That's the man who Chloe got off with.

Tyrone: As soon as either of youse see her, call me, better yet bring her to me.

Amelia and Amy: OK

Tyrone: You're all right you laa (lad)

Amy: We should tell Chloe's parents about Tyrone.

Amelia: Why? Don't you like him?

Amy: Don't you think he looks a bit shady? And he's obviously a lot older than 17 aint he.

Amelia: You know what, her mum doesn't really care about her and you know what, he's fit.

Amy: Oh shut up, let's just go and see Chloe.

Narrator: Amy and Amelia arrive at the hospital to find Chloe looking really worn out, and hooked up to all sorts. She looks really relieved to see her friends.

Amy: Come here giz a hug you silly cow.

Chloe: Rrr you don't understand how minging (dirty) I feel.

Amelia: What happened?

Chloe: I'm stupid you know, I climbed out the window and everything to go and get drunk and high with Tyrone.

Amelia: How did you even pay for it?

Chloe: He bought it all.

Amelia: He seems alright and he's fit.

Amy: You're stupid you.

Chloe: He actually is though, he's really nice, he told me that he really likes me. I'm going to go and see him when I'm out, he's messaged me and told me he will come and pick me up.

Narrator: Tyrone pulls up near Chloe and tells her to get in the car, Chloe listens and follows without any objection.

(car window goes up)

Tyrone: Have you told anyone about the weed and that?

Chloe: No I haven't said anything.

Tyrone: If you have do you know what I could do to you. Get in the house we're going to sort this now.

Narrator: Tyrone and Chloe go into the house. The door is shut, the door is locked and no one has heard from Chloe since.

SOUNDS:

- Inhaling smoke
- Vomiting
- Ambulance sirens
- Car window

SUPPORT INFORMATION

SUPPORT AGENCIES MAY VARY DEPENDING WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA.

National Support Agencies:

Runaways Helpline 24/7- 116 000
www.runawayshelpline.org.uk

Childline 0800 1111
www.childline.org.uk

Bully Busters 0800 169 6928
www.bullybusters.org.uk

Forced Marriage Helpline 0800 599 9247

Police 101 (non-emergency)

Merseyside Support Agencies:

YPAS 0151 707 1025
www.ypas.org.uk

Liverpool Careline (Social Services) 0151 233 3000

Armistead (LGBT Support) 0151 227 1931

Young Addaction 0151 706 9747
www.addaction.org.uk

Liverpool Domestic Abuse Helpline 0151 263 7471
www.liverpooldomesticabuseservice.org.uk

OK UK (Alcohol Support) 0151 702 0740
www.mya.org.uk/event/okuk/

Barnardo's Young Carers (Liverpool) 0151 708 7323
www.barnardos.org.uk/youngcarersnorthwest

Rape & Sexual Abuse Support (RASA Liverpool) 0151 666 1392
www.livewellliverpool.info/Services/1074/Rape-and-Sexual-Abus

Brook Advisory Service 0151 207 4000 www.brook.org.uk