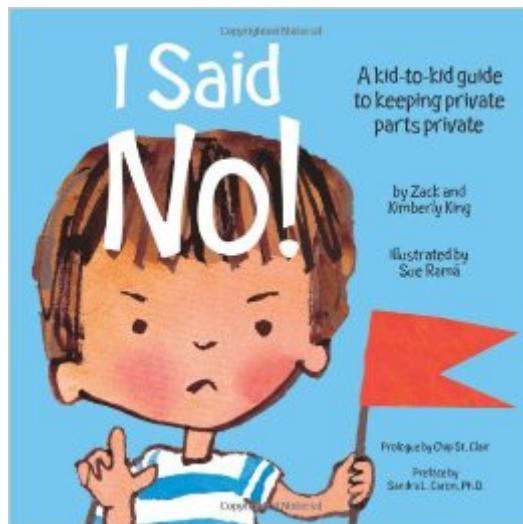


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# I Said No! A Kid-to-kid Guide To Keeping Private Parts Private



## **Synopsis**

Helping kids set healthy boundaries for their private parts can be a daunting and awkward task for parents, counselors and educators. Written from a kid's point of view, *I Said No!* makes this task a lot easier. To help Zack cope with a real-life experience he had with a friend, he and his mom wrote a book to help prepare other kids to deal with a range of problematic situations. *I Said No!* uses kid-friendly language and illustrations to help parents and concerned adults give kids guidance they can understand, practice and use. Using a simple, direct, decidedly non-icky approach that doesn't dumb down the issues involved, as well as an easy-to-use system to help kids rehearse and remember appropriate responses to help keep them safe, *I Said No!* covers a variety of topics, including: What's appropriate and with whom. How to deal with inappropriate behavior, bribes and threats. When and where to go for help, and what to do if the people you're turning to for help don't listen. Dealing with feelings of guilt and shame.

## **Book Information**

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Age Range: 4 and up

Grade Level: Preschool and up

## **Customer Reviews**

I purchased 3 books on this subject that were highly recommended by the people that purchased them. Although all the books were great, this book stood out far from the rest. I have 4 kids that range from age 7 to 14. I was reading this book for the first time to my 2 youngest (7 & 10) when the 2 older kids (12 & 14) came into the room as I continued to read. The 2 older kids were actively participating in discussing the contents of the book just as much as the younger ones. We ended up

reading it through a second time with all the kids & discussing what they learned. What I'm trying to say is even though at first this book seemed like it was going to pertain to much younger children, it actually didn't. The author made it understandable for the younger ones, but also covered situations the older ones had never thought of. The author also left several areas "open for parental discussion" at the end of sections where parents can elaborate more if they feel they needed to. For ex: some families use the words "private parts", "bathing suit area" or "boy parts & girl parts" instead of the proper names. Instead of explaining these proper names, the author writes something like "..your private parts are the areas of your body that are covered by your bathing suit. These "private areas" have names that you can discuss with your parent. You may want to discuss this right now.." So the author covers all the bases for those parents who would rather use their own "pet names" for genitals without offending anybody (as ALWAYS, there will be people offended by using "penis and vagina" with their children, as well as the reverse using "pee-pee" instead of the correct names for genitals). This was very SMART on the author's part.

I feel CONFIDENT that my daughter will recognize a dangerous situation because of this book! My daughter is starting Kindergarten, so I figured it was time to start teaching her about the "dangers of the world", but in a kid-friendly and easy-to-understand way. Since there are several books on this subject, I read 4 of them - this one, Your Body Belongs to You, Those Are MY Private Parts, and Amazing You! I Said No! is the clear winner, in my opinion. It was the first one I read, and none of the other 3 lived up to it. At first I thought it might be a little scary, and maybe too long. But I read it to my daughter in one sitting and she LOVED it. It wasn't scary at all! And she looks at it and wants me to read it again. What I like about the book is this - it gives CLEAR examples (though not graphic) for the child including examples of bribes, threats, etc. that someone might use against them and how to recognize them. The other books seemed vague in this sense. It repeats examples of things that might happen and says "red flag!" Tells the child what to say and how to say it "NO! No way!" - Be loud and clear! DO: Get the heck out of there! Tell your mom or dad something happened that was very bad!" The examples are wonderful because it covers so many situations. For example it says: WHAT IF? If your friend, brother, sister, cousin, uncle, aunt, grandparent, teacher, coach, stranger or anybody else... Asks you if they can see your privates or touch your privates... They might say "if you keep a secret I will buy you things!" They might say "If you keep this secret I will be your best friend" - What should you think? What should you say? What should you do? THINK: DANGER, RED FLAG! SAY: "No! No way!" Be loud and clear!

"Teach your children well; give them a code that you can live by." -- David Crosby, 1969 How I wish this delightful book existed when I was child! This is an IDEAL teaching tool of empowerment for younger children (preschoolers) about learning to recognize danger. It is kid-friendly without being condescending, serious without being frightening. This 32-page masterpiece is one of the lead horses in the child sexual abuse prevention race. For many years, children were warned about the cliche stranger, but the issue of predators children knew was rarely if ever addressed. When I was a child, I honestly thought a double standard existed - improper touching was only frowned upon by one's caretakers if done by strangers. During those years, I wondered why nobody ever said if children had any recourse if they were confronted with "bad touches" by people they knew. This book COMPLETELY dispels the myth of the stranger bearing candy, lurking on playgrounds and near schools if indeed he ever even existed. Statistics have shown time and again that "bad touches" are very rarely done by strangers! It is timeless; the message of assertiveness and respect for boundaries and the human body at large can never be over emphasized. This book provides a checklist in the form of very clearly written examples of danger signals, e.g. bribes, gifts, threats that a predator or potential predator might use. Each time an example is given, the words "RED FLAG!" are used. The child in the example is supplied with good verbiage and to shout, "NO! NO WAY!" quite loudly so as to be heard. The crucial message of telling a parent or some other trusted adult is stressed along with the equally crucial message that abuse is not always carried out by strangers.

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