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Beware of Paedophiles

CHILDREN SOMETIMES WATCH horror films and may have nightmares about some terrifying creature they have seen on the screen. Yet those ugly creatures are not real, so they should not be afraid. The really dangerous people do not look ugly. They usually treat children very kindly. However, they are dangerous, and parents should warn their children about them. I am referring to paedophiles.

What are paedophiles? They are mostly men, but a few may be women, and they are very dangerous. The word can be split into two parts: “paed” comes from a Greek word meaning child, and “phile”, also from Greek, means “lover”. So a paedophile is a “lover of children”. Is there anything wrong with that? Yes, there certainly is, because it does not mean mother-love or father-love, but sexual love. Paedophiles look for little children for sex, no matter whether they are a few months or a few years old. See how dangerous they are!

This dreadful practice has always existed, but it has become frightful because it is now advertised on the Internet. Paedophiles have set up companies trading in children, a child sex trade that is absolutely criminal.

Let me tell the story of a recent paedophile case in Europe. A middle-aged man was trading in children of all ages by kidnapping

girls and advertising them for sex through the Internet. On one occasion, he kidnapped two girls aged about 8, buying them things, and talking nicely to them, until he managed to attract them to his home. There he took them into an underground cellar and locked the door. He then invited other paedophiles to use them. These lovely little girls had no way of escape.

Soon after, the man was suspected of a crime and was arrested, but he did not tell the police about the two girls locked under his house. The girls’ parents were frantic, when they could not find their children. By the time the police searched his house, the girls had already died of starvation. That paedophile is now in prison, but others still continue this awful child-sex trade.

That happened in Europe, but do you think it never happens here in Hong Kong? The fact is that we do have paedophiles here, and all parents and adults should warn children against going away with strangers.