

Dean's Story

Dean has formed a friendship with a local community member named Frank. Frank is a friend of Dean's mother, and he has been helping the family financially since Dean's dad died. Frank often shows up with groceries and special gifts for Dean that his mother could never afford.

Dean's mom works two jobs, and she is never around. Luckily, Frank is always available to pick Dean up and spend time with him. Dean's mom is so grateful that he has a father figure in his life who genuinely cares about their family. Dean likes Frank because he has way fewer rules than his mom and because he allows Dean to smoke and to play video games. One time, he let Dean look at porn after Dean promised not to tell his mom. Frank gives Dean extra long hugs goodbye that make Dean feel uneasy, and constantly texts him inappropriate jokes. Even so, Dean knows Frank is there to help and cares about him. He misses his dad, and having Frank around makes it easier.

Frank has agreed to take Dean out on the land / camping for an overnight trip to teach him about hunting and fishing. Things are going well, until Frank tries to touch Dean on his genitals when he is sleeping. Dean wakes up and tells Frank to stop. Frank threatens Dean and says, "If you tell anyone, I will stop helping your family, and there will be no more trips on the land / camping. This is going to be our secret."

Dean is over at your house, and he asks to sleep over. He has a bad nightmare and wakes you up. He is shaking and anxious. He shows you his phone, and you read a very inappropriate and threatening text from Frank.

Using the *Look, Listen, Link, Live*® model, answer the following questions:

- STEP 1: LOOK. What are the signs that tell you Dean needs help?
- STEP 2: LISTEN. How would you approach Dean to talk to him? What would you say?
- STEP 3: LINK. Where would you link Dean for help and support?
- STEP 4: LIVE. How would you take care of yourself, and what suggestions would you have for Dean?