

Smart Survivor

This is an incident about a woman who had finished shopping, went out to her car and discovered that she had a flat.

She got the jack out of the trunk and began to change the flat. A nice man dressed in a business suit and carrying a briefcase walked up to her and said, "I noticed you're changing a flat tire. Would you like me to take care of it for you?" The woman was grateful for his offer and accepted his help.

They chatted amiably while the man changed the flat, and then put the flat tire and the jack in the trunk, shut it and dusted his hands off. The woman thanked him profusely, and as she was about to get in her car, the man told her that he left his car around on the other side of the mall, and asked if she would mind giving him a lift to his car. She was a little surprised and she asked him why his car was on the other side. He explained that he had seen an old friend in the mall that he hadn't seen for some time. They had a bite to eat and visited for a while; he got turned around in the mall and left through the wrong exit, and now he was running late and his car was clear around on the other side of the mall. The woman hated to tell him "no" because he had just rescued her from having to change her flat tire all by herself, but she felt uneasy. Then she remembered seeing the man

put his briefcase in her trunk before shutting it and before he asked her for a ride to his car. She told him that she'd be happy to drive him around to his car, but she just remembered one last thing she needed to buy. She said she would only be a few minutes; he could sit down in her car and wait for her and she would be as quick as she could be.

She hurried into the mall, and told a security guard what had happened. The guard came out to her car with her, but the man had left. They opened the trunk, took out his locked briefcase and took it down to the police station. The police opened it (to look for ID so they could return it to the man). What they found was rope, duct tape, and knives. When the police checked her "flat" tire, there was nothing wrong with it. The air had simply been let out. It was obvious what the man's intention was, and obvious he had carefully thought it out in advance. The woman was blessed to have escaped harm.

How much worse it would have been if she had children with her and had them wait in the car while the man fixed the tire, or if she had a baby strapped in a car seat. Or, if she had gone against her judgment and given him a lift.

Share this story with someone you love. It may save a life.

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THE SECRET WORD GAME

Hidden in the text of the Victims' Advocate this issue is the **SECRET WORD** for the month of April. The rules are simple:

1. Find the word.
2. Telephone the Justice Coalition Daily Radio Show on 1320 AM-WJGR, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

3. The first person who telephones the correct Secret Word wins a \$10.00 Gift Certificate to Sonny's Real Pit Barbeque Restaurant.
4. You can only win once in a twelve month period.

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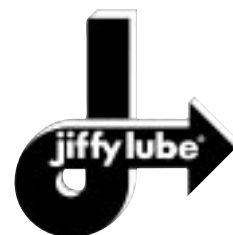
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