



 Giving Childhood Back to Children 

How to respond if you find an abandoned baby ...

1. Call the South African Police Services promptly and make yourself available to provide an affidavit on your observations.
2. Remain with the baby until the police come in order to ensure that the baby is safe and protected from the elements.
3. If necessary, the Emergency Rescue Services could be called to attend to the child's health needs.
4. Do take note of the following:-
 - Time of finding the baby
 - Place where baby was found
 - Child's appearance and condition e.g. health, cleanliness, emotional state.....
 - Child's clothing – What was child wearing? Was child wrapped up?
 - Was there a bag or any possessions left with the baby e.g. clothing, nappies, baby formula or baby food....
 - Any identifying details e.g. the child's Road to Health Booklet, letters, documents or information regarding the mother or family and their addresses or contact details.

It is important to note that your own observations surrounding the abandonment is critical in assisting in the investigation into the child's circumstances and may be helpful in the process of identifying and/or locating the mother or other family members.

"Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future." - Nelson Mandela

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