



YOUR HOME SHOULD BE **YOUR** SAFE PLACE.



**Do you feel threatened in your home?
Can't get rid of unwanted guests?
You have every right to take back your place.**

WHAT IS A HOME TAKEOVER?

A takeover is when a friend, relative or someone you know takes over your home. They may use it as a place to stay, sell drugs, do illegal activities or steal from you. As the tenant, you are responsible for what happens in your home.

A home takeover could happen to you, your neighbour or someone you care about. You need to get help. It's important to know the warning signs and what you can do about them.

HOW THEY HOOK YOU:

- Ask to crash on the couch
- Give you free drugs and/or alcohol
- Offer women for sexual favours
- Offer protection
- Offer to pay your rent and/or other expenses

TYPES OF HOME TAKEOVERS:

- Drug-related takeovers, whether by gangs or individually
- Takeovers of older adults
- Takeovers of formerly homeless people
- Takeovers of people with other vulnerabilities

PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT YOU DON'T:

- Ask for your keys
- Take your phone
- Steal your things
- Threaten or hurt you or your family
- Sell drugs or do other illegal stuff
- Sexually assault you
- Eat all your food / shower without permission
- Trap you in your home
- Force you out of your home

STAY SAFE:

- Don't let others deal drugs in your home
- Don't let too many people into your place at once
- Never give your phone or keys to someone else

If you feel that your neighbour or someone you know is in danger, take action and get help.
Don't let someone take over your home, or theirs.

TAKE ACTION:

- Don't keep it a secret
- Get out if you can
- Call:
 - » *Someone you trust*
 - » *Your support worker*
 - » *Your landlord*
 - » *Crime Stoppers* **1-800-222-TIPS (8477)**
 - » *Thunder Bay Police Service* **807-684-1200**
 - » *Anishinabek Police Service* **807-625-0232**
 - » *OPP* **807-473-2700**
 - » *Nishnawbe-Aski Police* **807-623-2161**

If you think your life in danger, call 911

BEWARE OF HOME TAKEOVERS.

IF YOU HAVE GUESTS OR VISITORS WHO WON'T LEAVE, GET HELP

Adapted with permission from Crime Prevention Ottawa.

