



Dear Sir/Madam,

CRIME ALERT – ELDERLY GOLD SCAM

This advisory serves to alert you of the re-emergence of gold cheating scam targeting senior citizens. A total of seven cases have been reported till date.

2 The culprit would usually target female elderly persons aged between 60 and 85 years old. The ruse employed by the culprit involves claiming to be an acquaintance or friend of the victim's family members/relatives. The culprit would then convince the victim that he could assist in exchanging the victim's jewellery for more expensive ones before coaxing the latter into handing over her jewellery.

3 Other variation of ruse used by culprit includes informing victim that the gold jewellery is required as a token for praying for good health. In some instances, culprit would inform that his late mother had left some jewellery and that he intended to give some to the victim. Culprit would then remove victim's ring on the pretext of checking the size and then absconding with the loot.

4 While Police is closely monitoring the situation, it is important that our senior citizens remain vigilant to prevent themselves from becoming the next victim.

Crime Prevention Measures

- Do not fall for anything that sounds too good to be true, especially if you are asked to surrender money or valuables. Examples of such scams include the trading of old jewellery for newer pieces, fortune telling, magical

talismans or objects like 'magic stones' or apples that would cure illnesses or avoid disasters, or any introduction to get-rich-quick schemes.

- If you are suspicious, consult your relatives and check with the police. Take note of the descriptions of the culprit(s), e.g. appearance, complexion, clothing, mannerism, movements and other physical details. This will help the police identify the culprit(s).
- Family members can play a key role by constantly updating their elders on the latest crime trend and the modus operandi.

6 If you have any information on the above cases or wish to report any suspicious person committing the scam, please contact the Police at **999**.

Yours sincerely



**EVON NG
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT DIV
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE**

CRIME PREVENTION – A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY