Thesis: Kidnapping is an issue in the U.S. that needs to be a concern, and people need to take it under a serious consideration.

I. What is kidnapping?
   A. Kidnapping is the act of seizing and holding someone against their will.
      1. Kidnapping is used to refer to children and adults being taken.
      2. Be aware of kidnappers because they are dangerous.
   B. Kidnapping for ransom or reward became common in the U.S. in 1920s and 1930s.
   C. Every 40 seconds a child becomes abducted or lost in the U.S. every day.
   D. About 74% of the victims of non-family child abductions are girls.
   E. About 1 out of every 10,000 missing children reported to the local police is not found alive.
   F. Most kidnappers are less than 35 years in age, and men, but sometimes they are women.

II. There are many different types of kidnapping.
   A. A type of kidnapping involves deception, which is when a kidnapper lives a false life over the internet.
      1. The kidnapper tries to get the victim’s information by trying to sound friendly.
      2. Also, the kidnapper tries to look under aged to attract their victims.
   B. Sometimes walking alone attracts kidnappers, and they will approach you.
      1. Always walk in groups because you never know who’s out there.
      2. Look at your surroundings, so you are not assumed non-confident.
   C. Abduction can occur in families by parents or family members.
      1. Divorces can cause issues in families, so one of the parents would take the child without permission from the legal parent.
      2. Child abduction is most common in family situations.
   D. Stranger abduction by men for money, physical explosion, and abuse is common.
      1. If the parents owe the kidnapper some money, then he or she would threaten the child.
      2. Some kidnappers try to take teens to physically or sexually abuse them.
   E. Some children abducted by woman end up being kept by the kidnapper and raised as her own.
      1. Women sometimes do that because they can’t have children of their own.
      2. Also, sometimes a woman might have been abandoned at a young age and starts to get bad thoughts in her head.

III. How can you be safe from being a victim kidnapping?
   A. Don’t talk to random strangers, and don’t answer any questions they ask you because they might be looking for personal information to find you.
   B. Always stay in groups, that way you don’t look unsecure and harmless because sometimes they trick you into coming with them.
C. Don’t let a stranger convince you into doing what they say, and keep communicating with your parents about what happens in your life in school and out of school.

D. Also, you should know emergency information at all times.
   1. Call 911 when you are in danger, and don’t have anywhere to go,
   2. If you are lost ask a trustable person, like an employee at a store, so you don’t get kidnapped.

IV. Kidnapping could be done by people you know because you are familiar with them, and won’t think they would do anything wrong.

V. What are some reasons and characteristics of a kidnapper?
   A. The kidnapper would’ve had a history of a life in poverty and was undereducated.
   B. Some suspects also tend to kidnap because they personally have been physically or sexually abused.
   C. Some people abduct children or adults because they have mental malfunctions or have had a criminal history of brutally abusing others.
   D. Sometimes women are separated or divorced from their husband, meaning they can’t have kids, so they go kidnap an opposite gender to have kids of her own, or kidnap a child to raise it as her own.
   E. Sometimes men who experience a break up or loss with a woman might go after teen girls to sexually abuse them.
   F. Also, if families have divorces, then a parent usually abuses the child and takes them away.

VI. Why do kidnappers target children?
   A. The child should be somewhat vulnerable.
      1. If they have they have low self-esteem and lack of confidence.
      2. If they are young, are lonely and want attention, have bad circumstances.
   B. Someone who wouldn’t tell things and was easy to manipulate would get kidnapped.
   C. The kidnapper shows affection and brings attention to the child that they didn’t have before.

**Conclusion:** Kidnapping can cause a tragic loss, and the U.S. needs to take a look over the issue.