



Talking Real Estate with Steve Slicker

Hi folks,

In light of recent events in Wellington and Lower Hutt regarding thefts and burglaries of properties on the market I thought I would re-visit safe open homes. Theft from properties that are offering open homes is extremely rare, or they wouldn't be such a popular method of exposing a house for sale to the widest number of buyers in the shortest time. Like many other useful practices that life offers (getting into a car and driving it on public roads where it may come into contact with other vehicles, for example!) there are steps that need to be taken in order to make the experience a positive one. See below to find out how to ensure your agent is conducting your open homes safely.

1. Never allow any person to enter your home without the agent being present
2. Confirm with the agent that a register is being kept of attendees and remind them that they are entitled to ask attendees to show photo ID on your behalf before letting them view the property.
3. Remove all items of special value such as jewellery to a safe place.
4. Draw your agent's attention to any items/areas that might be delicate or sensitive to touch or movement (antique furniture, for example).
5. Carry out a thorough inspection of your home at the conclusion of every open home to satisfy yourself that everything is in order. Report any irregularities to the agent and if necessary to the police.
6. Check insurance policies to make sure they are up to date. While the risk of theft is small, it is better to be prepared.

If you are thinking of selling or moving, please contact me on the numbers below or via my website www.steveslicker.com .

Kind regards,

Steve Slicker

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