

Child Sexual Abuse

URL of this page: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/childsexualabuse.html>

Sexual abuse is one form of child abuse. It includes a wide range of actions between a child and an adult or older child. Often these involve body contact, but not always. Exposing one's genitals to children or pressuring them for sex is sexual abuse. Using a child for pornography is also sexual abuse.

Most sexual abusers know the child they abuse. They may be family friends, neighbors or babysitters. About one-third of abusers are related to the child. Most abusers are men. If you think a child may have been abused, it's important to report it.

Start Here

- Child Sexual Abuse
[http://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/Facts_for_Families_Pages/Child_Sexual_Abuse_09.aspx] (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry)
Also available in Spanish
[http://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/Facts_for_Families_Pages/Spanish/El_Abuso_Sexual_a_los_Ninos_09.aspx]

Overviews

- Child Sexual Abuse [<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/pages/child-sexual-abuse.asp>] (National Center for PTSD)
- Sexual Abuse [<http://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Sexual-Abuse.aspx>] (American Academy of Pediatrics)

Diagnosis/Symptoms

- Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Symptoms
[<http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/signs.cfm>] (Children's Bureau)
Also available in Spanish [http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/sp_signs.cfm]

Prevention/Screening

- Parent's Guide to Internet Safety [<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>] (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

Coping

- Parenting a Child Who Has Been Sexually Abused: A Guide for Foster and Adoptive Parents
[http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f_abused/] (Children's Bureau)

Specific Conditions

- FAQ: Child Sexual Exploitation [<http://www.missingkids.com/Exploitation/FAQ>] (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)

Related Issues

- Innocent Images National Initiative [<http://www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm>] (Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- Questions and Answers about Memories of Childhood Abuse
[<http://www.apa.org/topics/trauma/memories.aspx>] (American Psychological Association)
- Understanding Child Traumatic Stress [<http://www.nctsn.org/resources/audiences/parents->

caregivers/understanding-child-traumatic-stress] (National Child Traumatic Stress Network)

Also available in Spanish

[http://www.nctsn.org/nctsn_assets/pdfs/edu_materials/Entendamoselstrtraumatico.pdf]

Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- Article: Could Savile happen again? [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23646813?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Article: Strategies and outcomes of HIV status disclosure in HIV-positive young... [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23596649?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Article: Prevalence of childhood physical and sexual abuse in veterans with... [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23538982?tool=MedlinePlus>]
- Child Sexual Abuse – see more articles [[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=child+abuse,sexual\[majr\]+AND+english\[la\]+AND+humans\[mh\]+NOT+\(letter\[pt\]+OR+editorial\[pt\]+OR+case+reports\[pt\]\)+AND+%22last+1+Year%22\[edat\]&tool=MedlinePlus](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=child+abuse,sexual[majr]+AND+english[la]+AND+humans[mh]+NOT+(letter[pt]+OR+editorial[pt]+OR+case+reports[pt])+AND+%22last+1+Year%22[edat]&tool=MedlinePlus)]

Directories

- Child Sexual Abuse: Contact Information for Related Organizations [http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/reslist/rl_dsp.cfm?subjID=83&rate_chno=11-11214] (Children's Bureau)
- CyberTipline (Child Sexual Abuse) [<http://www.cybertipline.com/>] (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)
- National/State Sex Offender Registry [<http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/cac/registry.htm>] (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

Organizations

- Federal Bureau of Investigation [<http://www.fbi.gov/>]
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children [<http://www.missingkids.com/>]
Also available in Spanish [http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/serMet/PublicHomeSerMet?LanguageCountry=es_US&]
- National Runaway Safeline [<http://www.1800runaway.org/>]

Law and Policy

- Definitions, Scope, and Effects of Child Sexual Abuse [<http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/usermanuals/sexabuse/sexabuseb.cfm>] (Children's Bureau)
- Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect: Summary of State Laws [http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/manda.cfm] (Children's Bureau)
- Sex-Offender Registration [http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/PageServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=1545] (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)

Statistics

- National Runaway Safeline Call Statistics [http://www.1800runaway.org/learn/research/2012_nrs_call_statistics/] (National Runaway Safeline)

Children

- Youth and Teens Page [<http://blog.1800runaway.org/>] (National Runaway Safeline)

Men

- Helping Yourself Heal: A Recovering Man's Guide to Coping with the Effects of Childhood Abuse [<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA12-4134/SMA12-4134.pdf>] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) - PDF
- Male Sexual Victimization Myths & Facts [<http://www.malesurvivor.org/myths.html>] (MaleSurvivor: National Organization against Male Sexual Victimization)

Women

- Helping Yourself Heal: A Recovering Woman's Guide to Coping with Childhood Abuse Issues

[<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA12-4132/SMA12-4132.pdf>] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) - PDF

Also available in Spanish [<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA12-4133/SMA12-4133.pdf>]

Patient Handouts

- Child abuse - sexual [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/007224.htm>]
Also available in Spanish [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/007224.htm>]

You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:

- Child abuse - sexual [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/007224.htm>]

You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:

- Child Abuse [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/childabuse.htm>]
- Children and Teenagers [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/childrenandteenagers.html>]
- Sexual Health Issues [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/sexualhealthissues.html>]

Child Sexual Abuse - Multiple Languages [<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/languages/childsexualabuse.html>]

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