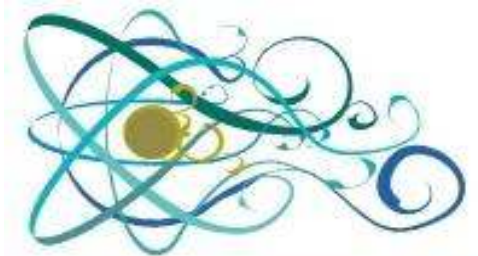


Child Safety Begins at Home!

What Every Parent Should Know!

Child Sexual Abuse Awareness & Prevention



SpeakingOut against Child Sexual Abuse

America... A Safe Place for Children!

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Be sure to visit our Website @ www.speakingout-csa.com (click on the "Resources" tab) for more information on these recommended books, as well as other helpful resources.



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SpeakingOut

against Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.

[A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization]

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SpeakingOut
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95%

of Children who are Sexually Abused know the person abusing them, and in far too many cases, loves & trusts that person.

Whether you are a Parent, Parent-to-be, Grandparent, etc... you have just taken a very important 1st step in protecting the special child or children in your life. For more information, please be sure to visit our website at www.speakingout-csa.com. Information also available on our Awareness & Prevention Workshops called "A Safe Place"; a very informative & interactive workshop that we recommend to ALL Adults.

Child Sexual Abuse is the ultimate Violation & Betrayal of any Child... it is Never the Child's Fault... and there are steps you can take to help prevent this from happening to Your Child!



1 out of 3 girls
will be Sexually Abused
by their 18th Birthday.

MASA (Mothers Against Sexual Abuse)
www.againstsexualabuse.org

Child Sexual Abuse Can Happen ANYWHERE ANYTIME TO ANY CHILD

We Hope and Pray... that your child is never faced with anything as devastating as Sexual Abuse. We completely understand that this is not something you would like to think about. It's upsetting and disturbing to say the least. You may even be thinking... "That could never happen to my child". Unfortunately & as statistics show, Child Sexual Abuse does happen & it happens often to countless numbers of children... the most innocent and helpless of all victims. I urge you to think about this... these "statistics" are made up of real children of all ages. Some Advice...

Never assume that just because you know where your child is & who they are with, that this could not happen to them. Unfortunately, Child Sexual Abuse can happen anywhere, anytime, to any child. Understand that 95% of children who are Molested/Raped/Exploited know the person abusing them & in far too many cases, loves & trusts that person.

Never assume that if this happens or is happening to your child that they will tell you. Sexual Predators know how to silence children. And as a Parent, your understanding of this horrific crime is imperative for your child's safety.



1 out of 5 boys
will be Sexually Abused
by their 18th Birthday

MASA (Mothers Against Sexual Abuse)
www.againstsexualabuse.org

SpeakingOut's Definition of a "Child"

Birth to 17 Years of Age

1 in 10 Homes
are involved in Child Sexual Abuse; a Leading Cause of Child Prostitution and Teen Suicide

MASA (Mothers Against Sexual Abuse)
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What Can You Do?

Learn all that You Can...

- ◆ Get Educated
- ◆ Continue Education / Keep Up-To-Date
- ◆ Familiarity with the Internet & Cell Phones

Talk to Your Child...

- ◆ We talk to our children about many things... the importance of education, dangers of drugs & alcohol, etc... We may even mention to our little ones that no one should ever touch their private parts & we assume that if anyone ever did, that our child would tell us. In addition, we teach our children to "never talk to strangers". The problem with stopping there is that 95% of children who are sexually abused know the abuser. These sexual predators are not strangers in most cases. We fear that by not talking to children specifically about sexual abuse, Parents may be unknowingly enabling their child to be "easy prey" for the many sexual perpetrators out there.
- ◆ You cannot protect your child from Sexual Abuse without talking to them... specifically about Rape, Incest, Molestation & Exploitation; at the age-appropriate level of course. Children need to know the dangers out there. They need to know that if this happens or is happening to them, that they can come to you. They need to know that no matter who may be doing this to them, that you will believe them. They need to feel safe to "tell" on their abuser.
- ◆ Most children are sexually abused & silenced by someone they know and far too many, by someone they love & trust. Explain to your child that although they are generally expected to respect adults & authority, that there are exceptions to that rule. Teach them that it is okay to say "No".

Minimize the Risk...

- ◆ The more you know about this crime and the perpetrators, the more you will know how to minimize the risk for your child.

Estimated that a child is Sexually Abused EVERY 2 MINUTES

MASA (Mothers Against Sexual Abuse)
www.againstsexualabuse.org

- ◆ Example... Try to avoid one-on-one situations with adults (and even older children) for your child, whenever possible.

Look for Warning Signs...

- ◆ You must have knowledge on & understand abusers/perpetrators of children & how/why they do what they do, to include the grooming process.

Know Your Child's Surroundings...

- ◆ Utilize available Online Resources such as Sex Offender Registries (National & Statewide Searches) for areas your child will be...home, school, etc... Links to Free Searches available at www.speakingout-csa.com.

Inquire about the Safety Precautions taken by Others involved with Your Child...

- ◆ School, Childcare Facility/Daycare Provider, Church, Other Groups/Activities, etc...
- ◆ Request information on safeguards they have in place.
- ◆ Don't be Shy; this is concerning your child's safety.

Know & Remember the Statistics...

- ◆ Remember... Each "Statistic" represents a REAL Child.

Tell Others...

- ◆ The more Parents who are aware of the reality & possibility of Child Sexual Abuse, and the more Children who know the dangers, the safer our children will be.



OVERALL GOAL
Open up the communication line between you & your Child / Children;
Not to instill fear.

Break the Cycle in Your Family...

- ◆ It is our responsibility as Adults to STOP the Abuse of Children within our own families.
- ◆ This kind of "Family Secret" only hurts innocent children.