



WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

Abuse is defined as any willful act or threatened act that results in any physical, mental, or sexual injury or harm that causes or is likely to cause the child's physical, mental, or emotional health to be significantly impaired.

SIGNS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The warning signs of child abuse and neglect vary from child to child. Children have different ways of coping with abuse, and the signs often depend on each child's characteristics and environment.

Table with 2 columns: Physical Indicators and Behavioral Indicators. Rows include Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse, and Neglect, each with a list of signs.

Every child deserves to be safe!





RISK FACTORS FOR ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Being aware of potential risk factors can help with both the identification and prevention of abuse.

Table with 3 columns: Child, Parent or Caregiver /Family, Environment. Lists various risk factors such as special needs, substance abuse, corporal punishment, etc.

DISCLOSURE AND REPORTING ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Every citizen, whether a mandatory reporter or not, should report suspected abuse. If you suspect any child is being abused, please call the Hotline for your state or area. You DO NOT NEED PROOF that a child has been abused or neglected to make a report, only reasonable suspicion.

For a list of state reporting hotlines visit: https://www.childwelfare.gov/organizations/?CWIGFunctionsaction=rols:main.dspROL&rolType=custom&rs_id=5

If a Child Discloses Abuse or Neglect

Table with 2 columns: Do, Don't. Lists actions like 'Recognize that hints may be the start of a disclosure' and 'Show shock or disgust'.

If You Witness Child Abuse or Neglect

Table with 2 columns: Do, Don't. Lists actions like 'Remain calm and supportive' and 'Show shock or disgust'.

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