

ADVOCATE

A Publication of the Support, Advocacy, & Resource Center

Summer 2012

Survivor Point of View

I think I have a unique view of grooming. I not only was a victim of it, I am also the wife of someone who was a victim of it.

It's strange to me that I cannot remember much of the physical grooming process I went through. What I can remember is the verbal grooming that took place. My first memories are of my cousin telling me how special and pretty I was. How much he loved me. He spent a long time convincing me that what he was working up to doing was okay. After a while, it became an unspoken language. Through something as small as eye contact, I knew what he was trying to convey to me. I was only four years old, and I had been trained to understand what people were thinking with nothing more than a look. I started to realize that in a room full of adults, I was the only one that knew what was going on. I cannot describe how terrifying that is, all I can tell you is I think he purposely did those things to "test the waters." He knew the same moment I did that he was going to get away with whatever he wanted, because no one could see what he had done. He, for lack of a better word, had brain washed me into thinking two things. First, that it was just how life is, and everyone went through it. Second, no matter how wrong I felt it was, or how much I didn't want it to happen, there was nothing I could do to stop it. He seemed to thrive on the knowledge that I was helpless and afraid. I wish there were more focus put on verbal grooming. I think if parents and kids alike were more aware of it, and what to look for, we could prevent a lot more sexual assaults from happening. It's so important to pay attention, and to listen

to your instincts. If you notice an odd look from someone, or strange behavior from a child in response to someone, don't just let it go. You could prevent someone's life being ruined.

As a wife, my heart breaks for my husband. Knowing the physical grooming he went through makes me sick to my stomach and extremely angry. I often wonder what kind of a mother allows a man she knows to be a child molester to stay living in the same home with her children. I don't care that he was her husband, and I don't care that he was the children's father. To save face, she sacrificed her children. I cannot overlook or forgive that. When my husband was ten, his father was arrested, and sentenced to prison for molesting a girl they went to church with. The saddest part of this to me, is that many of the things my husband's father did to him, he didn't even know were wrong, or sexual in nature. Only when he thinks about it from the perspective of being a father, does it hit him that those things are not right. It isn't normal to "tickle" your son's private area. It isn't normal to play "bath games" that involve naked body to naked body contact with your child. It isn't normal to show your son your erection. Every time something new comes up that my husband realizes wasn't normal or okay, it rips him apart all over again. Even though the abuse never went further than physical grooming, my husband will forever be affected by it. He will never be able to look back at his childhood without sadness. He will never have a father to go to when he needs to know how to raise his own children. What my husband has to look forward to is teaching his own sons the things he had to teach himself because he didn't have a father.

My husband and I choose to accept that we cannot change the things that have happened in our childhoods. We also choose to look ahead, instead of living in the past. That being said, it is not easy to get through all of the trauma and baggage that comes along with this kind of thing. In some aspects I think that grooming is the most mentally damaging part of abuse, because it completely rewires the way you think. It makes it almost impossible to trust people enough to truly let them get to know you. I am always second guessing other people, and waiting for the bottom to drop out. I also find that I cannot trust myself. I was so young when this happened to me that I never learned how to believe in people first, and if they let you down or hurt you then be guarded. It was the opposite. I have gone through life expecting everyone I know to hurt me, and break my trust. I am just now starting to realize that if I am in a constant state of distrust, it is inevitable that I am going to be hurt. I look at every day as a new chance to grow and learn. I also seize every opportunity to help those around me whenever I can. For me, that is the only way I can start to forgive the hurt
- Jessi

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Child Summer Safety Tips

For many kids summer means independence, sports, day or overnight camps, and extended visits with family or friends. As adults making summer plans for children, we need to remember to put safety first. Adults need to be educated, prepared and willing to ask questions of the people and organizations we trust to care for our children. Your safety planning now can help ensure your child has fun, safe and memorable summer experiences.

Child Sexual Abuse : 6 Stages of Grooming

Parents must be very cautious with adults in their children's lives. Sexual predators are masters at grooming their victims by insinuating themselves into their victim's lives as someone whom the victim and the victim's family can trust. Grooming is the process by which an offender draws a victim into a sexual relationship and maintains that relationship in secrecy. The secrecy of the relationship is an essential part of grooming. It is best for parents to think of grooming by sex offenders as a gradual, calculated process to gain the trust of the victim and the victim's family with the intent of sexually abusing the child. Grooming typically has 6 stages.

Stage 1: Targeting the Victim

The offender targets a victim by sizing up the child and the child's family's vulnerability— emotional neediness, financial distress, and isolation and lower self-esteem in the child.

Stage 2: Gaining the Victim's Trust

The sex offender gains trust by watching and gathering information about the child and the child's family, getting to know their needs and how to fill them. In this regard, sex offenders mix effortlessly with responsible caretakers because they generate warm and calibrated attention.

Stage 3: Filling a Need

Once the sex offender begins to fill the child's or the family's needs, that adult may assume noticeably more importance in the child's life and may become idealized. Gifts, extra attention, affection may distinguish one adult in particular and should raise concern.

Stage 4: Isolating the Child

The grooming sex offender uses the developing special relationship with the child to create situations in which they are alone together. This isolation further reinforces a special connection. Babysitting, tutoring, coaching, and special trips all enable this isolation. Parents may unwittingly feed into this through their own appreciation for the unique relationship.

Stage 5: Sexualizing the Relationship

At a stage of sufficient emotional dependence and trust, the offender progressively sexualizes the relationship. Desensitization occurs through talking about sex, the offender showing the victim pornography and even creating situations (like going swimming or wrestling) where the offender can "accidentally" touch the victim's private parts. After the offender has sexualized the relationship with the victim, the sexual abuse begins.

Stage 6: Maintaining Control

Once the sexual abuse is occurring, offenders use secrecy and blame to maintain the child's continued participation and silence. Offenders may threaten to harm the victim or the victim's family or tell the victim that no one will believe them if they report the abuse. It may also be hard for the victim to report the abuse because the offender is someone the victim and the family trusts or relies on financially. The victim may even love or care for the offender and like the attention they receive, just not the sexual abuse they suffer at the hands of the offender.

It is important to remember that although these 6 stages are typical for the grooming process, every situation is different and the grooming process may vary.

*Tips derived from "Child Sexual Abuse: 6 Stages of Grooming" by Dr. Michael Welner, www.oprah.com/oprahshow/Child-Sexual-Abuse-6-Stages-of-Grooming.

Reducing Your Child's Risk of Sexual Abuse

As a parent you can take many steps to reduce your child's risk of sexual abuse.

- Teach your child personal body safety. No one should ever touch them on their private parts unless it is to keep them clean and healthy (like a doctor). If someone does touch them on a private area they need to say "NO", run away, and go tell someone they feel safe with.
- Include these personal body safety talks with all other safety talks and repeat these talks three to four times per year.
- Teach assertiveness skills. It is OK for a child to say "NO" to an adult if they are doing something that makes the child uncomfortable.

Talking to Your Children About Sex Offenders

During the warm summer months families love to get outside and enjoy family outings, visiting water/theme parks, playgrounds, parks, beaches and campgrounds. During these family outings parents may let their guard down a little, but it is important to remember that these places are also very dangerous for children. There are currently no laws in Washington State that keep sex offenders out of these places and you never know who could be lurking around. Therefore it is a good safety plan to talk to kids about sex offenders.

What do I Tell My Kids About Sex Offenders?

Avoid scary details. You may know more than your children need to know. Keep information general, as it may protect them from others who would try to harm them as well. Explain the importance of avoiding dangerous situations in general rather than trying to teach them how to be safe from just one person.

Some Basic Talking Points:

- Do not accept rides from strangers.
- If someone you know offers you a ride, it is only okay if a parent/guardian has given you verbal permission first.
- Do not go into yards or homes of other people without first asking a parent/guardian for permission first.
- Tell your parents if anyone offers you toys, money, or gifts in exchange for something else.
- Use the buddy system when playing outside, and always ask a parent/guardian for permission to leave the play area.
- Call 911 if your parents are not home and somebody approaches you or tries to get into your house.



Preventing Sexual Abuse at Summer Camp: Five Tips for Parents

1. Educate Children About Body Parts

When teaching your child the names of body parts use the proper word, using euphemisms may hinder your child's ability to report abuse. Explain that these parts of their body are private and that no one should be touching them there unless that person is trying to keep them clean and healthy(e.g. a doctor or pediatrician).

Child molesters ask their victims to keep abuse a secret. It is important to teach your child that it's never OK to keep a secret about touching, and that if someone touches their private parts or asks them to keep secrets about touching, they need to tell you or another adult right away.

2. Screen the Camp

- Are criminal background checks done on all personnel? How many references do they require, and how do they check them?
- What training do staff members receive about child sexual abuse?
- How are campers made aware of what to do if they feel unsafe?
- Under what circumstances are staff members allowed to be alone with a camper?
- How does the camp monitor behavior of older campers with their younger peers?
- Are at least two adult counselors assigned to sleep in each cabin?
- Who is responsible for enforcing camp's rules and regulations?

3. Recognize Potential Abusers

Whenever someone seems to be overly interested in your child, beware. Camps routinely forbid their counselors to visit or spend time with campers outside camp precisely because a counselor who has had the opportunity to develop a close relationship with your child is in a position to have an undue amount of influence. Sexual predators are masters at "grooming" their victims by first insinuating themselves into their victim's lives as someone whom the child can trust. It is very important to remember that 85-95 % of victims know their offender.

Continued on Page 4

Preventing Sexual Abuse at Summer Camp: Five Tips for Parents

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4. Know the Warning Signs of Sexual Abuse

- Knowledge of sexual topics that are not age appropriate
- Seductive behavior
- Unprecedented shyness about getting undressed
- Avoiding a specific individual for no apparent reason
- Sleep disturbances
- Trouble walking or sitting
- Bedwetting
- Reluctance to go back to camp

5. Know What to Do if You Suspect Your Child Has Been Abused

Remain calm: your child is most likely very scared and embarrassed and it is very important to not react negatively because that may impact what the child is willing to tell you. The most important factor in a child's well being after being abused is the quality of support the child receives from their parents. Assure the child that the abuse is never their fault.

Don't investigate: thank the child for telling and make the report. Statistically, children only disclose the full story one time and hopefully it is while the child is interviewed during the investigation.

Don't confront the alleged offender: Law Enforcement and/or Child Protective Services should handle the alleged offender. It could cause other problems or cause them to flee if you confront them.

Document: make sure to document any evidence that might help the potential investigation (when, what, where, and who.)

Report: in our community, Law Enforcement and Child Protective Services work close together on child abuse investigations. Report to Law Enforcement if the alleged offender lives outside the home and to Child Protective Services if the alleged offender lives inside the home.

Get Support: you don't have to go through this alone! Contact the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center at (509) 374-5391.

*Tips derived from "5 Tips about Summer Camp Sexual Abuse" by Jackie Humans, PhD, www.jackiehumans.com

For more information or resources about child safety please contact SARC at (509) 374-5391.

8th Annual Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Kids Haven and the Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery

Thank you to all the community members who came to the breakfast and showed their support.

The total amount raised was over \$4,000!

SARC would also like to thank the following Sponsors

Benton/Franklin Mounted Sheriff's Posse, Henry's Restaurant, Bennett Rentals, John & Jan Hansens, Frank & Mary Lamb, Tri-City Sign and Barricade, Windermere Tri-Cities, and Red Door Party Rentals.

Pancake Chefs & Contributors

Andy Miller—Benton County Prosecutor
Leo Bowman—Benton County Commissioner
Steve Keane—Benton County Sheriff

Guest Chefs

Craig Littrel—Captain,
City of Kennewick
Chris Skinner—Chief of Police,
City of Richland



Thank you to all those who participated in the "Name the Agency" contest. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and interest in our agency. The name has been changed to better reflect the services we provide and clientele we serve; victims of all crime other than domestic violence. The new name also positions the agency to be able to expand services and programs in the future. We are happy to have kept the acronym "SARC" as the agency is well known and respected in our community. Mitzi Veng, SARC Office Administrator, and Byron Manering, Executive Director of Brigid Collins, both submitted the winning entry. We are excited to announce that we have officially changed our agency name to "Support, Advocacy & Resource Center".



Kids Haven Benefit Auction 2012

SARC held its sixth annual on-line benefit auction for the Kids Haven Program. Through the month of April many wonderful donated items were up for bid. The auction ended with an event at the SARC office where online bidding was available along with complimentary beverages, appetizers and online bidding stations. Approximately \$16,000 was raised to benefit child victims of abuse. Thank you to all of our wonderful sponsors, donors, and everyone who participated in the auction by bidding!

Sponsors:

Sterling Bank, Family First Dental, Rick and Cindy Rochleau, Tri-Cities Exchange Club, Columbia Valley Daybreak Rotary, Tri-Cities Optimist Club, Ken and Trish Hohenberg and Townsquare Media

Donors:

Ace Jewelry & Loan, Adriana Chavez, Adventures Underground, Albertsons-Kennewick, Alt Photography, Anthony's Restaurants, Archery Summit, Atomic Bowl, Avalon Hotel & Spa, Barbara Wolski, Beaver Bark, Bee Unique, Benton County Sheriff's Office, Benton Franklin County Fair and Rodeo, Bergstrom Aircraft Inc., Best Buy, Best Western Pony Soldier Inns, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Bill Speidel's Underground Tour, Bob's Burgers & Brew, Brandi Ralston, Canyon Lakes, Carmike Cinemas, Carol Harting, Cedars Restaurant & Lounge, Children's Administration, Chukar Cherries, Columbia Crest Winery, Columbia Point Golf Course, Craig Littrell, Crowne Plaza Hotel, D Sands Condominium Motel, Denise Martin, Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Disneyland, Doubletree Hotel City Center, DQ Grill & Chill, Duane Moe, Dunham Cellars, Efrosina Mileva, EMP Museum, Euphoria Salon & Spa, Europa Restaurant and Bakery, Family Fun Center & Bullwinkle Restaurant, Fastkart Indoor Speedway, Frank and Mary Lamb, Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Fred Meyer, Gina McPeak, Greenies, Hallmark Resort Newport, Hampton Inn Richland, Hampton Inn Spokane, Heritage Nursery & Garden Center, Hogue Cellars, Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Homewood Suites, Icicle Brewing Company, Illusions Salon, Indulgences Espresso & Delights, iO West Theatre, Ivar's, Jack Collins, Jackson's Sports Bar and Restaurant, Jennifer Peterson, Jennifer Sifuentes, Josh Bunten, Kahler Glen Golf & Ski Resort, Karen Jordan, Katya's Restaurant & Wine Bar, Kestrel Vintners, Kevin Hartze, Lake Coeur D'Alene Cruises, Lan Su Chinese Garden, LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Laura Valdez, Le Bistro Montage Portland, Leila Brown, Leslie Sievers, Malley's Pharmacy & Gift Store, Marine Discovery Tours, Mary Marquez, Media Mason, Mike and Anna Hahn, Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center, Mitzi Veng, Mocha Express, Mo's Restaurant, Mountain Meadow Artisans, Muchen Haus Bavarian Grill & Beer Garden, Ocean Terrace Condominiums, Ohme Gardens, Olive Garden, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, Oregon Zoo, Pacific Science Center, Pasco Golfland, Peggy Herrera, Pendleton Round-Up Association, Pilea Salon- Ceejae, Katy, Michelle and Ceann, Port Ludlow Resort, Preston Premium Wines, Ranch & Home, Red Lion Hotels, Renee Blackman, Rick and Cindy Rochleau, Rick and JoDee Garretson, Ripley's Believe it or Not, Roaring Springs Waterpark, Rock City Grill, Rollarena, Rosy's Ice-cream and Diner, ROW Adventures, Sage Hills Golf & RV Resort, Sahara Pizza, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle Mariners, Seattle Seahawks, Shannon Shadwick, Shawn Marrow, Shogun Restaurant, Shon and Lisa Small, Silverwood Theme Park, Silver Cloud Inns & Hotels, Sokol Blosser Winery, Sondra Dixon, Soroptimist International- Three Rivers, Spokane Interplayers Theatre, Sterling Bank, Sterling's Restaurant, Steven's Pass, Stone Soup Café, Suzi Vitulli, Target, Texas Roadhouse, The Capitol Theater, The Melting Pot, The Museum of Flight, The Onion and Frank's Diner, The Personal Touch, Touch Wellness Center, Tranquil Waters Massage, TRAC Center, Tri-City Americans, Tri-City Court Club, Tri-City Dust Devils, Tri-City Rotary Clubs, Tri-Cities Exchange Club, Tri-Cities Sunrise Rotary, Typhoon!, Uptown Restaurant, Walker's Furniture, White Pass, Wing Stop, Wong's Chinese Gardens, Woodland Park Zoo, WSU Football, Yada Salon, Yoke's Fresh Market





Crime Victim Service Center

The Vigilant

Summer 2012

Crimes

- Child Physical Abuse
- Elder Abuse
- Hate Crimes
- Robbery
- Assault
- Vehicular Assault
- DUI/DWI Crashes
- Identity Theft
- Fraud
- Kidnapping/Missing persons
- Property Crimes
- Human Trafficking
- Survivors of Homicide or victims of Attempted Homicide

All crimes other than sexual assault or domestic violence

Dear Readers,

This issue of **"The Vigilant"** will focus on child maltreatment, specifically physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect and kidnapping/abduction with a focus on safety, recognizing and reporting. Below are two survivor stories of childhood abuse.

Through The Grudges

When you lived every day of your childhood hiding and hoping your dad didn't come home really drunk (which was frikken rare) that part of your life lives with you forever. You start to wonder what did you do to cause his pain that he has to come home the way he is and give all his problems to you. To be hit until you can't breathe it's really a sad thing...nothing compares to that.

I think a breakthrough that stopped it somewhat was when my teacher made a social worker talk to me because of all the marks on my arms. She suspected child abuse, I denied, but I still had to deal with therapy for the rest of the year because they didn't believe me that there was no child abuse/neglect involved in my home life. My dad thought I told on him, which I think he had resentment for me then. I didn't tell on him, because if I did my family would have been screwed since my Mom didn't work - And still doesn't.

I really hold a grudge toward both my parents. Especially my mom for not helping me when I was crying and hiding all day. She didn't tell him to stop, she didn't take the car and take me places to avoid his wrath. She never held me and told me it would be okay that my Dad was just going through a hard time. She didn't do anything to solve the problem that no little girl should have to deal with.

Out of my whole family I took the most abuse, because everyone pointed fingers at me and I guess since I lived upstairs (right next to his room) I was an easy target for the most part. I played the "smile nothings wrong" when I was younger, but now it's like I can't hide that I hate this world.

My dad still drinks, but less or at least I think now he can control his anger for most days and stopped many of the drugs/smoking so it's getting better. Still I wonder how I made it this far, because I never really planned to live this age.. But here I am, still living for some reason?

<http://www.experienceproject.com/stories/Am-A-Child-Abuse-Survivor/2284782>

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Even though Maria is only 13, she feels like she is the mother of her younger brothers and sisters. Her own mother has a drug problem and is hardly ever home. When she is around, she's not much help. This year things are worse than usual. Maria has no winter coat, and her only pair of school shoes are full of holes. Sometimes the only thing to eat in the house is cold cereal. Maria feels like she worries all the time about where to find money and how to take care of the other children. She hates her mother and is always angry with her. But Maria also feels that if she told anyone about her problems, she'd get her mother into trouble and bring shame on the family. So she continues to try to cope on her own.

Mufson, Susan, and Rachel Kranz. *Straight Talk About Child Abuse*. New York: Facts On File, 1991. Print.



Child Physical Abuse

Definition:

Any non-accidental injury to a child. This includes hitting, kicking, slapping, shaking, burning, pinching, hair pulling, biting, choking, throwing, shoving, whipping, and paddling. <http://www.childhelp.org/pages/what-is-child-abuse>

Physical abuse is the most visible form of child maltreatment. Many times, physical abuse results from inappropriate or excessive physical discipline. A parent or caretaker in anger may be unaware of the magnitude of force with which he or she strikes the child. Other factors that can contribute to child abuse include parents' immaturity, lack of parenting skills, poor childhood experiences and social isolation, as well as frequent crisis situations, drug or alcohol problems and domestic violence.

<http://www.americanhumane.org/children/stop-child-abuse/fact-sheets/child-physical-abuse.html>

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Physical Abuse Indicators:

- Recurrent injuries with unexplained, guarded, implausible, or inconsistent explanations
- Oddly shaped or patterned bruises or lacerations (from an object)
- Uncommon locations for injury (underarms, neck, back, genitals, stomach, thighs)
- Lacerations
- Burns (cigarette, immersion/scalding)
- Welts
- Broken bones and intracranial trauma
- Hair loss
- Wearing long sleeve clothing out of season
- Hesitation on showing certain body parts (not dressing out for P.E.)
- Acts out aggression on others
- Fear, withdrawal, depression
- Fantasies, art work, or threats related to violence
- Regression
- Nightmares, insomnia

<http://www.childhelp.org/page/-/pdfs/Child-Abuse-Definitions.pdf>

Child Abduction

Facts:

Based on the identity of the perpetrator, there are three distinct types of kidnapping: kidnapping by a relative of the victim or "family kidnapping" (49%), kidnapping by an acquaintance of the victim or "acquaintance kidnapping" (27%), and kidnapping by a stranger to the victim or "stranger kidnapping" (24%).

In 80 percent of abductions by strangers, the first contact between the child and the abductor occurs within a quarter mile of the child's home.

About 74 percent of the victims of nonfamily child abduction are girls.

Only about one child out of each 10,000 missing children reported to the local police is not found alive. However, about 20 percent of the children reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in nonfamily abductions are not found alive.

For Child Abduction Prevention and Safety Tips, see Page 9 of the Vigilant.

Emotional Abuse

Definition:

Any attitude or behavior which interferes with a child's mental health or social development. This includes yelling, screaming, name-calling, shaming, negative comparisons to others, telling them they are "bad, no good, worthless" or "a mistake." It also includes the failure to provide the affection and support necessary for the development of a child's emotional, social, physical and intellectual well-being. This includes ignoring, lack of appropriate physical affection (hugs), not saying "I love you," withdrawal of attention, lack of praise and lack of positive reinforcement. <http://www.childhelp.org/pages/what-is-child-abuse>

The effects of emotional abuse are often silent. Verbal and psychological wounds leave a child forever changed. Emotional abuse is often overlooked, unnoticed or confused with other causes. Emotional abuse attacks a child's self-concept. The child comes to see him or herself as unworthy of love and affection.

<http://www.teach-through-love.com/effects-of-emotional-abuse.html>

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Emotional Abuse Indicators

- Hiding his or her eyes
- Lowering his or her gaze
- Biting lips or tongue
- Forcing a smile
- Fidgeting
- Annoyance
- Defensiveness
- Exaggeration
- Confusion or denial
- Feeling of nakedness, defeat, alienation or lack of worth
- Regression
- Poor self-esteem
- Angry acts
- Withdrawal
- Insecurity
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Depression
- Suicide
- Difficulty in relationships
- Eating disorders
- Sleep disorders/nightmares
- Speech disorders
- Developmental delays
- Nervous disorders or somatic symptoms

<http://www.childhelp.org/page/-/pdfs/Child-Abuse-Definitions.pdf>

Neglect

Definition:

Failure to provide for a child's physical needs. This includes lack of supervision, inappropriate housing or shelter, inadequate provision of food and water, inappropriate clothing for season or weather, abandonment, denial of medical care and inadequate hygiene. <http://www.childhelp.org/pages/what-is-child-abuse>

Consequences of Neglect

Children who suffer from neglect face a number of immediate and long term consequences. They are likely to experience delayed physical and mental growth, endure language deficits, and suffer from neurological impairments. They will likely exhibit behavioral problems and poor social skills, suffer from low academic achievement, experience extended poverty or unemployment, and face chronic illnesses or early death.

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/ca/NeglectFact.pdf>

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Neglect Indicators

- Poor hygiene, including lice, scabies, severe or untreated diaper rash, bedsores, body odor
- Squinting
- Unsuitable clothing; missing key articles of clothing (underwear, socks, shoes); overdressed or underdressed for climate conditions
- Untreated injury or illness
- Lack of immunizations
- Indicators of prolonged exposure to elements (excessive sunburn, insect bites, colds)
- Height and weight significantly below age level

<http://www.childhelp.org/page/-/pdfs/Child-Abuse-Definitions.pdf>

National Child Abuse Stats

Child Abuse in America

Children are suffering from a hidden epidemic of child abuse and neglect. Over 3 million reports of child abuse are made every year in the United States; however, those reports can include multiple children. In 2009, approximately 3.3 million child abuse reports and allegations were made involving an estimated 6 million children.

General Statistics

- ◆ A report of child abuse is made every ten seconds
- ◆ More than **five children die every day** as a result of child abuse.
- ◆ Approximately 80% of children that die from abuse are under the age of 4.
- ◆ It is estimated that between 50-60% of child fatalities due to maltreatment are **not recorded as such on death certificates.**
- ◆ More than 90% of juvenile sexual abuse victims know their perpetrator in some way.
- ◆ Child abuse occurs at every socioeconomic level, across ethnic and cultural lines, within all religions and at all levels of education.
- ◆ About 30% of abused and neglected children **will later abuse their own children**, continuing the horrible cycle of abuse.
- ◆ About 80% of 21 year olds that were abused as children met criteria for **at least one psychological disorder.**
- ◆ The estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States for 2008 is **\$124 billion.**

<http://www.childhelp.org/pages/statistics>

REPORT IT!!

ANYONE can and should report suspected child abuse and neglect. Protecting children is everyone's job whether or not you know the child. Neighbors, teachers, friends, relatives or just people passing by *all* share the responsibility to report ANY suspicions to local child protective services and/or law enforcement. Do not assume that someone else will intervene. **YOU MUST DO IT** because the child cannot. People are often concerned that their suspicions will be unfounded but it does not matter. Simply providing a description of what you have noticed or witnessed is always okay and can even save a life. Reporting suspected abuse may not only help the child, it may also help connect the family to support services.



What do I do if I think someone is abusing a child?

If a child **discloses** that he or she has been abused by someone, it is important that you LISTEN to them most of all.

DO

- Ask **ONLY** four questions

- 1 What happened?
- 2 Who did this to you?
- 3 Where were you when this happened?
- 4 When did this happen?

Asking any additional questions may contaminate a case!

DO NOT

- Investigate
- Ask leading questions (a question that suggests the answer or contains the information the questioner is looking for – That man touched you, didn't he?)
- Make promises
- Notify the parents or the caretaker

DO

- Provide a safe environment (be comforting, welcoming, and a good listener)
- Tell the child it was not his/her fault
- Listen carefully
- Document the child's exact quotes
- Be supportive, not judgmental
- Know your limits
- Tell the truth

If you suspect abuse, but a child has not disclosed to you, call 1-800-4-A-CHILD. Their counselors can talk through the situation with you and help decide what the best course of action is.

<http://www.childhelp.org/pages/what-is-child-abuse>

YOU CAN HELP: If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, or if you are a child who is being maltreated, contact your local child protective services office or law enforcement agency so professionals can assess the situation. Many States have a toll-free number to call to report suspected child abuse or neglect (Washington State Toll Free Line: 1-866-END-HARM / 1-866-363-4276).

Childhelp® is a national organization that provides crisis assistance and other counseling and referral services. The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with professional crisis counselors who have access to a database of 55,000 emergency, social service, and support resources. All calls are anonymous. Contact them at 1.800.4.A.CHILD (1.800.422.4453). <http://www.childwelfare.gov/responding/how.cfm>

You can also call your local child advocacy center or crime victim service center for guidance and support.

Child Abduction Prevention & Safety Tips

Teach Your Children:

1. Their full names, addresses and phone numbers.
2. How to make a long distance call (both directly to you using the area code and by dialing "0" for the operator or dialing 911).
3. Never go into anyone's home without your permission. Establish a Safe Home Program in your neighborhood.
4. Children should know what homes they are allowed to enter.
5. If they become separated from you while shopping not to look for you, but to go to the nearest checkout counter and ask the clerk, (1) if he or she works there, and (2) for assistance. Never go to the parking lot!
6. To walk with and play with others. The child is most vulnerable when alone. If your child walks to school, have him/her walk with other children.
7. That adults do not usually ask children for directions. If someone should stop in a car asking for directions, the child should not go near the car.
8. If someone is following them, they should go to a place where there are other people, to a neighbor's home or into a store. They should ask for help. They should not try to hide behind bushes.
9. Never to go near a car with someone in it; never to get into car without your permission. They should know in whose car they are allowed to ride. Warn your children that someone might try to lure them into a car by saying you said to pick them up. Tell them never to obey such instructions.
10. That a stranger is someone they and you don't know very well.
11. Never to tell anyone over the phone that they are home alone.
12. Never to answer the door when home alone. Teach your children how to call your community's emergency assistance number (911 or your local police or sheriff's number). Make sure that they know a neighbor they can call if someone tries to get into the house or if there is an emergency.
13. To tell you if an adult asks them to keep a secret.
14. That no one has the right to touch them or make them feel uncomfortable. They have the right to say; no.
15. To tell you if someone offers them gifts or money or wants to take their picture.
16. *To yell HELP, not just scream!*

As Parents You Should:

1. Know your children's friends.
2. Never leave children unattended; never leave children in a car.
3. Be involved in your children's activities.
4. Listen when your child tells you they do not want to be with someone; there may be a reason you should know about.
5. Notice when some one shows your child a great deal of attention and find out why.
6. Enroll in the IDENT-A-Kid Program and know where to locate dental records.
7. Be sensitive to changes in your children's behavior or attitudes. Encourage open communications. Never belittle any fear or concern your child may express to you.
8. Take a photograph of your child each year (four times a year for children under age 2).
9. Have a set plan with your child outlining what he/she should do if you become separated away from home.
10. Do not buy items that have your child's name on them such as hats, jackets, and t-shirts. An abductor could start up a friendly conversation with your child after reading the child's name.
11. Make a game of reading license plate numbers and remembering their colors. This will help children recognize the numbers and letters on license plates and their states of origin.
12. Be sure the children's daycare center or school will not release children to anyone but the children's parents or persons they designate. Instruct the school to call you if your child is absent

<http://www.push5.com/childabduction.html>

One in five children 10 to 17 years old receive unwanted sexual solicitations online. solicitations online.

<http://www.parents.com/kids/safety/stranger-safety/child-abduction-facts/>

The Vigilant Corner

Quote for this newsletter:

“Anger may identify a problem, but it will never solve one.”

~Anonymous

Additional websites

www.ncvc.org

www.crimevictimservicecenter.org

www.ocva.wa.gov

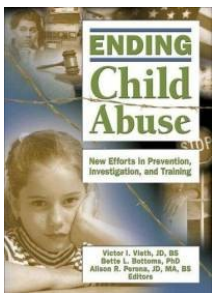
www.lni.wa.gov

www.wccva.org

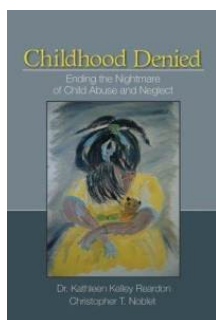
If you would like to know more about the topic addressed in this issue of The Vigilant, please don't hesitate to contact us at The Crime Victim Service Center by phone or via email at: achavez@myfrontiermail.com



Books and videos available for checkout from our library:



Ending Child Abuse: New Efforts in Prevention, Investigation, and Training, editors Victor I. Vieth, JD, BS, Bette L. Bottoms, PhD and Alison R. Perona, JD, MA, BS. “The editors provide an overview of the obstacles that prevent us from ending child abuse in the United States and briefly summarize the various articles in this volume that address these obstacles from multiple points of view.”



Childhood Denied: Ending the Nightmare of Child Abuse and Neglect by Kathleen Kelley Reardon, PhD and Christopher T. Noblet, MA, MBA “is an exposé of how the United States ignores and often discards its most vulnerable children. Delving into the political, legal, and social factors of children at risk for abuse and neglect, it chronicles the plight of abused children across the nation and provides a “report card” for each state...”



Straight Talk About...Child Abuse by Susan Mufson, C.S.W. & Rachel Kranz is a helpful and insightful book that carefully discusses physical, emotional and sexual abuse of children and offers possible solutions so that readers can seek help for themselves for someone they know.

REMINDER:

All CVSC library books and videos are *free* to checkout.

“The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth.”
-John F. Kennedy

Crime Victim Service Center

The Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC) is a program of the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center, in collaboration with the YWCA of Lewiston/Clarkston and the Walla Walla Police Department. CVSC welcomes all community members that have been affected by crime. Discrimination is prohibited in all programs and activities: no one shall be excluded on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, pregnancy, gender, income, veteran status, age disability, or sexual orientation.

24-Hour Crisis
Line
Benton,
Franklin,
Columbia,
Garfield and
Asotin
Counties

Services

WE'RE ON THE WEB
CRIMEVICTIMSERVICECENTER.ORG

1-888-9-VICTIM

The Crime Victim Service Center (CVSC) is here to help you. CVSC is available 24-hours a day to assist anyone who has questions or concerns about crime and the confusion that comes along with being a victim of a crime. CVSC services are free of charge and are confidential. Please contact CVSC at (509) 374-0130 for information or to access the following services.

Legal and Medical Advocacy

Our agency staff and our trained volunteer advocates respond to hospital calls to provide medical advocacy to victims of crime. We also provide legal advocacy at police interviews and court proceedings. Moral support and information is given to victims, family, friends, and witnesses to crime.

Crisis Intervention

Our staff provides short-term crisis intervention to clients. Advocates provide information, support, and validation for the client's feelings. We often recommend that clients seek additional therapy to assist in the healing process.

Referral Services

Our staff is able to assist clients in finding resources and information related to their crime.

Library Resources

CVSC has a wide collection of books on the topic of crime and issues surrounding crime victimization. These resources are available for CVSC clients and the general public.

Crisis Line

CVSC advocates are available 24-hours a day to answer questions, or if you just need someone to listen. This line also serves as a point of contact for clients who may need immediate emergency assistance.

Counseling

The CVSC in Benton/Franklin counties offers twelve counseling sessions at no charge for victims or witnesses of crime and/or their non-offending family members. Counseling is available to residents in Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties through sub-contracts with a variety of agencies.

Therapy Referrals

Referrals are available for longer term counseling or if another counselor would better meet the needs of the client. We have information regarding payment options; sliding fee scales, medical coupons, and Crime Victims Compensation.



SARC Program Reports



Sexual Assault Crisis Program

There is one more month in this fiscal year and the Sexual Assault Crisis Program at SARC has been very busy. The statistics for the end of the third quarter showed that there was a 15% increase in new clients. There was also a 31% increase in the molestation cases within the program. The advocates in the program provided a total of 5,860 services to the clients for the first three quarters. They also made a total of 1,393 contacts on behalf of their clients. There were a total of 1,474 hours dedicated to serving sexual assault victims and their families. There is still one more quarter to add to our statistics and the program continues to be busy.

The clients who receive services for themselves and their families continue to provide our program with positive feedback. The client satisfaction survey that is sent out to clients has a return rate of approximately 37%. The surveys that are returned show that 94% of clients were satisfied with the follow-up they received by their advocate and 91% reported a reduction in stress, fear, and confusion post assault.

Funding presented some challenges this year; mid-year we had to re-organize a little to prepare to absorb a fairly large cut to funding. The preparations that were made were: the loss of the position of a program assistant and a part-time sexual assault advocate. In addition to losing positions, we had to make cuts to some of the client programs, for example; we stopped facilitating support groups, and we cut funds for external counseling for clients. In addition to staffing cuts and program cuts we had to eliminate or reduce the following: training for staff, supplies, quarterly newsletter, volunteer appreciation, and media outreach. There was a special legislative session that ended in March and our funding was preserved. This was wonderful news because we are able to restore some of the cuts and changes that were made.



Crime Victim Service Center

The general crimes program continues to increase in clients, services, and contacts. CVSC has seen large increases across the board all year. At the end of the third quarter there were 130 new clients compared to 58 for last year. Total services given to the clients served were 3,441 and total contacts made on behalf of the clients were 843. There was also a total of 749.5 hours dedicated to client work within this program.

There has been a large increase of monolingual Spanish speaking clients within this program and many referrals are coming from word of mouth throughout this community. The general crimes advocate also participated in a couple radio spots on the La Campesina Radio Station that reaches many of our monolingual Spanish speaking community. She also was able to present to multiple law enforcement agencies within the community regarding the program to increase referrals. We have also increased referrals from the courts and the local domestic violence program. It will be exciting to see what our statistics are at the end of the year.

Sexual Assault Statistics

Types of Assaults	2010-2011 through 3rd Qtr.	2011-2012 through 3rd Qtr.
Adult Survivor	22	32
Date Rape	19	13
Acquaintance Rape	66	70
Stranger Rape	9	10
Marital Rape	7	6
Family Molestation	61	85
Acquaintance Molestation	44	53
Stranger Molestation	1	1
Sexual Harassment	2	9
Family Rape	32	24
Other	45	41
Total	308	344

General Crimes Statistics

Types of Assaults	2010-2011 through 3rd Qtr.	2011-2012 through 3rd Qtr.
Child Abuse	16	29
DUI	0	0
Elder Abuse	2	5
Hate Crimes	0	0
Harassment	16	23
Robbery	3	10
Assault	8	37
Identity Theft	2	2
Kidnapping	3	3
Vehicular Assault	0	5
Property Crimes	5	5
Fraud	0	5
Trafficking	1	0
Homicide	3	10
Other	0	3
Totals	59	137

Kid's Haven Program

Kid's Haven is our accredited Children's Advocacy Center. There has been a total of 258 interviews conducted compared to 253 for last year. 84% of the interviews were a sexual abuse allegation, 14% were physical abuse, 1% was witness to violence, and 1% fit into the "other" category. 46% of the children interviewed in the program were ages 6-11, 29% were ages 12-18, and 25% were ages 0-5. Child sexual assault exams continue to take place at Lourdes Hospital in Pasco by Dr. Valliant Chou.

Education Program

The Education Program continues to be in high demand for the prevention programs that are offered. The most popular programs for the first three quarters this year were: Safe Bodies, Healthy Minds, Harassment & Bullying Prevention, Creating Healthy Relationships, and SARC Services presentations. In addition to our popular programs this year, we had increases in certain audiences. There was a 6% increase in our K-2nd grade audience, 5% increase in our Middle School audience, and finally we had a 53% increase in our High School audience. All of the programs that are offered through the Education Program are multi-sessions. The table below has all the sessions provided this year and last year within each program.

Total Sessions Offered for Each Program						
Year (through 3rd Qtr.)	Boundary & Body Safety	Safe Bodies, Healthy Minds	Personal Body Safety	Technology Safety	Harassment & Bullying Prevention	Creating Healthy Relationships
2010-11	22	187	154	195	77	26
2011-12	22	202	98	69	207	63

Total Programs Offered		
Year (through 3rd Qtr.)	Total Programs	Total Unduplicated Audience
2010-2011	384	11,448
2011-2012	367	11,076

The table to the left gives the total number of the programs and unduplicated audience.



This fiscal year we have created two new Charter Shows; Child Sexual Abuse in the Legal System and Child Safety. The partnership we have developed with Charter Cable has really been wonderful because we have reached approximately 175,500 people with our shows that run on a regular basis. The shows are also available on You Tube and we have had a total of 565 views with our past and present videos.

At the end of the third quarter, the Education Program wrapped up all of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month activities. The activities that were hosted this year were the Clothesline Project, The Little People Project and Strides of Strength. The Clothesline and Little People Projects were both a visual representation of the impact and amount of abuse and trauma taking place in our community. The Strides of Strength is the annual march to support victims of crime and to the prevention of crime. All of the projects that took place were successful and

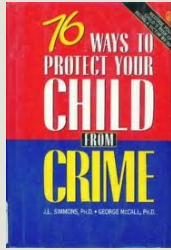


CAMP SARC

SARC is gearing up to offer our annual Summer Camp. This is the second year we have offered Camp SARC. This special week in June, Camp SARC stands for Strengthening and Revitalizing Children instead of the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center. During Camp SARC we provide a week long day camp to children ages 6-12 who have been impacted by violence. The camp has all of the activities that you would expect to find at other summer camps; in addition, Camp SARC is set up to provide psychoeducational sessions. The education is split into four categories that will be helpful for children who have experienced trauma in their lifetime. The categories are Healthy Expressions, Healthy Connections, Healthy Confidence, & Healthy Me. Each category gives information about feelings identification and regulation, confidence, self esteem, boundaries, assertiveness skills, healthy relationships, healthy coping skills, triggers, problem solving, etc. This is also a great opportunity for children to connect and hopefully make great friends. Thank you to the Sorotimits club for donating \$9,500 to Camp SARC.

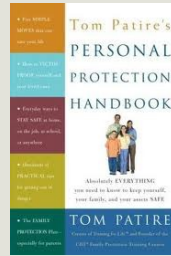


Resources for Adults



76 Ways to Protect Your Child From Crime
By J.L. Simmons and George McCall

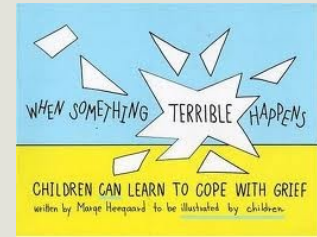
In this accessible and upbeat but streetwise book, criminology experts Simmons and McCall outline hundreds of strategies in 76 areas that most consistently frustrate criminals and lead to a smarter, “crimeproof” life-style. Among the topics covered are: choosing day-care and preschool, sexual harassment, and preventing child molestation and abuse.



Tom Patire's Personal Protection Handbook
By Tom Patire

This book contains commonsense advice on dozens of topics, ranging from physical confrontation with “Bad guys” to preventing identity theft, topped off with Tom’s easy-to-learn, nonviolent tactics, clearly illustrated. Whether you’re a single woman, a parent of young children, or a concerned citizen at a time when everyday safety has become a necessity, this book is a reference that will empower and inform you.

Resource for Children



When Something Terrible Happens Children Can Learn to Cope with Grief
By Marge Heegaard

This resource for children creates ways for children to explore the fright, confusion, and insecurity caused by traumatic events in their lives, by including spaces for children to illustrate the authors messages.



Mid-Columbia Sex Offender Information

This Notice is For Information Only

**Level III Sex Offender:
Benton County, WA**

ADDRESS: 1300 Block of Hains Ave., Richland, WA

SEX: Male

HAIR: Blonde

EYES: Blue

HEIGHT: 5' 04"

WEIGHT: 185

DOB: 08/27/1951

CONVICTION DATA:

1997– 13 Counts of Indecent Liberties

1997– 2 counts of Attempted Indecent Liberties

1997– Statutory Rape 1st Degree (= Rape of a Child 1st Degree)

NOTES: Babcock was released to Benton County as an untreated transient sex offender. He is not under DOC supervision. Babcock declined to participate in the DOC Sex Offender Treatment Program. Babcock’s victims were related and unrelated juveniles, male and female. Babcock used a position of trust in the community as a volunteer with a youth organization to gain access to his victims. Babcock has been trespassed by Benton County Sherriff’s Office from all daycares, schools, parks, libraries and public pools in both Benton and Franklin Counties.



This information is provided in accordance with RCW 4.24.550. The Police Departments have no legal authority to direct where a sex offender may live. Unless court ordered restrictions exist, the offender is constitutionally free to live wherever they choose. Citizen abuse of this information to threaten, intimidate or harass registered sex offenders will not be tolerated. Such abuse could end our ability to do community notifications.

SARC NEWS

A Special Thanks to...



Project Linus, Jo Anderson
Vi Foraker, Janie Gerrard
June Baldwin, Henry and Harriet Cummings,
Lord of Life Church, Kennewick Police
Department, Craig Littrell, Bill Copland,
Mike Meyers, Parish of the Holy Spirit,
Tri-Cities Exchange Club,
Rotary Club of Columbia Center,
Lindsay Gladstone, Duane Moe,
Kristin Jarman,
Barbara Wolski, Jennifer Sifuentes,
The Living Room Community Church,
Philip McGuinness,
Badger Mountain Elementary PTO

Upcoming Events



July 4 & 5—Office closed for 4th of July
July 6—Adriana's 1 year anniversary
July 16—SARC Board Meeting 5:15PM
July 17—Mari's 12 year anniversary
July 28—Renee's 4 year anniversary

Aug 14—Sondra's 3 year anniversary
Aug 20—SARC Board Meeting at 5:15pm

Sept 3—Office closed for Labor Day
Sept 17—SARC Board Meeting 5:15PM
Sept 25—Mitzi's Birthday
Sept 29—Rosanna's 4 year anniversary

SARC's Annual Report for fiscal year 2011-2012 will be available for all interested parties at the end of July.
Please call (509) 374-5391 to request your copy.

SARC & CVSC Board of Directors

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President

Kevin Hartze
Vice President

Jennifer Peterson
Secretary

Jennifer Sifuentes
Treasurer

Craig Littrell

Laura Valdez

Leslie Sievers

Josh Bunten

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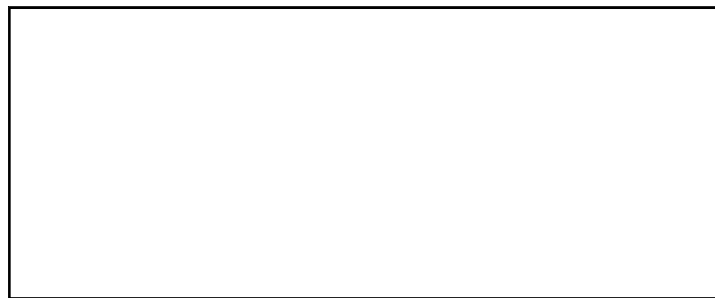
Support, Advocacy & Resource Center
830 North Columbia Center Blvd., Suite H
Kennewick, WA 99336

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Striving for a "Community without Victims"



about the program

The Support, Advocacy & Resource Center serves Benton and Franklin Counties with sexual assault crisis and education services. We provide free and confidential assistance for victims of sexual assault, child sexual abuse, dating violence and adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

SARC also provides prevention education for our schools, day cares and community groups on sexual abuse and safety issues. Our services are available to all people regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or physical and mental ability.

The Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy accredits SARC as a Community Sexual Assault Program. SARC is a member of the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs and

the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties.

Services are provided through grants from the state and federal government, local and regional foundations, and through donations from our generous community.

The opinions expressed in the "Point of View" section of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of staff, board of directors, volunteers and sponsors of SARC.

The SARC Advocate is designed to educate, inform and promote community awareness regarding sexual assault issues. Reader feedback and submissions are always welcome. Mail to: 830 North Columbia Center Blvd., Suite H, Kennewick, WA 99336 or contact us via e-mail.

Editors:

Brandi Ralston
bralston@frontier.com

Sondra Dixon
sdixon@frontier.com

Visit us on the web at

www.sexualassaultresponsecenter.org
www.crimevictimservicecenter.org

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Fax Number (509) 374-8743 Mailing Address: 830 North Columbia Center Blvd. Ste. H, Kennewick, WA 99336