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Child Sexual Abuse

A HIDDEN TYPE of ABUSE

Child Sexual abuse is an especially complicated form of abuse because of its layers of guilt and shame. It's important to recognize that sexual abuse doesn't always involve body contact. Exposing a child to sexual situations or materials is sexually abusive, whether or not touching is involved.

Sexual abuse is usually occurs at the hands of someone the child knows and should be able to trust-most often close relatives. Boys and girls both suffer from sexual abuse, in fact, boys abuse may be underreported due to shame and stigma.

Some warning signs of sexual abuse, but not limited to are,

- Trouble walking or sitting.
- Displays knowledge or interest in sexual acts inappropriate to his or her age and or seductive behavior.
- Makes strong efforts to avoid a specific person, without an obvious reason.
- Does not want to change clothes in front of others or participate in physical activities.
- Runs away from home.

Tips for talking to an abused child:

- Avoid denial and remain calm.
- Do not interrogate.
- Reassure the child that they did not nothing wrong.
- Safety comes first.

Should you expect any form of child abuse, please report, it's critical to get them the help he or she needs. It's important for you to stand up for a child in need.