

*Faith Communities Protecting Children*

RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO  
ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES



• AN INTERFAITH CONFERENCE  
FOR CLERGY AND FAITH LEADERS •

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019**  
MetroTech Business Conference Center  
1900 Spring Lake Drive

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RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO  
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**“Child Sexual Abuse:  
The Influence of and Impact  
on Houses of Worship”**

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Institute for Clergy Training, Inc.

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**SHILOH**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



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**A-ADVERSE**

**C-CHILDHOOD**

**E- EXPERIENCES**

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**DEFINITION**  
of  
**CHILD SEXUAL**  
**ASSAULT**

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## What Is Child Sexual Abuse?

Child sexual abuse includes any sexual contact between an adult and a child or a teen. It can also include sexual contact between children when one child is more powerful than the other because of age (usually 3 years older or more), size, or intellectual development.

Child sexual abuse can include both touching and non-touching acts. Both are damaging to children and teens and are against the law.

Abusive touching behaviors include:

- Fondling or rubbing up against a child's genitals, buttocks, or breasts
- Penetration of the child's mouth, anus, or vagina by the abuser or with an object
- Coercing a child to fondle him/herself, the abuser, or another child

Abusive non-touching behaviors include:

- Exposing oneself to a child in a lewd way
- Inappropriately viewing or violating private behaviors of a child or teen (e.g., undressing, bathing)
- Taking sexually explicit or provocative photographs of a child
- Showing pornography or sexually suggestive images to children
- Talking in sexually explicit or suggestive ways to children in person, by phone, by Internet, or via text messages

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## Faith Communities Protecting Children

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### KEY STATISTICS

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Of children who are  
**SEXUALLY ABUSED**  
**20%** are  
abused  
before  
the  
age  
of



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ONLY **4-8%** OF  
**CHILD  
SEXUAL  
ABUSE**  
REPORTS ARE  
FABRICATED

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**60%** OF CHILD SEXUAL  
ABUSE VICTIMS



**NEVER TELL ANYONE.**

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### Do Children Abuse Other Children?

While sexual behaviors in children are “developmentally expected” and a normal part of growing up, sometimes children are involved in activities with one another that can be inappropriate, coercive, or abusive. You can learn to assess situations by asking yourself:

- Is this behavior causing a problem for the child or other children?
- Is one child larger in size and/or is more than three years older in age?
- Does one child have greater mental, emotional, or physical ability?
- Does one child appear to have been coerced into the activity through threats, bribes, or physical force?

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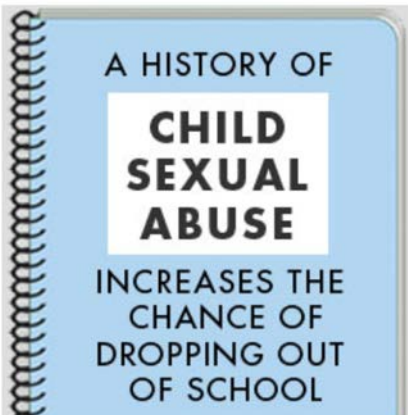
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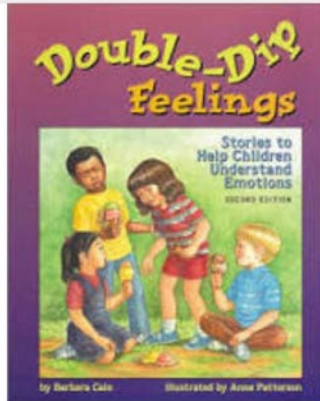
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BEYOND  
TODAY

UCG.org / Bible Study Tools / Bible Questions and Answers /  
What Does the Bible Say About Sexual Harassment,...

**What Does the Bible Say  
About Sexual Harassment,  
Assault and Rape?**

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The Bible is not silent about rape. The accounts of sexual assault against women are heartbreaking, even gruesome. But they are not brushed under a rug or hushed up.

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### Katie McCoy

 @Katie\_McCoy



Katie McCoy serves as Assistant Professor of Theology in Women's Studies at the College at Southwestern. She holds a PhD in Systematic Theology from Southwestern (2016). Her dissertation is on Old Testament laws about women's personhood and what they teach us about women's dignity and social justice.

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In fact, of the three accounts describing a woman who was sexually assaulted, each of them precipitated civil war. When Jacob's daughter, Dinah, was violated by the son of a neighboring ruler, Shechem, her brothers murdered him, his father, and the all of the men of his city in revenge (Gen. 34). After

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the Unnamed Concubine was gang-raped and left for dead by men in the tribe of Benjamin, the other tribes went to war against them upon hearing of her injustice (Jgs. 19-21). And after Tamar was raped by her half-brother, Amnon, her brother Absalom killed him, and incited a rebellion against his father, King David (2 Sam. 13).

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## How Can I Tell If My Child Has Been Sexually Abused?

Physical signs of sexual abuse are not common, but here are signs you can look out for. Remember, they do not confirm that abuse has occurred. Children can suffer from injuries or medical problems that might cause some of these signs. If you see any of these, explore with your child and pediatrician what might be the reasons.

- Trouble walking or sitting
- Complaints of pain upon urination
- Irritation, abrasions, swelling, skin tears, bleeding, or infection of genitals or anus
- Unexplained injuries around the mouth
- Roughened or calloused area between buttocks
- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Teenage pregnancy

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For additional information, contact:  
**Enough Abuse Campaign**  
[www.enoughabuse.org](http://www.enoughabuse.org)  
103 Church Street, Suite 210 | New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
[www.preventchildabuse.nj.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.nj.org) | 1-800-CHILDREN

**Prevent Child Abuse**  
New Jersey

This Guide was written by Jetta Bernier, M.A.  
**Enough Abuse Campaign**  
MassKids - 14 Beacon Street - Boston, MA  
[www.masskids.org](http://www.masskids.org) - (617) 742-8555  
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### Straight Talk for Parents

## Reporting, Prevention, and Treatment Resources

In New Jersey, any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse should immediately report this information to the State Central Registry (SCR). A concerned caller does not need proof to report an allegation of child abuse and can make the report anonymously.

- New Jersey Department of Children and Families: 1-877-NJ-ABUSE (1-887-652-2873)

### To learn how you can prevent child sexual abuse:

- NJ Enough Abuse Campaign at Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey:  
1-800-CHILDREN (1-800-244-5373) or visit [www.enoughabuse.org](http://www.enoughabuse.org).

Subscribe to "Join the Movement" and receive the free "10 Conversations," an email educational series about preventing child sexual abuse.

27

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# Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests



We are SNAP, the largest, oldest and most active support group for women and men wounded by religious and institutional authorities (priests, ministers, bishops, deacons, nuns, coaches, teachers, and others).

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# PATHWAYS TO RESILIENCE

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from setbacks in our lives. It is the way we can prevent stress from causing serious physical, mental and emotional issues. Practicing positive and often simple activities can actually **retrain our brain to be more resilient!**

FOR CHILDREN	FOR EVERYONE	FOR ADULTS
Positive Role Models	Supportive Relationships	Walk in the Woods
Supportive Adults	Healthy Food	Gratitude
Parental Involvement	Exercise	Positive Thoughts
Caring Community	Smile	Laugh
Increased Parent-Infant Contact	Talk About Feelings	Hope
Increased Knowledge of Child Development	Music	Volunteer
	Art	
		Acknowledge Trauma
		Seek Support
		Identify Emotional Triggers
		Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment
		Create Safe and Stable Nurturing Relationships

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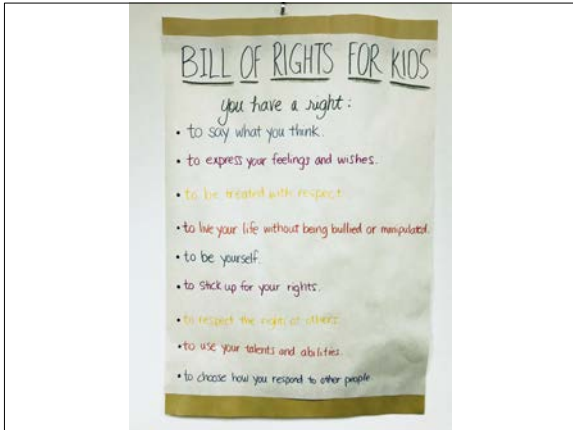
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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER  
**OKLAHOMA CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT TRAINING**

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32

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