

VIDEO ANSWERS

Safeguarding God's Children

Video: Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

1. What are your first impressions or reactions?
 - **Various**
 - **Own: I was surprised and alarmed the first time I watched the video when I heard how many youth are abused.**
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2. Why can it be difficult to identify offenders? For example, who might they be?
 - **a baby sitter...**
 - **a member of the church**
 - **a relative**
 - **a friend**
 - **an older youth**
 - **a priest**
 - **a youth director**
 - **a parent**
 - **offenders can be anyone**
3. What are some of the Myths and Facts of child sexual abuse?

Myth	Fact
1. Offenders are strangers	1. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30%: of offenders are family/relatives• 60%: are other people known by the family• (= 90% of offenders are known to the family)• 10%: are strangers
2. Most offenders are homosexual	2. Most offenders are heterosexual
3. Children lie about sexual abuse	3. 5% of child allegations are found to be false

4. There are three steps that people can take to prevent sexual abuse from happening. Write examples for Step 2 and Step 3.

Step 1: Watch for the warning signs from the offenders and from the victims.

Step 2: Act when you see warning signs.

Examples:

- **Tell the person who violates your child's boundaries: "I don't let my child do that."**
- **Ask your child questions.**
- **Tell the program director about the situation and your concerns.**
- **Remove your child from the situation.**
- **If you suspect any kind of abuse, call 911.**
- **Intervene**
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Step 3: Teach children ways to be safe

Examples:

- **Teach your child the names of their private body parts, and tell them that people don't have permission to touch them.**
- **Teach your child how to say: "No. Stop."**
- **Teach your child to run away.**
- **Teach your child how to tell an adult.**
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5. Boundary Violation Warning Signs

There are 3 types of boundary violation: physical, emotional and behavioral.

Question: What are some examples of boundary violations?

Physical

- **tickling**
- **massages**
- **wrestling**
- **dog pile**
- **applying sun tan lotion**
- **playing with children in a way that leads to accidental touch**
- **too much touching**
- **hugging with too much physical contact**
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Emotional

- **the offender is always around children**
- **compliments**
- **gifts**
- **helping with homework**
- **spending too much time with children**
- **calls them on the phone**
- **sends them emails**
- **acts possessive**
- **involves themselves in the activities of the children**
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Behavioral

- **shows the child inappropriate websites**
- **show the child pornography**
- **gives the child alcohol, cigarettes and drugs**
- **threatens the child (If you tell an adult what we did, you will get in trouble too.)**
- **manipulates the child so that they go against their parent's rules**
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6. What are some of the warning signs from the children that showed that abuse had taken place?

- **depression**
- **sudden changes in attitude and behavior**
- **withdrawn**
- **aggressive behavior**
- **difficulties in school and with friends**
- **bad mood**
- **inappropriate sexual behavior**
- **complain about things they used to like**
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7. What kept parents from acting on their concerns or suspicions that something was wrong?

- **The parents don't know the warning signs.**
- **The parents are in denial.**
- **The parents rationalize what is happening.**
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