Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child Abuse in the United States

4.38 million

children referred to child protective services

7.88 million

substantiated reports of child maltreatment

618,399

unique count

victims of child abuse and neglect

Of these Victims

3/4

of the children were neglected

17.5%

were physically abused

9.3%

were sexually abused

in Federal fiscal year 2020, an estimated 1,713 children died due to abuse and neglect.

https://www.statista.com/topics/5910/child-abuse-in-the-united-states/#dossierKeyfigures

no excuse for child abuse

SafeHarborSupportCenter.org

my friends' place

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Child Abuse Awareness Month

my friends' place

Signs of Child Abuse

A child who exhibits the following signs may be victims of:

SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

- Has unexplained injuries, such as burns, bites, bruises, broken bones, or black eyes
- Has fading bruises or other noticeable marks after an absence from school
- Seems scared, anxious, depressed, withdrawn, or aggressive
- Seems frightened of his or her parents and protests or cries when it is time to go home
- Shrinks at the approach of adults
- Shows changes in eating and sleeping habits
- Reports injury by a parent or another adult caregiver
- Abuses animals or pets

SIGNS OF NEGLECT

- Is frequently absent from school
- Begs or steals food or money
- Lacks needed medical care (including immunizations), dental care, or glasses
- Is consistently dirty and has severe body odor
- Lacks sufficient clothing for the weather
- Abuses alcohol or other drugs
- States that there is no one at home to provide care

SIGNS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Has difficulty walking or sitting
- Experiences bleeding, bruising, or swelling in their private parts
- Suddenly refuses to go to school, activity or relative's home
- Reports nightmares or bedwetting
- Experiences a sudden change in appetite
- Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- Becomes pregnant or contracts a sexually transmitted disease, particularly if under age 14
- Runs away
- Reports sexual abuse by a parent or another adult caregiver
- Attaches very quickly to strangers or new adults in their environment

EMOTIONAL MALTREATMENT

- Shows extremes in behavior, such as being overly compliant or demanding, extremely passive, or aggressive
- Is either inappropriately adult (e.g., parenting other children) or inappropriately infantile (e.g., frequently rocking or head-banging)
- Is delayed in physical or emotional development
- Shows signs of depression or suicidal thoughts
- Reports an inability to develop emotional bonds with others

Information for this infographic was obtained from the Child Welfare Information Gateway. ***What is child abuse and neglect? Recognizing the signs and symptoms.*** *Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau. To read the full publication, visit* ***ncjtc.org/childabusesigns***

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