

# children

The promise  
of tomorrow ...



Because tomorrow  
needs to start today.

## What happens at CARE House?

- Child forensic interviews
- Medical evaluations
- Therapeutic intervention
- Victim support/advocacy
- Interagency case review
- Prosecutorial services
- Community education

You can find more information  
by contacting:

### Prevent Child Abuse America

228 Wabash Avenue, 10th Floor  
Chicago, Il 60604  
Phone: 312-663-3520  
Fax: 312-939-8962

E-mail: [mailbox@preventchildabuse.org](mailto:mailbox@preventchildabuse.org)  
<http://www.preventchildabuse.org>

### Child Welfare Information Gateway

Children's Bureau/ACYF  
1250 Maryland Avenue, SW, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20024  
Phone: 800-394-3366 or  
E-mail: [info@childwelfare.gov](mailto:info@childwelfare.gov)  
<http://www.childwelfare.gov>

or by calling



741 Valley Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45404  
937-512-1670  
[www.thecarehouse.org](http://www.thecarehouse.org)



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## Tips to Educate Your Child about Sexual Abuse



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Current statistics state that 1 out of every 4 girls and 1 out of 6 boys are sexually assaulted before the age of 18. Given these facts, a child we know will very likely be victimized. However, we want to believe that our own children will not be affected.

Perhaps the most important child sexual abuse prevention strategy for parents is good communication with your children. Sexual abuse has many forms. It can be so subtle that a child may not know what is happening, just that he or she is uncomfortable.

### Below are some tips that may help parents prevent or detect abuse:

- 1** Talk to children every day about their contacts with other people. Ask them about their activities and their feelings.
- 2** Do not “interrogate” your child, but instead create an everyday environment where communication is comfortable and natural.
- 3** Teach your children to not keep secrets from you. Tell your children they can always tell you anything no matter what anyone else tells them.

- 4** If your child starts to disclose sexual abuse, remain calm and supportive to the child. Seek a professional for help.
- 5** Take some time to teach your child the correct names for their body parts and which ones are their “private parts.”
- 6** Teach your child how to say “NO” to someone who touches him or her inappropriately.
- 7** If a person is making them feel “funny,” “uncomfortable,” “bad,” etc., teach your child to tell someone they trust.
- 8** Listen seriously and sensitively to what your child says.
- 9** Explain to your child that his or her body belongs to them alone.
- 10** Be involved in your child’s activities.



Children often “tell” about being sexually abused without specific words. Sometimes kids tell about abuse through changes in their behavior. Many kids cannot explain what is happening to them, but they can “show” through their behavior that something is wrong.

### Some indications of sexual abuse may include:

- 1** New, sudden fears of persons or places
- 2** Sleeping problems, nightmares, or bedwetting
- 3** Unusual interest in sexual matters for that child’s age
- 4** Aggressiveness or delinquency
- 5** Truancy/Decline in school performance
- 6** Self-injury or suicidal behavior
- 7** Avoidance of undressing or wearing extra layers of clothes
- 8** Difficulty in walking or sitting and/or bruises/bleeding/discharge from genitalia
- 9** Torn, stained, or bloody underclothes
- 10** Using force and putting something in genitalia of self or another person