

Creating awareness and sensitivity to prevent child sexual abuse



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Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church

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I'm afraid about the Church!

I feel very sad for the damage a few of us have created!

How can I help an affected person?

I feel so helpless!

I'm tired of listening to all this!

How can I avoid that a person I know becomes a victim?

When will we have time to come back to the important issues?

Examples for Safeguarding issues worldwide



- Child labour
- Child marriage
- Child protection in a digital world
- Child recruitment by armed forces or armed groups
- Children without parental care
- Children with disabilities

- Family separation in emergencies (migrants, refugees)
- Female genital mutilation/cutting
- Gender based violence in emergencies
- Human trafficking
- Sexual violence against children

Videos - Introduction



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vl7C1Oswq0

http://childprotection.unigre.it/our-purpose





"In the past many institutions, including the Catholic Church, did not deal with these issues.

And this led to big mistakes, ending up with failing in protecting children." (Msgr Stephen Rossetti)

→ People need to be aware of the problem and need to understand the terrible (often long-lasting) effects of sexual abuse

Often repeated – yet not true!



- "It's a Western problem, of secularized societies, we don't have cases."
- "Abuse of minors is forbidden in our culture."
- "It's worse in other institutions."
- "There are many false accusations."
- "Media want to destroy the Church."





Definition of Child Sexual Abuse

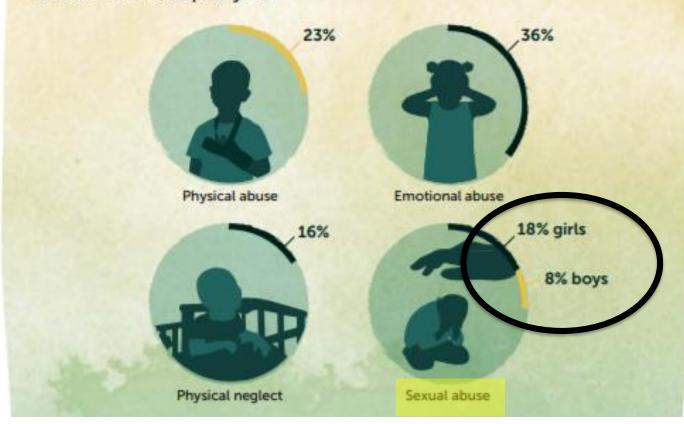
Centro per la protezione dei militare
Centro for Child Protection
Centro de protección de memores
Zentrum for Kinderventur
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Sexual abuse is defined as the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared, or else that violates the laws or social taboos of society. Children can be sexually abused by both adults and other children who are – by virtue of their age or stage of development – in a position of responsibility, trust or power over the victim.



Child maltreatment is widespread.

Worldwide children report that they suffered some form of violence in the past year:



Why should we act?

Mk 9,42: "If anyone causes one of these little ones – those who believe in me – to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea."

Mk 10,14: Jesus said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

Jn 8,32: "The truth will set you free."

The Centre for Child Protection (CCP)





Why, the Centre for Child Protection?



In all of our work and endeavors, we strive to put victims and survivors first, an approach which involves contributing to:

- Increasing sensitivity in the Church and in society at large,
- Enabling safe discourse about the risk of abuse,
- Competence in therapeutic and pastoral care,
- The spiritual and psychological empowerment of those who have been or could be harmed,
- The creation of a global network of knowledge and best practices in safeguarding.

CCP – Activities



- 1. Education and Formation (face to face, blended learning, e-learning)
- 2. Diploma in Safeguarding of Minors and Licentiate in Safeguarding
- 3. Conferences
- 4. Research and Publications

For more Information



childprotection.unigre.it ccpblog.unigre.it