

- ❖ Who Abuses?
 - Family members and close friends
 - Pedophiles
 - Other children
- ❖ Who Is Abused?
 - Girls
 - Boys
- ❖ How Does It Happen?
 - Bribes and enticement
 - Seduction
 - Intimidation, threats, force
- ❖ What Acts Are Included?
 - Sexual assault
 - Molestation
 - Sexual exploitation
 - No such thing as an act that's "not too bad."
- ❖ Types of Harm
 - Betrayal of trust
 - Threats to security
 - Lies, manipulation and blame
 - Fear and powerlessness
 - Misuse of God's name or prayer
- ❖ Problem Behaviors in Children Who Have Been Abused
 - Misbehavior
 - Sexually suggestive behavior
 - Return to younger behaviors

- Sleep problems
- School problems
- Refusal to participate at school
- Physical complaints
- Efforts to be “too good”
- Statements about selves or genitals being defective
- Revictimization
- ❖ How To Encourage Disclosure of Abuse
 - Open-ended, nondirective questions
 - Keep asking
 - Relaxed, matter of fact attitude
 - Start with sex ed
 - Give her something to do with her hands
- ❖ If She Discloses
 - Reassure
 - Don’t minimize
 - Follow through
 - Emphasize that it wasn’t her fault
- ❖ About CPS
 - Reporting is the law
 - Reporting ensures that the child is protected
 - Reporting can cause problems
- ❖ Helping Victims
 - Regular meetings
 - Toys or art
 - Bring the subject up—this tells her it’s OK to talk about it
 - Counseling doesn’t have to last a long time

- ❖ Counsel non-offending parents as well as children
 - Teach them how to help their child
 - Many of the misperceptions you correct in the child will also need to be corrected in the parents!
- ❖ How To Talk About It
 - *Before You Were Born* by Carolyn Nystrom for sex ed
 - Correct misunderstandings about what sex is for and why we protect it
- ❖ Guilt
 - Talk about the gospel before you talk about guilt
 - Start with sins that are unrelated to the abuse
 - Then deal with the abuse
 - She probably feels guilt for things that aren't her fault
 - She may also have guilt for things she needs to repent for. Even victims can sin (lying, disobeying parents in the context of the abuse).
- ❖ Arousal
 - A normal response, but disturbing for everyone involved
 - Masturbation
 - Is she still pure? Yes.
- ❖ Feeling Overwhelmed?