Tab B-5

Handouts from Diocesan Workshop on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

1. **Child Sexual Abuse Knowledge Inventory**

2. **Agenda for Training on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse**

3. **Age Level Behavioral Indicators**

4. **Physical, Emotional and Behavioral Boundary Violations**

5. **Do's and Don'ts for Responding to a Child's Report of Sexual Abuse**

6. **Safe Practices to Reduce the Potential for Child Sexual Abuse**

7. **Knowledge Inventory Answers**

Child Sexual Abuse Knowledge Inventory

Please indicate whether the following statements are true or false.

1. Child sexual abuse always involves physical contact with children.
2. Most child molesters are male.
3. Child molesters are usually strangers.
4. Victims of sexual abuse suffer no long-term effects.
5. One out of five molesters begin their activity before age 18.
6. Only a small percentage of victims are male.
7. Most churches screen workers for potential molesters.
8. Church leaders cannot be held liable for child sexual abuse.
9. Some child sexual abuse victims have won settlements of over $1,000,000 from churches.
10. A child molester who has experienced a religious conversion no longer presents a threat to children.
11. Child sexual abuse is a criminal offense in all 50 states.
12. A child molester may have over 500 victims in a lifetime.
13. Churches have in the past been supportive of victims of child sexual abuse.

This inventory was taken from the Church Law and Tax Report.

Agenda

I. Introduction

- **A. Opening Prayer and Scripture**
- **B. About the Workshop**
  1. What is the purpose of the Workshop?
  2. Who is required to attend a Workshop?
  3. Workshop Agenda
- **C. Helpful Information**

II. Information Concerning Child Abuse

- **A. Definition of Sexual Abuse**
- **B. Child Sexual Abuse Statistics – from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.**
  1. About the children
  2. About the abusers
- **C. Indicators of sexual abuse in children**
- **D. Consequences of sexual abuse of children**

III. Watch first video, "Safeguarding of God's Children for Parents and Congregations"

- **A. Look for Physical, Emotional, and Behavioral Boundary Violations**
- **B. Questions, comments, and responses**

IV. Responding to and Reporting Child Sexual Abuse

- **A. When should a report be made?**
- **B. Reporting to Child Protective Services (1-800-552-7096)**
- **C. Reporting to the Church (1-800-DIOCESE)**
- **D. Are there any questions, suggestions, or concerns about reporting child abuse?**

V. Prevention of Abuse Within the Church

- **A. Screening**
- **B. Teaching Children**
- **C. Safe practices and Monitoring**

VI. Watch second video, "Safeguarding God's Children for Ministries"

VII. Inappropriate Interacting Guidelines

VIII. Case Studies and Discussions

IX. Closing

Age Level Behavioral Indicators

Preschool Child

- The child tells about the abuse.
- The child does not want to go to a certain place or to be around a particular person. This indicator may not apply if the child does not like the person for some other reason.
- The child has sexual knowledge of behavior that seems inappropriate for his or her age.
- The child displays sexual play with other children, toys, or pets such as inserting objects into genitals or rectum.
- An abused child may be overly affectionate and seem seductive with peers and adults.
- The child may withdraw from family, friends, and usual activities.
- Displaying younger, more infantile behavior (baby talk, clinging) may be an indication of child abuse.
- The child may report sexual abuse by his or her caretaker.
- An abused child may become more passive or overly pleasing.
- The child has unexplained gifts of money.
- New discipline problems (e.g., unexplained aggressiveness or rebellion) may surface in an abused child.

An Elementary School-Age Child

- May display the above problems as well as the following:
- Has sleep disturbances, headaches, or school problems.
- Displays unusual knowledge and interest in sex beyond expected developmental level.
- Drops academically and shows poorer ability to concentrate.

An Adolescent

- May display the above problems as well as the following:
- May run away.
- Displays high anxiety and/or is chronically depressed.
- Worsens in peer relationships.
- Develops an eating disorder.
- Becomes less trusting.
- Displays lowered self-esteem and perhaps self-destructive behavior, self-inflicted injuries, even suicide attempts.
- Develops drug or alcohol problems.
- Becomes promiscuous.
- Displays a false sense of maturity.
- Shows serious confusion over sexual identity.
- Shows sexual interest in younger children.

Physical, Emotional, and Behavioral Boundary Violations

Physical Boundary Violations (used by perpetrators to get children and adults accustomed to lots of physical contact)

- Roughhousing or wrestling
- Tickling
- Encouraging children to jump on an adult
- “Accidentally” touching inappropriately
- Putting legs around a child
- Holding or hugging when the child resists
- Too many hugs or hugs with too much bodily contact

Emotional Boundary Violations (used by perpetrators to get close to a child and to gain control of the child through the relationship)

- Spending too much time with the child
- Calling or emailing too frequently
- Getting involved in too many of the child’s activities.
- Acting too possessive

Behavioral Boundary Violations – Grooming (Once the child has been involved in activities that he or she wants to keep secret, the child is less likely to disclose abuse.)

- Ridiculing the beliefs of a child’s parent
- Allowing a child to do things against the wishes of the child’s parents
- Offering children cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs
- Allowing children to view pornography or to visit inappropriate internet sites
- Giving a child gifts without parental permission
- Asking a child to keep secrets from his or her parents

Do's and Don’ts

If a child reports abuse, DO:

DO keep calm. It is important to clarify that you are not angry or upset with the child, but at what happened. Children can mistakenly interpret anger or disgust as directed toward them.

DO respect the child’s privacy by finding a private, non-threatening place to talk.

DO believe the child. In most circumstances children do not lie about sexual abuse.

DO give positive messages such as, “I’m proud of you for telling” or “I know it wasn’t your fault.”

DO explain to the child that he or she is not to blame for what happened.

DO listen to and answer the child’s questions honestly.

DO be careful not to discuss the abuse in front of other people who do not need to know what happened.

DO be responsible and report the incident to Child Protective Services.

If a child reports abuse, DO NOT:

DO NOT blame the child! Sexual abuse is never the child's fault!

DO NOT panic or overreact when the child talks about the experience. Children need help and support to make it through this difficult time.

DO NOT pressure the child to talk or avoid talking about the abuse. Allow the child to talk at her or his own pace. Forcing information can be harmful. Silencing the child will not help her or him to forget. Neither forcing information nor silencing the child will facilitate the task ahead for Child Protective Services.

DO NOT share any information with others who do not need to know. Sexually abused children are extremely vulnerable to comments from other adults, friends, and relatives.

DO NOT confront the offender in the child’s presence. The stress may be harmful. This task is part of the work of Child Protective Services.

Safe Practices

1. Perhaps the best way to prevent child sexual abuse in the church is to make sure that there are always two or more adults with one or more children at all times.

2. Watch for physical, behavioral, and emotional boundary violations.

3. These safe practices are not meant to inconvenience adult employees and volunteers but to protect children. They can also help protect adults from unfounded accusations. Here are some behaviors that can lead to false allegations: Meeting alone in isolated places. Wearing provocative or revealing attire. Meeting in homes and in bedrooms without others present. Giving special or secret gifts. Keeping secrets about the relationship. Failing to adhere to uniform or accepted standards of affection.

4. Team teaching and chaperoning

a) Concerted effort should be made to recruit sufficient volunteer teachers to permit two teachers in every class. At least two adults should be present in the parish nursery as well.

b) Youth activities both on and off the church grounds should have two or more known adult leaders. If there are both boys and girls participating in the activity, then both male and female leaders should be present.

c) Community organizations using the church facilities should follow the same guidelines.

5. Open Door -- Parents of the children being served, the clergy, and professional staff of the church or church institution have the right to visit and observe the program at any time, unannounced.

6. Driving

a) Drivers should never be alone in a vehicle with a child other than their own.

b) Persons designated to drive to or from the church for a church activity must be at least 18 years old and have a valid state driver's license.

c) Drivers must have no record of convictions for the past five years for drunken driving, driving under the influence, driving with a suspended or revoked license, or reckless endangerment.

7. Individual Pastoral Care

a) While one-on-one pastoral care is a fundamental part of ministry, care must be taken to see that it is conducted in an environment that provides visibility by other adults.

b) Another adult should know the volunteer's or staff member's whereabouts and with whom he or she is meeting.

c) No one should engage in secretive and private relationships with children or young people.

d) As a general rule, there should be no more than 3 to 5 private meetings with any one person per year.

Inventory Answers

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. F
8. F
9. T
10. F
11. T
12. T
13. F