



Updated 2/2017

# Abuse: Ch. 1 Types

## Video Outline

### CENTRAL IDEA

Physical abuse, Sexual abuse, Emotional abuse, and Neglect are all forms of Child Maltreatment. If you suspect one of these is occurring within your organization, you should report your suspicions/evidence to the Child Advocate (a.k.a. Child Protection Officer, or Social Worker).

### OBJECTIVES

- Understand the role of the Child Protection Officer, Child Advocate, and Social Worker
- Understand the role of the staff and volunteers for reporting abuse
- Define Child Maltreatment, Child Abuse, Child Exploitation, Physical Abuse, Bullying, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse, and Neglect.
- Identify the 4 types of Child Maltreatment

### DEFINITIONS

**Child Protection Officer/Child Advocate/Social Worker:** similar titles for job positions that work to ensure that children thrive by protecting them from maltreatment and defending their access to their rights.

**Child Maltreatment:** according to the World Health Organization, child maltreatment is “all forms of physical and emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation that results in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, development, or dignity.”

**Child Abuse:** the intentional harming or manipulation of a child by physical or verbal means, and/or the neglect of a child’s wellbeing.

**Child Exploitation:** the use of a child whereby one party profits through the exchange of money, power, or other commodity, but at the detriment to the mental, physical, or developmental health of the child.

**Physical Abuse:** the physical injury or harm that is intentionally inflicted on a child.

**Bullying:** the repetitive “unwanted, aggressive behavior” based on “real or perceived power imbalances” used to “coerce, intimidate, or dominate another. Usually takes the form of Physical Abuse. [Stopbullying.gov & Wikipedia]

**Sexual Abuse:** the use of a child for sexual gratification

**Emotional (Psychological) Abuse:** intentional, chronic harming of a child’s mental or social development often through the undermining of self-confidence, and the creation of dependence and control by the abuser.

**Neglect:** the failure of an adult to care for a child’s basic physical, emotional, and mental/educational needs, and/or the failure to protect a child from harm or potential harm.

## IDENTIFYING & DEFINING CHILD MALTREATMENT

- Child maltreatment includes child abuse and exploitation.
- Child maltreatment can be acts of commission or acts of omission.

### 4 TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

#### *Acts of Commission*

#### 1. Physical Abuse

- a) Examples - beating, burning, taking away food, locking in a room, depriving the child of use of the toilet, poisoning, tying up, and bullying.
- b) Bullying is usually a form of physical abuse
  - i) Examples -verbal abuse, use of physical force, threat of force, beating up, taking things through force, etc.

#### 2. Sexual Abuse

- a) Examples - kissing, fondling, oral/anal/vaginal penetration, provocative images, showing or making pornography, sexually explicit conversations, exposing genitalia.
- b) Note: intent is important. Teaching age-appropriate sexual education is not abuse.

#### 3. Emotional /Psychological Abuse

- a) Examples – denying access to friends, degrading efforts, shaming, corrupting, terrorizing, withholding love
- b) Note: intent and frequency is important for this to be abuse.

#### *Act of Omission*

#### 4. Neglect

- a) Example: the caretaker prioritizes his or her own desires over the needs of the child.

## REPORTING CHILD MALTREATMENT

- Staff and volunteers are required to report suspicions or concerns of child abuse to the Child Protection Officer/Child Advocate/Social Worker.
- Failure to do so could result in reprimand, legal action, or dismissal.