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Headline: HHS REPORT SHOWS CONTINUED RECORD HIGH CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT LEVELS

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala today released new data showing continued record high levels of child abuse and neglect in the United States. According to the new report, "Child Maltreatment 1996: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System," almost 1 million children were identified as victims of abuse or neglect in 1996, and an estimated 1,077 children died in 1996 as a result of abuse or neglect. 

April is National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

The results although slightly down from 1995, continue a long-term trend, with total child abuse and neglect cases remaining in the record-high range of 1 million for five years.

"Last year, Congress passed and President Clinton signed into law the historic Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, which makes protecting the safety of children the paramount concern in adoption and foster care," Secretary Shalala said. "This month -- and every month of the year -- states, caseworkers, and the courts should rededicate themselves to making sure that we achieve the intent of this critical law child abuse cannot be tolerated."

The new law, enacted in November 1997, requires that child safety be the highest priority when making service provision, placement, and permanency planning decisions for children. The law reaffirms the importance of making reasonable efforts to preserve and reunify families, but -- for the first time -- also specifies instances when states are not required to make efforts to keep children with their parents, such as when doing so places a child's safety in jeopardy. These new provisions give states important new tools in their efforts to break the cycle of abuse within families.

"This new law represents a real step forward and gives us an unprecedented opportunity to reform the child welfare system," emphasized Olivia Golden, HHS Assistant Secretary for Children and Families.

HHS is consulting with states this spring on necessary regulations under the new law. Beginning in 1999, HHS will issue annual reports evaluating the performance of all 50 states.

The Clinton Administration is committed to promoting and supporting policies and innovative programs that work to increase children's safety and reduce children's risk of harm. In addition to the new law, HHS has granted child welfare waivers to 10 states to pursue innovative strategies for improving state child welfare systems: California, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio and Oregon. As part of the new law, HHS has authority to approve up to 10 additional waivers for FY 1998 through 2002.

To supplement these efforts, Secretary Shalala today also announced a new campaign by the HHS Children's Bureau to encourage community prevention efforts and to provide help to those who work with children and families. The "Prevention in Action" campaign features a new web site which includes information and resources about the problem of child abuse and how to help prevent it. The web site can be reached through www.acf.dhhs.gov/news. Hard copies are available upon request from the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect at 1-800-FYI-3366.

According to the report released today:

Parents are the chief perpetrators of child abuse and neglect. Nearly 80 percent of the cases involved abuse and neglect by parents, with an additional 11 percent involving other relatives.

Among children who died due to abuse or neglect, very young children were most likely be killed, with children aged 3 and under accounting for three-quarters of all deaths.

Fifty-two percent of maltreated children suffered neglect, 24 percent physical abuse, 12 percent sexual abuse, 6 percent emotional abuse, 3 percent medical neglect and 16 percent other forms of maltreatment. Some children suffered more than one type of maltreatment.

More than half of the children were under 8 years old, while 28 percent were younger than 4 years old. Younger children were more likely than older children to be neglected, while older children were more likely than younger children to be

physically, sexually or emotionally abused.

Fifty-two percent of victims were girls and 48 percent were boys.

Fifty-three percent of all victims were white, 27 percent African-American, 11 percent Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander 4 percent and 2 percent Native American. African American and Native American children were abused and neglected at a rate almost twice their proportions in the national child population.

The total number of children identified as victims of abuse or neglect, based on validated case data, and the total number of states reporting data for the last five years are as follows:

Year	Number	States Reporting
1992	992,617	48
1993	1,018,692	47
1994	1,011,628	48
1995	1,000,402	49
1996	969,018	47

Copies of "Child Maltreatment 1996" will be available in mid-April and can be obtained by calling the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information at 1-800-FYI-3366.

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Note: HHS press releases are available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.dhhs.gov>.

Purpose: To receive an award for the NCPA &
make remarks

NCPA is hosting this luncheon to honor you for your
ad. ^{and} the congressional leaders of the ASFA. Also, to
spotlight the new CD. "Love Shouldn't Hurt." You are
being honored for " " and in particular for bringing
the issue of home visiting to the fore

NCPA

Founded in 1972, ...

Healthy Families American home visit program -
^{should}
~~founded~~ in 1992 in long w/.... now....

Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics



National Clearinghouse on
Child Abuse and Neglect Information

in Fact . . .

Answers to frequently asked questions on child abuse and neglect

To answer frequently asked questions on child abuse and neglect, this fact sheet synthesizes information from several federally supported sources. Much of the data comes from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the National Incidence Study (NIS) of Child Abuse and Neglect, both sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The NCANDS annually collects and analyzes information on child maltreatment provided by State child protective services (CPS) agencies. These CPS agencies are public social service organizations with the primary responsibility for receiving and responding to reports of alleged maltreatment. The NIS periodically surveys community professionals who come into contact with children (5,600 professionals in 1993) to estimate the incidence of child maltreatment, including cases both reported and not reported to CPS.

1. How many children are reported and investigated as abused or neglected?

In 1996, CPS agencies investigated an estimated 2 million reports that involved the alleged maltreatment of approximately 3 million children.

2. How many children are victims of maltreatment?

In 1996, CPS agencies determined that almost 1 million children were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and neglect. The term "substantiated" means that an allegation of maltreatment was confirmed according to the level of evidence required by State law or State policy. The term "indicated" is an investigation finding used by some States when there is insufficient evidence to substantiate a case under State law or policy, but there is reason to suspect that maltreatment occurred or that there is risk of future maltreatment.

Several studies suggest that more children suffer from abuse or neglect than are evident in official statistics from State CPS agencies. Based on reports received and investigated by CPS, about 15 children per 1,000 younger than 18 in the general population were victims of abuse or neglect. In comparison, the NIS-3 estimated that 42 children per 1,000 in the population were harmed or endangered by maltreatment.

3. Is the number of abused and neglected children increasing?

Nationally, the number of victims of substantiated or indicated maltreatment increased approximately 18 percent between 1990 and 1996, the period of NCANDS data collection. The greatest increase occurred in the early 1990s, with a leveling off in the most recent years.

The NIS found even more dramatic increases in maltreatment. Between 1986 (NIS-2) and 1993 (NIS-3), the estimated number of children who experienced

harm from abuse and neglect increased 67 percent (from 931,000 children to 1,553,800). In particular, the estimated number of *seriously injured* children quadrupled from 141,700 in 1986 to 565,000 in 1993.

4. What are the most common types of maltreatment?

Neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment. CPS investigations determined that 52 percent of victims in 1996 suffered neglect; 24 percent, physical abuse; 12 percent, sexual abuse; 6 percent, emotional maltreatment; and 3 percent, medical neglect. Many children suffer more than one type of maltreatment.

5. Who are the child victims?

Child abuse and neglect affects children of all ages. Among children confirmed as victims by CPS agencies in 1996, more than half were 7 years old or younger, and one-quarter were younger than 4 years old. Approximately 26 percent of victims were children ages 8 to 12; another 21 percent were youth ages 13 to 18. A greater proportion of neglect and medical neglect victims were children younger than 8, while a greater proportion of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse victims were children age 8 or older.

In 1996, approximately 52 percent of victims of maltreatment were female, and 48 percent were male. Available data suggest that some differences exist in the types of maltreatment experienced by male and female children. A review of data from 11 States showed that 77 percent of sexual abuse victims were girls and 23 percent boys. Victims of emotional maltreatment also were somewhat more likely to be female (53%) than male (47%). Conversely, a slightly greater proportion of victims of other types of maltreatment were male, with males comprising approximately 51 percent of neglect victims and 52 percent of both physical abuse and medical neglect victims.

More than half (53 percent) of all victims were white, while 27 percent were African American. Hispanic children were about 11 percent of victims, American Indian/Alaska Native children about 2 percent of victims, and Asian/Pacific Islander children about 1 percent of victims.

While children of families in all income levels suffer maltreatment, research suggests that family income is strongly related to incidence rates. The NIS-3 found that children from families with annual incomes below \$15,000 per year were more than 25 times more likely than children from families with annual income above \$30,000 to have been harmed or endangered by abuse or neglect.

6. How many children die from abuse or neglect?

Based on data reported by CPS agencies in 1996, it is estimated that nationwide, 1,077 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Children age 3 and under accounted for approximately three-quarters of these child fatalities. The actual number of deaths may be higher, as not all child maltreatment fatalities are known to CPS.

7. Who abuses and neglects children?

In 1996, the majority of perpetrators of child maltreatment (77%) were parents, and another 11 percent were other relatives of the victim. People who were in other caretaking relationships to the victim (e.g., child care providers, foster parents, and facility staff) accounted for only 2 percent of perpetrators. About 10 percent of all perpetrators were classified as noncaretakers or unknown. (In many States, perpetrators of child maltreatment by definition must be in a caretaking role.)

An estimated 81 percent of all perpetrators were under age 40. Overall, approximately 61 percent of perpetrators were female, although perpetrator gender differed by type of maltreatment. Neglect and medical neglect were most often attributed to female perpetrators, while sexual abuse was most often attributed to male perpetrators.

8. Who reports child maltreatment?

In 1996, more than half (52%) of all reports alleging maltreatment and referred for investigation came from professionals, including educators, law enforcement and justice officials, social services workers, and medical and mental health personnel. About 18 percent of reports were received from relatives of the child or the victims themselves, 9 percent from friends and neighbors, 12 percent from anonymous sources, and 8 percent from other sources. An estimated two-thirds of substantiated or indicated reports were from professional sources.

9. Are victims of child abuse more likely to engage in criminality later in life?

According to a 1992 study sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), maltreatment in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 53 percent, as an adult by 38 percent, and for a violent crime by 38 percent. Being abused or neglected in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest for females by 77 percent. A related 1994 NIJ study indicated that children who were sexually abused were 28 times more likely than a control group of non-abused children to be arrested for prostitution as an adult.

10. Is there any evidence linking alcohol or other drug use to child maltreatment?

A 1993 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found that children in alcohol-abusing families were nearly 4 times more likely to be maltreated overall, almost 5 times more likely to be physically neglected, and 10 times more likely to be emotionally neglected than children in non-alcohol-abusing families. Other studies suggest that an estimated 50 percent to 80 percent of all child abuse cases substantiated by CPS involve some degree of substance abuse by the child's parents.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, As Amended

October 3, 1996



National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect

IN FACT...

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

To answer frequently asked questions on child abuse and neglect, this fact sheet synthesizes information from several federally-supported sources. Much of the data comes from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the National Incidence Study (NIS) of Child Abuse and Neglect, both sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The NCANDS annually collects and analyzes information on child maltreatment provided by State child protective services (CPS) agencies. These CPS agencies are public social service organizations with the primary responsibility for receiving and responding to reports of alleged maltreatment. The NIS periodically surveys community professionals who come into contact with children (5,600 professionals in 1993) to estimate the incidence of child maltreatment, including cases both reported and not reported to CPS.

1. HOW MANY CHILDREN ARE REPORTED AND INVESTIGATED FOR ABUSE OR NEGLECT?

In 1996, CPS agencies investigated an estimated 2 million reports that involved the alleged maltreatment of approximately 3 million children.

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In 1996, CPS agencies determined that almost 1 million children were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and neglect. The term "substantiated" means that an allegation of maltreatment was confirmed according to the level of evidence required by State law or State policy. The term "indicated" is an investigation finding used by some States when there is insufficient evidence to substantiate a case under State law or policy, but there is reason to suspect that maltreatment occurred or that there is risk of future maltreatment.

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3. IS THE NUMBER OF ABUSED OR NEGLECTED CHILDREN INCREASING?

Nationally, the number of victims of substantiated or indicated maltreatment increased approximately 18 percent between 1990 and 1996, the period of NCANDS data collection. The greatest increase occurred in the early 1990's with a leveling off in the most recent years.

The NIS found even more dramatic increases in maltreatment. Between 1986 (NIS-2) and 1993 (NIS-3), the estimated number of children who experienced harm from abuse and neglect

increased 67 percent (from 931,000 children to 1,553,800). In particular, the estimated number of seriously injured children quadrupled from 141,700 in 1986 (NIS-2) to 565,000 in 1993 (NIS-3).

4. WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF MALTREATMENT?

Neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment. CPS investigations determined that 52 percent of victims in 1996 suffered neglect, 24 percent physical abuse, 12 percent sexual abuse, 6 percent emotional maltreatment, and 3 percent medical neglect. Many children suffer more than one type of maltreatment.

5. WHO ARE THE CHILD VICTIMS?

Child abuse and neglect affects children of all ages. Among children confirmed as victims by CPS agencies in 1996, more than half were 7 years old or younger, and one quarter were younger than 4 years old. Approximately 26 percent of victims were children ages 8 to 12; another 21 percent were youth ages 13 to 18. A greater proportion of neglect and medical neglect victims were children younger than 8, while a greater proportion of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse victims were children age 8 or older.

In 1996, approximately 52 percent of victims of maltreatment were female and 48 percent were male. Available data suggest that some differences exist in the types of maltreatment experienced by male and female children. A review of data from 11 States showed that 77 percent of sexual abuse victims were girls and 23 percent boys. Victims of emotional maltreatment also were somewhat more likely to be female (53%) than male (47%). Conversely, a slightly greater proportion of victims of other types of maltreatment were male, with males comprising approximately 51 percent of neglect victims and 52 percent of both physical abuse and medical neglect victims.

More than half (53 percent) of all victims were white, while 27 percent were African American. Hispanic children were about 11 percent of victims, American Indian/Alaska Native children about 2 percent of victims, and Asian/Pacific Islander children about 1 percent of victims.

While children of families in all income levels suffer maltreatment, research suggests that family income is strongly related to incidence rates. The NIS-3 found that children from families with annual incomes below \$15,000 per year were more than 25 times more likely than children from families with annual income above \$30,000 to have been harmed or endangered by abuse or neglect.

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Based on data reported by CPS agencies in 1996, it is estimated that nationwide 1,077 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Children aged 3 and under accounted for approximately three-quarters of these child fatalities. The actual number of deaths may be higher as not all child maltreatment fatalities are known to CPS.

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The majority of perpetrators of child maltreatment (77%) were parents and another 11 percent were other relatives of the victim. People who were in other caretaking relationships to the victim (e.g., child care providers, foster parents, and facility staff) account for only 2 percent of perpetrators. About 10 percent of all perpetrators were classified as noncaretakers or unknown. In many States, perpetrators of child maltreatment by definition must be in a caretaking role.

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According to a 1992 study sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), maltreatment in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 53 percent, as an adult by 38 percent, and for a violent crime by 38 percent. Being abused or neglected in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest for females by 77 percent. A related 1994 NIJ study indicated that children who were sexually abused were 28 times more likely than a control group of non-abused children to be arrested for prostitution as an adult.

10. IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE LINKING ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG USE TO CHILD MALTREATMENT?

A 1993 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found that children in alcohol-abusing families were nearly 4 times more likely to be maltreated overall, almost 5 times more likely to be physically neglected, and 10 times more likely to be emotionally neglected than children in non-alcohol-abusing families. Other studies suggest that an estimated 50 to 80 percent of all child abuse cases substantiated by CPS involve some degree of substance abuse by the child's parents.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Administration on Children, Youth and Families

Protecting the Well-Being of Children

The Children's Bureau, Administration for Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services funds a number of programs that focus on preventing abuse of children in troubled families, protecting children from abuse, and finding permanent placements for those who cannot safely return to their homes.

Statistics

One million children were victims of substantiated child abuse and neglect in 1995, the most recent year as reported to HHS by State Child Protection Services agencies. In 1995, 996 child fatalities from maltreatment were reported by the states. Maltreated children are found in all income, racial, and ethnic groups, and incidence rates are similar in urban, suburban, and rural communities. About half are cases of neglect, a quarter physical abuse, and about one in seven sexual abuse.

The Third National Incidence Study on Child Abuse and Neglect, which surveys both state reports and child professionals, found that as many as 2.8 million children were at risk for abuse and neglect in 1993, double the number of children in the previous study in 1988. The study also reported that a half a million children were seriously injured, quadruple the incidences from 1988.

Children in foster care numbered more than 483,000 in 1995, up from 340,000 in 1988. Most of these children will return to their homes, but more than 100,000 cannot return safely. Many of these children are considered to have "special needs" because they are older, members of minority or sibling groups, or physically, mentally or emotionally disabled. They often need special assistance in finding adoptive homes. Currently, over 100,000 children receive title IV-E adoption assistance, which is a subsidy to families who adopt special needs children.

Foster Care/Adoption Assistance/Independent Living

For those children who cannot remain safely in their homes, foster care provides a stable environment that assures a child's safety and well-being while their parents attempt to resolve the problems that led to the out of home placement. When the family cannot be reunified, foster care provides a stable environment until the child can be placed permanently with an adoptive family. Authorized under title IV-E of the Social Security Act, Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs provide Federal matching funds of 50 to 80 percent, depending on the state's per capita income, to states which directly administer the programs.

Under Foster Care, funds are available for monthly payments to foster care providers on behalf of foster children. These payments vary from state to state. Under Adoption Assistance, funds are available for a one-time payment for the costs of adopting a child as well as for monthly subsidies to adoptive families for care of the child (who is eligible for welfare under the former AFDC program or for Supplemental Security Income). Similar to Foster Care, the amounts vary from state to state. Additionally, funds received under Foster Care and Adoption Assistance are used by states to assist with agency administrative costs. Administrative costs include child placement and case management activities; training for staff, foster parents, and adoptive parents; foster and adoptive parent recruitment; and other relevant expenses.

Assistance is also available to current or former foster care youths age 16 and older to help in the transition to independent living. The Independent Living program provides grants to states for education and employment assistance, training in daily living skills, and individual and group counseling.

In FY 96, funding for foster care was \$3.8 billion, \$598 million for adoption assistance and \$70 million for Independent Living. In FY 98, funding for foster care was \$3.2 billion, \$701 million for adoption assistance, and \$70 million for Independent Living. For FY 99, the Clinton administration requests \$5.1 billion which is comprised of \$3.98 billion for foster care, \$869 million for adoption assistance, and \$70 million for the Independent Living Program.

Family Preservation and Family Support

Family Preservation and Family Support Services grants focus on strengthening families, preventing abuse, and protecting children. These grants help state child welfare agencies and Indian tribes operate preventive family preservation services and community-based family support services for families at risk or in crisis.

Family Support Services, often provided at the local level by community-based organizations, are voluntary, preventive activities to help families nurture their children. These services are designed to alleviate stress and help parents care for their children's well-being before a crisis occurs. They connect families with available community resources and supportive networks which assist parents with child rearing. Family support activities include respite care for parents and caregivers, early developmental screening of children to identify their needs, tutoring, health education for youth, and a range of center-based activities.

Family Preservation Services typically are activities that help families alleviate crises that might lead to out-of-home placements of children because of abuse, neglect, or parental inability to care for their children. They help to maintain the safety of children in their own homes, support families preparing to reunify or adopt, and assist families in obtaining other services to meet multiple needs.

Funding for Family Preservation and Family Support Services was \$240 million in FY 97 and \$255 million in FY 98. For FY 99, the Clinton Administration requests \$275 million.

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

The Child Abuse and Neglect program funds states and grantees in several different programs authorized by the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). The programs seek to assist states to meet their responsibilities for the prevention and intervention in cases of child abuse and neglect by providing funds and technical assistance; generate knowledge by funding research, service improvement programs, and demonstration projects; generate knowledge through the ongoing collection of data about the scope and nature of the problem, its consequences, and the effectiveness of prevention and treatment services; facilitate information dissemination and exchange; and support policy development and the education of professionals in the field.

Community-based Family Resource and Support Grants fund statewide networks of local child abuse and neglect prevention and family resource programs. To receive these funds, states must have in place a trust fund or other funding mechanism that pools Federal, state, and private funds and makes them available for child abuse and neglect prevention and family resource programs. Funding was \$32.835 million in FY 97 and FY 1998. For FY 99, the Clinton Administration requests the same amount.

Basic State Grants provide assistance in developing, strengthening, and implementing child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs. Funding was \$21.026 million in FY 97 and FY 1998. For FY 99, the Clinton Administration requests \$21.026 million.

Federal funds also support research on the causes, prevention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. These demonstration programs identify the best means of preventing maltreatment and treating troubled families. Funding was \$14.154 million in FY 97 and \$14.154 million in FY 98. For FY 98, the Clinton Administration requests \$14.154 million.

Child Welfare

The Child Welfare Services program provides grants to states and Indian tribes under title IV-B of the Social Security Act. Services are available to children and their families without regard to income. Publicly funded Child Welfare Services are directed toward the goal of keeping families together. They include preventive intervention so that, if possible, children will not have to be removed from their homes. If this is not possible, placements and permanent homes through foster care or adoption can be made. In addition, reunification services are available to encourage the return home, when appropriate, of children who have been removed from their families.

Each state receives a base amount of \$70,000. Additional funds are distributed in proportion to the state's population of children under age 21 multiplied by the complement of the state's average per capita income. The state match requirement is 25 percent. Funding was \$292 million in FY 1997 and FY 1998. For FY 99, the Clinton administration requests \$292 million.

HHS/ACF has other programs that address the welfare of children at risk. The Adoption Opportunities program eliminates barriers to adoption and helps to find permanent homes for

children who would benefit by adoption, particularly those with special needs. Grants and contracts are awarded to public and private non-profit agencies. Funding was \$13 million in FY 1997 and \$23 million in FY 1998. For FY 99, the Clinton administration requests \$27.4 million.

The Abandoned Infants Assistance program provides grants to help identify ways to prevent the abandonment of children in hospitals and to identify and address the needs of infants and young children, particularly those with acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and prenatal drug or alcohol exposure. Funding was \$12 million in FY 1997 and FY 1998. For FY 99, the Clinton administration requests \$12 million.

Special Initiatives

Adoption

To reduce the number of children presently in foster care, the Clinton administration launched an "Adoption 2002" initiative to reduce barriers to adoption and double the number of children adopted or permanently placed each year, from 27,000 in 1996 to 54,000 in 2002.

Adoption 2002 is based on a set of principles that declare that every child deserves a safe, permanent family; that the child's health and safety should be the paramount considerations in all placement and permanency planning decisions; and that foster care is a temporary solution and not an appropriate place for children to grow up. Adoption 2002 establishes unequivocally that the Federal goals for children in the child welfare system are safety, permanency, and well-being.

By offering financial incentives and technical assistance to states, courts, and communities, the federal government will help states meet ambitious new adoption targets. Toward that end, the President's FY 1998 budget proposes \$21 million for technical assistance and grants to state agencies, courts and communities, innovative demonstrations to reform the child protective system to reduce barriers to permanency, and a national public awareness campaign.

Efforts are also being made to break down racial and ethnic barriers to adoption: the Clinton Administration is continuing to vigorously enforce the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 and the Interethnic Adoption provisions of 1996, which prohibit adoption agencies from denying or delaying placement of a waiting child based on race, color, or national origin.

In August, 1996, President Clinton signed legislation providing a \$5000 tax credit to families adopting children and a \$6000 tax credit for families adopting children with special needs. This tax credit is designed to help alleviate some of the financial barriers to adoption. Previously, the President signed legislation enabling parents to take time off to adopt a child without losing their jobs or health insurance.

State Child Welfare Reform

Under authority from Congress, HHS can approve child welfare reform demonstrations for up to 10 states to test innovative new ways to strengthen the child welfare system. To date, ten states

have been approved (California, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Oregon). The states will be expanding the array and improving the quality of child welfare services currently available. Assisted guardianship, managed care, and the flexible use of Federal funds at the community level are among the innovations being examined.

Better Outcomes for Children

Finally, the Department of Health and Human Services is developing new program monitoring procedures that focus on the quality of child welfare services and the outcomes to children and families. Outcomes will be measured by safety, permanency, and well-being, and any additional measures a state may choose. The reviews will cover family preservation, child protection, foster care, and adoption. Following the reviews, states will receive immediate feedback on the extent to which their programs are achieving the stated objectives in accordance with a set of standards for each outcome area.

February 1998

Statistics

Investigations by child protective services (CPS) agencies in 49 States determined that over 1 million children were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and neglect in 1995.

In 1995, CPS agencies investigated an estimated 2 million reports alleging the maltreatment of almost 3 million children. More than half of all reports alleging maltreatment came from professionals, including educators, law enforcement and justice officials, medical and mental health professionals, social service professionals and child care providers. About 19 percent of reports came from relatives of the child or from the child himself. Reports from professionals are more likely to be substantiated or indicated than reports from nonprofessional sources.

More children suffer neglect than any other form of maltreatment. Investigations determined that about 52 percent of victims in 1995 suffered neglect, 25 percent physical abuse, 13 percent sexual abuse, 5 percent emotional maltreatment, 3 percent medical neglect, and 14 percent other forms of maltreatment. Some children suffer more than one type of maltreatment.

Child abuse and neglect affects children of all ages. Among children confirmed as victims by CPS agencies in 1995, more than half were 7 years of age or younger, with about 26 percent younger than 4 years old. About 26 percent of victims were children ages 8 - 12, another 21 percent were youth ages 13 - 18. Case-level data from 11 States suggest that the majority of victims of neglect and medical neglect were younger than 8 years old, while the majority of victims of other types of maltreatment were age 8 or older.

Both boys and girls experience child maltreatment. In 1995, about 52 percent of victims were female and 47 percent were male.

Child maltreatment can result in the death of a child. In 1995, 45 States reported that 996 children were known by CPS agencies to have died as a result of abuse or neglect. Case-level data suggest that most of these children were 3 years of age or younger. Not all child maltreatment fatalities are reported to CPS agencies.

Several studies suggest that even more children suffer from abuse or neglect than are seen through official statistics from State CPS agencies. Based on reports received and investigated by CPS agencies in 1995, about 15 children per 1,000 children younger than 18 in the general population were found to be victims of abuse or neglect. The Third National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (a study involving 5,600 community professionals who come into contact with children) estimates that 42 children per 1,000 in the population were harmed or endangered by abuse or neglect in 1993. A 1995 telephone survey of parents conducted by the Gallup Poll estimated that as many as 49 children per 1,000 in the population suffered physical abuse and 19 per 1,000 suffered sexual abuse.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT STATISTICAL FACT SHEET

Reports

In 1996, child protective services agencies investigated more than 2 million reports alleging maltreatment of more than 3 million children.

The national rate of children who were reported was 44 per 1,000 children in the population.

Reports were received from professionals (52 percent), persons in the families of the victims, including parents, other relatives, and the victims themselves (18 percent), and friends and neighbors (9 percent). Twenty percent of reports were from other or anonymous persons.

It is estimated that almost two-thirds of substantiated or indicated reports were from professional sources--education, social services, law enforcement, and medicine.

Victims

Child protective services agencies determined that almost 1 million children were identified as victims of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect in 1996, an approximate 18 percent increase since 1990.

The national rate of victimization was 15 victims per 1,000 children in the population.

More than half (52 percent) of all victims suffered neglect, while almost a quarter (24 percent) suffered physical abuse. About 12 percent of the victims were sexually abused. Children suffering medical neglect and emotional maltreatment accounted for 3 percent and 6 percent of all victims, respectively. A greater proportion of neglect and medical neglect victims were children younger than 8 years old, while a greater proportion of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse victims were children age 8 or older.

More than half (53 percent) of all victims were white. African American children represented the second-largest group of victims (27 percent). Hispanic children were about 11 percent of victims, American Indian/Alaska Native children about 2 percent of victims and Asian/Pacific Islander children about 1 percent of victims. The percentages of African American and American Indian/Alaska Native victims were disproportionately high, almost twice their representation in the national child population.

An estimated 1,077 child maltreatment fatalities occurred in the 50 States and the District of Columbia in 1996. Based on data from a subset of states, children younger than age 4 accounted for 76 percent of fatalities.

Perpetrators

Seventy-seven percent of perpetrators of child maltreatment were parents, and an additional 11

percent were other relatives of the victim.

It is estimated that over 80 percent of all perpetrators were under age 40 and that almost two-thirds were females.

An estimated three-quarters of neglect and medical neglect cases were associated with female perpetrators, while almost three-quarters of sexual abuse cases were associated with male perpetrators.



WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

Child abuse and neglect are defined in both Federal and State legislation. The Federal legislation provides a foundation for States by identifying a minimum set of acts or behaviors that characterize maltreatment. This legislation also defines what acts are considered physical abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse.

HOW DO WE DEFINE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

The **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)**, as amended and reauthorized in October 1996 (Public Law 104-235, Section 111; 42 U.S.C. 5106g), defines child abuse and neglect as, at a minimum, any recent act or failure to act:

- Resulting in imminent risk of serious harm, death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation
- Of a child (a person under the age of 18, unless the child protection law of the State in which the child resides specifies a younger age for cases not involving sexual abuse)
- By a parent or caretaker (including any employee of a residential facility or any staff person providing out-of-home care) who is responsible for the child's welfare.

CAPTA defines sexual abuse as:

- Employment, use, persuasion, inducement, enticement, or coercion of any child to engage in, or assist any other person to engage in, any sexually explicit conduct or any simulation of such conduct for the purpose of producing any visual depiction of such conduct; or
- Rape, and in cases of caretaker or inter-familial relationships, statutory rape, molestation, prostitution, or other form of sexual exploitation of children, or incest with children.

With the reauthorization of CAPTA, withholding of medically indicated treatment has been defined as failure to respond to an infant's life-threatening conditions by denial of treatment (including appropriate nutrition, hydration, and medication) that would most likely be effective in ameliorating or correcting all life-threatening conditions. This definition does not refer to situations where treatment of an infant, in the treating physician's reasonable medical judgment, would prolong dying, be ineffective in ameliorating or correcting all the infant's life-threatening conditions, or be futile in helping the infant to survive. In addition, this definition does not include situations where the infant is chronically or irreversibly comatose.

Each State is responsible for providing definitions of child abuse and neglect within the civil and criminal context. Civil laws, or statutes, describe the circumstances and conditions that obligate mandated reporters to report known or suspected cases of abuse, and they provide definitions necessary for juvenile/family courts to take custody of a child alleged to have been maltreated. Criminal statutes specify the forms of maltreatment that are criminally punishable. (The State Statutes Desk at the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information offers a comprehensive resource summarizing over 30 civil and criminal State statutes pertaining to child maltreatment.)

WHAT ARE THE MAIN TYPES OF MALTREATMENT?

There are four major types of child maltreatment: physical abuse, child neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse.

■ Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is the infliction of physical injury as a result of punching, beating, kicking, biting, burning, shaking, or otherwise harming a child. The parent or caretaker may not have intended to hurt the child, rather the injury may have resulted from over-discipline or physical punishment.

■ Child Neglect

Child neglect is characterized by failure to provide for the child's basic needs. Neglect can be physical, educational, or emotional. **Physical neglect** includes refusal of or delay in seeking health care, abandonment, expulsion from the home or refusal to allow a runaway to return home, and inadequate supervision. **Educational neglect** includes the allowance of chronic truancy, failure to enroll a child of mandatory school age in school, and failure to attend to a special educational need. **Emotional neglect** includes such actions as marked inattention to the child's needs for affection, refusal of or failure to provide needed psychological care, spouse abuse in the child's presence, and permission for drug or alcohol use by the child. The assessment of child neglect requires consideration of cultural values and standards of care as well as recognition that the failure to provide the necessities of life may be related to poverty.

■ Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse includes fondling a child's genitals, intercourse, incest, rape, sodomy, exhibitionism, and commercial exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials. Many experts believe that sexual abuse is the most under-reported form of child maltreatment because of the secrecy or "conspiracy of silence" that so often characterizes these cases.

■ Emotional Abuse (Psychological/Verbal Abuse/Mental Injury)

Emotional abuse includes acts or omissions by the parents or other caregivers that have caused, or could cause, serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders. In some cases of emotional abuse, the acts of parents or other caregivers alone, without any harm evident in the child's behavior or condition, are sufficient to warrant child protective services (CPS) intervention. For example, the parents/caregivers may use extreme or bizarre forms of punishment, such as confinement of a child in a dark closet. Less severe acts, such as habitual scapegoating, belittling, or rejecting treatment, are often difficult to prove and, therefore, CPS may not be able to intervene without evidence of harm to the child.

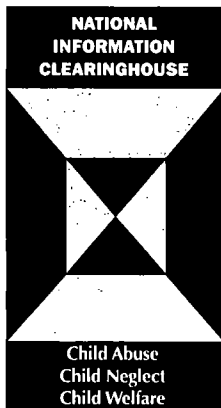
Although any of the forms of child maltreatment may be found separately, they often occur in combination. Emotional abuse is almost always present when other forms are identified.

Contact the Clearinghouse to order your free copy of the *Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)* or the *Child Abuse and Neglect State Statutes Series Brochure*, which lists available summaries of State laws.

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information

P.O. Box 1182 ■ Washington, DC 20013-1182 ■ (800) FYI-3366 ■ 703-385-7565
nccanch@calib.com ■ <http://www.calib.com/nccanch>

A service of the Children's Bureau,
Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services



*A Service of the
Children's Bureau*

October 2, 1998

Nicole Rabner
First Lady's Office
2nd Floor, West Wing
White House
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Nicole,

We are certainly pleased to be able to assist you by providing some background information, statistics, and Federal and State prevention efforts dealing with child maltreatment. As requested, enclosed please find "hard" copies of the materials that I faxed to you yesterday.

I have also taken the liberty to send you an Information Packet including some of the services and products that we provide to both professionals and the general public. I hope that you have an opportunity to visit our web site at: <http://www.calib.com/nccanch>; you will find a wealth of information on new initiatives, conferences, specialized services, child abuse and neglect State statutes, not to mention access to our documents database of over 24,000 titles.

Please let me know if I can provide further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Sandi McLeod
Coordinator, Customer Services



**National Clearinghouse on
Child Abuse and Neglect Information**

in Fact . . .

Answers to frequently asked questions on child abuse and neglect

To answer frequently asked questions on child abuse and neglect, this fact sheet synthesizes information from several federally supported sources. Much of the data comes from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the National Incidence Study (NIS) of Child Abuse and Neglect, both sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The NCANDS annually collects and analyzes information on child maltreatment provided by State child protective services (CPS) agencies. These CPS agencies are public social service organizations with the primary responsibility for receiving and responding to reports of alleged maltreatment. The NIS periodically surveys community professionals who come into contact with children (5,600 professionals in 1993) to estimate the incidence of child maltreatment, including cases both reported and not reported to CPS.

1. How many children are reported and investigated as abused or neglected?

In 1996, CPS agencies investigated an estimated 2 million reports that involved the alleged maltreatment of approximately 3 million children.

2. How many children are victims of maltreatment?

In 1996, CPS agencies determined that almost 1 million children were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and neglect. The term "substantiated" means that an allegation of maltreatment was confirmed according to the level of evidence required by State law or State policy. The term "indicated" is an investigation finding used by some States when there is insufficient evidence to substantiate a case under State law or policy, but there is reason to suspect that maltreatment occurred or that there is risk of future maltreatment.

Several studies suggest that more children suffer from abuse or neglect than are evident in official statistics from State CPS agencies. Based on reports received and investigated by CPS, about 15 children per 1,000 younger than 18 in the general population were victims of abuse or neglect. In comparison, the NIS-3 estimated that 42 children per 1,000 in the population were harmed or endangered by maltreatment.

3. Is the number of abused and neglected children increasing?

Nationally, the number of victims of substantiated or indicated maltreatment increased approximately 18 percent between 1990 and 1996, the period of NCANDS data collection. The greatest increase occurred in the early 1990s, with a leveling off in the most recent years.

The NIS found even more dramatic increases in maltreatment. Between 1986 (NIS-2) and 1993 (NIS-3), the estimated number of children who experienced

harm from abuse and neglect increased 67 percent (from 931,000 children to 1,553,800). In particular, the estimated number of *seriously injured* children quadrupled from 141,700 in 1986 to 565,000 in 1993.

4. What are the most common types of maltreatment?

Neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment. CPS investigations determined that 52 percent of victims in 1996 suffered neglect; 24 percent, physical abuse; 12 percent, sexual abuse; 6 percent, emotional maltreatment; and 3 percent, medical neglect. Many children suffer more than one type of maltreatment.

5. Who are the child victims?

Child abuse and neglect affects children of all ages. Among children confirmed as victims by CPS agencies in 1996, more than half were 7 years old or younger, and one-quarter were younger than 4 years old. Approximately 26 percent of victims were children ages 8 to 12; another 21 percent were youth ages 13 to 18. A greater proportion of neglect and medical neglect victims were children younger than 8, while a greater proportion of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse victims were children age 8 or older.

In 1996, approximately 52 percent of victims of maltreatment were female, and 48 percent were male. Available data suggest that some differences exist in the types of maltreatment experienced by male and female children. A review of data from 11 States showed that 77 percent of sexual abuse victims were girls and 23 percent boys. Victims of emotional maltreatment also were somewhat more likely to be female (53%) than male (47%). Conversely, a slightly greater proportion of victims of other types of maltreatment were male, with males comprising approximately 51 percent of neglect victims and 52 percent of both physical abuse and medical neglect victims.

More than half (53 percent) of all victims were white, while 27 percent were African American. Hispanic children were about 11 percent of victims, American Indian/Alaska Native children about 2 percent of victims, and Asian/Pacific Islander children about 1 percent of victims.

While children of families in all income levels suffer maltreatment, research suggests that family income is strongly related to incidence rates. The NIS-3 found that children from families with annual incomes below \$15,000 per year were more than 25 times more likely than children from families with annual income above \$30,000 to have been harmed or endangered by abuse or neglect.

6. How many children die from abuse or neglect?

Based on data reported by CPS agencies in 1996, it is estimated that nationwide, 1,077 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Children age 3 and under accounted for approximately three-quarters of these child fatalities. The actual number of deaths may be higher, as not all child maltreatment fatalities are known to CPS.

7. Who abuses and neglects children?

In 1996, the majority of perpetrators of child maltreatment (77%) were parents, and another 11 percent were other relatives of the victim. People who were in other caretaking relationships to the victim (e.g., child care providers, foster parents, and facility staff) accounted for only 2 percent of perpetrators. About 10 percent of all perpetrators were classified as noncaretakers or unknown. (In many States, perpetrators of child maltreatment by definition must be in a caretaking role.)

An estimated 81 percent of all perpetrators were under age 40. Overall, approximately 61 percent of perpetrators were female, although perpetrator gender differed by type of maltreatment. Neglect and medical neglect were most often attributed to female perpetrators, while sexual abuse was most often attributed to male perpetrators.

8. Who reports child maltreatment?

In 1996, more than half (52%) of all reports alleging maltreatment and referred for investigation came from professionals, including educators, law enforcement and justice officials, social services workers, and medical and mental health personnel. About 18 percent of reports were received from relatives of the child or the victims themselves, 9 percent from friends and neighbors, 12 percent from anonymous sources, and 8 percent from other sources. An estimated two-thirds of substantiated or indicated reports were from professional sources.

9. Are victims of child abuse more likely to engage in criminality later in life?

According to a 1992 study sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), maltreatment in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 53 percent, as an adult by 38 percent, and for a violent crime by 38 percent. Being abused or neglected in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest for females by 77 percent. A related 1994 NIJ study indicated that children who were sexually abused were 28 times more likely than a control group of non-abused children to be arrested for prostitution as an adult.

10. Is there any evidence linking alcohol or other drug use to child maltreatment?

A 1993 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found that children in alcohol-abusing families were nearly 4 times more likely to be maltreated overall, almost 5 times more likely to be physically neglected, and 10 times more likely to be emotionally neglected than children in non-alcohol-abusing families. Other studies suggest that an estimated 50 percent to 80 percent of all child abuse cases substantiated by CPS involve some degree of substance abuse by the child's parents.

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National Clearinghouse on
Child Abuse and Neglect Information

Child Abuse and Neglect National Statistics

REPORTS: In 1996, child protective services agencies investigated more than 2 million reports alleging maltreatment of more than 3 million children.

- The national rate of children who were reported was 44 per 1,000 children in the population.
- Reports were received from professionals (52 percent); persons in the families of the victims, including parents, other relatives, and the victims themselves (18 percent); and friends and neighbors (9 percent). Twenty percent of reports were from other or anonymous persons.
- It is estimated that almost two-thirds of substantiated or indicated reports were from professional sources—education, social services, law enforcement, and medicine.

VICTIMS: Child protective services agencies determined that almost 1 million children were identified as victims of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect in 1996, an approximate 18 percent increase since 1990.

- The national rate of victimization was 15 victims per 1,000 children in the population.
- More than half (52 percent) of all victims suffered neglect, while almost a quarter (24 percent) suffered physical abuse. About 12 percent of the victims were sexually abused. Children suffering medical neglect and emotional maltreatment accounted for 3 percent and 6 percent of all victims, respectively. A greater proportion of neglect and medical neglect victims were children younger than 8 years old, while a greater proportion of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse victims were children age 8 or older.
- More than half (53 percent) of all victims were white. African American children represented the second-largest group of victims (27 percent). Hispanic children were about 11 percent of victims, American Indian/Alaska Native children about 2 percent of victims, and Asian/Pacific Islander children about 1 percent of victims. The percentages of African American and American Indian/Alaska Native victims were disproportionately high, almost twice their representation in the national child population.
- An estimated 1,077 child maltreatment fatalities occurred in the 50 States and the District of Columbia in 1996. Based on data from a subset of States, children younger than age 4 accounted for 76 percent of fatalities.

PERPETRATORS: Seventy-seven percent of perpetrators of child maltreatment were parents, and an additional 11 percent were other relatives of the victim.

- It is estimated that over 80 percent of all perpetrators were under age 40 and that almost two-thirds were females.
- An estimated three-quarters of neglect and medical neglect cases were associated with female perpetrators, while almost three-quarters of sexual abuse cases were associated with male perpetrators.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Child Maltreatment 1996: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1998).

For more information or to order your free copy of *Child Maltreatment 1996*, contact:

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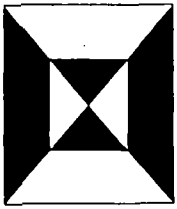
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Prevention in Action: Tips From the Field

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Each year, one million children are confirmed by State agencies as abused or neglected, and over 1,000 children tragically die at the hands of caretakers. While the causes of child abuse and neglect are complex, it is possible to identify some of the risk factors contributing to child maltreatment and develop prevention programs that target these risk factors. For example, a lack of effective parenting skills and understanding of child development may contribute to parental difficulties in providing appropriate care to children and could result in abusive behavior. In response to this risk factor, some prevention programs offer free telephone consultation services to parents who have concerns or questions about their child's development or behavior (DePanfilis and Salus, 1992). Other programs have responded to risk factors for abuse and neglect by using home visitors to provide emotional support, teach basic child-rearing skills, and model positive parenting.

During April – Child Abuse Prevention Month – and all year long, programs across the country dedicate themselves to addressing the conditions that put children at risk for maltreatment and to strengthening the capacity of communities and families to ensure the safety and well-being of children.

This special bulletin will provide you with valuable information to assist you with planning or improving your child abuse prevention program. Key topics include:

- Planning Effective Programs
- Collaborating for Empowerment
- Reaching Your Target Population
- Matching Services to Needs
- Staffing Your Program

Risk Factors Contributing to Child Abuse and Neglect

- ✓ *Parental Substance Abuse, Mental Illness or Mental Retardation*
- ✓ *Childhood Disability*
- ✓ *Domestic Violence*
- ✓ *Lack of Parenting Skills and Knowledge*
- ✓ *Extreme Poverty*
- ✓ *Social Isolation*
- ✓ *Family History of Abuse*
- ✓ *Life Stress Overload*

■ Funding Prevention Efforts

■ Evaluation! Evaluation! Evaluation!

This bulletin includes helpful tips and suggestions from eight programs that are currently providing prevention services (see page 6 for program profiles). If experience is the best teacher, then who better to inform us on how to provide prevention services than people who are doing just that.

Leaders in the field of child abuse prevention selected these eight programs, which agreed to share their wisdom with others in the field. The programs vary in focus, settings, target audience, size, and geographic location. Some of the programs use national models such as Healthy Families and Parents Anonymous. Some of the programs target specific populations, such as unemployed and under-employed fathers and single mothers, while others make their services available to everyone in the service area. One program focuses on the co-occurrence of child abuse and domestic violence while another targets a specific type of abuse – Shaken Baby Syndrome. All of the programs, however, share a common goal of reducing child abuse in our communities.



Selected National Organizations Concerned with Child Maltreatment

Resource Listing

The following selected national organizations are among many that are concerned with child maltreatment. If you are aware of any others, please contact the Clearinghouse. Inclusion on this list is for information purposes and does not constitute an endorsement by the Clearinghouse or Children's Bureau.

ABA Center on Children and the Law

740 15th St., NW

Washington, DC 20005

PHONE: (202) 662-1720
(800) 285-2221 (Service Center)

FAX: (202) 662-1755

EMAIL: ctrchildlaw@abanet.org

URL: <http://www.abanet.org/child>

Promotes improvement of laws and policies affecting children and education in child-related law.

American Humane Association

Children's Division

63 Inverness Dr., East

Englewood, CO 80112-5117

PHONE: (800) 227-4645
(303) 792-9900

FAX: (303) 792-5333

EMAIL: children@amerhumane.org

URL: <http://www.amerhumane.org>

Conducts research, analysis, and training to help public and private agencies respond to child maltreatment.

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)

407 South Dearborn St., Suite 1300

Chicago, IL 60605

PHONE: (312) 554-0166

FAX: (312) 554-0919

URL: <http://www.apsac.org>

Provides professional education, promotes research to inform effective practice, and addresses public policy issues. Professional membership organization.

American Public Welfare Association

810 First St., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20002-4267

PHONE: (202) 682-0100

FAX: (202) 289-6555

EMAIL: publicwelfare@apwa.org

URL: <http://www.apwa.org>

Addresses program and policy issues related to the administration and delivery of publicly funded human services. Professional membership organization.

Boys and Girls Clubs of America

Office of Government Relations

600 Jefferson Plaza

Rockville, MD 20852

PHONE: (301) 251-6676

FAX: (301) 294-3052

URL: <http://www.bgca.org>

Offers local programs promoting health, social, educational, vocational, and character development to disadvantaged youth ages 6-18.

Childhelp USA

15757 North 78th St.

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

PHONE: (800) 4-A-CHILD
(800) 2-A-CHILD (TDD line)
(602) 922-8212

FAX: (602) 922-7061

EMAIL: help@childhelpusa.org

URL: <http://www.childhelpusa.org>

Provides crisis counseling to adult survivors and child victims of child abuse, offenders, and parents. Operates national hotline.

Children's Defense Fund (CDF)

25 E St., NW

Washington, DC 20001

PHONE: (202) 628-8787

FAX: (202) 662-3540

EMAIL: cdinfo@childrensdefense.org

URL: <http://www.childrensdefense.org>

Provides technical assistance to State and local child advocates, gathers and disseminates data on children, and advocates for children's issues.

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

440 First St., NW, Third Floor

Washington, DC 20001

PHONE: (202) 638-2952

FAX: (202) 638-4004

URL: <http://www.cwla.org>

Provides training, consultation, and technical assistance to child welfare professionals and agencies while also educating the public about emerging issues affecting children.

More ⇨

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Children's Bureau ■ Administration for Children and Families ■ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds (ACT)

Michigan State University
 Department of Psychology
 East Lansing, MI 48824-1117
 PHONE: (517) 432-5096
 FAX: (517) 432-2476
 EMAIL: david.mills@ssc.msu.edu
 URL: <http://pilot.msu.edu/user/millsda>

Assists State children's trust and prevention funds to strengthen families and protect children from harm.

National Center for the Prosecution of Child Abuse

99 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 510
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 PHONE: (703) 739-0321
 FAX: (703) 549-6259
 URL: <http://www.ndaa-apri.org>

Offers information and assistance to prosecutors, investigators, and professionals involved in child abuse litigation.

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse

332 South Michigan Ave., Suite 1600
 Chicago, IL 60604-4357
 PHONE: (800) 835-2671 (orders)
 (312) 663-3520
 FAX: (312) 939-8962
 EMAIL: ncpca@childabuse.org
 URL: <http://www.childabuse.org>

Conducts prevention activities such as public awareness campaigns, advocacy, networking, research and publishing. Provides information and statistics on child abuse and maintains an extensive publications list.

National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association

100 West Harrison St., North Tower, Suite 500
 Seattle, WA 98119
 PHONE: (206) 270-0072
 (800) 628-3233
 FAX: (206) 270-0078
 EMAIL: staff@nationalcasa.org
 URL: <http://www.nationalcasa.org>
 URL: <http://www.casenet.org> (for professionals)

Provides training, legal research, fundraising, public awareness, and government relations services to local court appointed special advocates and child welfare professionals.

National Exchange Club Foundation for the Prevention of Child Abuse

3050 Central Ave.
 Toledo, OH 43606-1700
 PHONE: (419) 535-3232
 FAX: (419) 535-1989
 EMAIL: nechq@aol.com
 URL: <http://www.nationalexchangeclub.com>

Provides education, intervention, and support to families affected by child maltreatment. Produces prevention materials.

National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA)

3611 SW Hood St., Suite 201
 Portland, OR 97201
 PHONE: (503) 222-4044
 FAX: (503) 222-4007
 EMAIL: info@nicwa.org
 URL: <http://www.nicwa.org>

Disseminates information and provides technical assistance on Indian child welfare issues. Supports community development and advocacy efforts to facilitate tribal responses to the needs of families and children.

National Network for Youth

1319 F St., NW, Suite 401
 Washington, DC 20004
 PHONE: (202) 783-7949
 FAX: (202) 783-7955
 EMAIL: NN4youth@worldnet.att.net
 URL: <http://www.nn4youth.org>

Promotes the delivery of high-quality services among youth-serving agencies. Provides written materials and responds to general inquiries regarding runaways and adolescent abuse, and serves as a referral source for runaways and parents.

National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers

1319 F St., NW, Suite 1001
 Washington, DC 20004-1106
 PHONE: (202) 639-0597
 (800) 239-9950
 FAX: (202) 639-0511
 URL: <http://www.nncac.org>

Assists communities in planning, establishing and improving Children's Advocacy Centers.

National Organization for Victim Assistance

1757 Park Rd., NW
 Washington, DC 20010
 PHONE: (800) TRY-NOVA
 (202) 232-6682
 FAX: (202) 462-2255
 EMAIL: nova@try-nova.org
 URL: <http://www.access.digex.net/~nova>

Assists children and adult victims of family violence with a 24-hour hotline and short-term counseling; maintains information clearinghouse; and provides training and technical assistance to State and local programs.

Parents Anonymous

675 West Foothill Blvd., Suite 220
 Claremont, CA 91711
 PHONE: (909) 621-6184
 FAX: (909) 625-6304
 EMAIL: parentsanon@msn.com
 URL: <http://www.parentsanonymous-natl.org>

Leads mutual support groups for parents. Helps parents to provide nurturing environments for their families.



Federal Clearinghouses with Information on Children and Families

National Clearinghouse on
Child Abuse and Neglect Information

Resource Listing

Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse/NCJRS

Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000
PHONE: (800) 638-8736
FAX: (301) 251-5212
EMAIL: askncjrs@ncjrs.org
URL: <http://www.ncjrs.org>

Military Family Resource Center (MFRC)

4040 North Fairfax Dr., Room 420
Arlington, VA 22203-1635
PHONE: (703) 696-9053
FAX: (703) 696-9062

National Adoption Information Clearinghouse (NAIC)

PO Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013-1182
PHONE: (888) 251-0075
(703) 352-3488
FAX: (703) 385-3206
EMAIL: naic@calib.com
URL: <http://www.calib.com/naic>

National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health (NCEMCH)

2000 15th St. N, Suite 701
Arlington, VA 22201-2617
PHONE: (703) 524-7802
FAX: (703) 524-9335
EMAIL: info@ncecmch.org
URL: <http://www.ncecmch.org>

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 550
Arlington, VA 22201
PHONE: (800) 843-5678
(703) 235-3900
FAX: (703) 235-4067
URL: <http://www.missingkids.com>

National Child Care Information Center

301 Maple Ave. West, Suite 602
Vienna, VA 22180
PHONE: (800) 616-2242
FAX: (800) 716-2242
EMAIL: agoldstein@acf.dhhs.gov
URL: <http://ericps.ed.uiuc.edu/nccic>

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI)

PO Box 2345
Rockville, MD 20947-2345
PHONE: (800) 729-6686
(301) 468-2600
TDD: (800) 487-4889
FAX: (301) 468-6433
EMAIL: info@health.org
URL: <http://www.health.org>

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information

PO Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013-1182
PHONE: (800) FYI-3366
(703) 385-7565
FAX: (703) 385-3206
EMAIL: nccanch@calib.com
URL: <http://www.calib.com/nccanch>

National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth (NCFY)

PO Box 13505
Silver Spring, MD 20911-3505
PHONE: (301) 608-8098
FAX: (301) 608-8721
URL: <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/fysb/programs/ncfy.htm>

National Evaluation Data and Technical Assistance Center (NEDTAC)

10530 Rosehaven St., Suite 400
Fairfax, VA 22030
PHONE: (800) 7-NEDTAC
(703) 385-3200
FAX: (703) 385-3206
EMAIL: nedtac@calib.com
URL: <http://www.calib.com/nedtac>

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)

P.O. Box 1492
Washington, DC 20013
PHONE: (202) 416-0300
(800) 695-0285
FAX: (202) 884-8441
EMAIL: nichcy@aed.org
URL: <http://www.nichcy.org>

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information

P.O. Box 1182 ■ Washington, DC 20013-1182 ■ (703) 385-7565 ■ (800) FYI-3366

nccanch@calib.com ■ <http://www.calib.com/nccanch>

Children's Bureau ■ Administration for Children and Families ■ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse

2070 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 450

Vienna, VA 22182-2536

PHONE: (703) 356-1964

FAX: (703) 821-2098

EMAIL: nmchc@circsol.comURL: <http://www.circsol.com/mch>**National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Resource Center (NSRC)**

2070 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 450

Vienna, VA 22182

PHONE: (703) 821-8955 ext. 249 or 474

FAX: (703) 821-2098

EMAIL: sids@circsol.comURL: <http://www.circsol.com/sids/>**Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center**

Box 6000

Rockville, MD 20849-6000

PHONE: (800) 627-6872

FAX: (301) 519-5212

EMAIL: askncjrs@ncjrs.orgURL: <http://www.ncjrs.org>**Women's Bureau Clearinghouse**

Women's Bureau, Room S3306

U.S. Department of Labor

200 Constitution Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20210-0002

PHONE: (202) 219-4486

(800) 827-5335

FAX: (202) 219-5529

EMAIL: wbwww@dol.govURL: <http://dol.gov/dol/wb/public/programs/house.htm>

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS TO
TWELFTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
CINCINNATI, OHIO
OCTOBER 15, 1998**

I am delighted to join you at the twelfth National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. I only wish I could be there in person to thank all of you for your commitment to ending the tragedy of child abuse and neglect.

Child abuse is an issue that I have cared about for more than half of my life. I have looked into the eyes of so many children and have seen the devastating effects of abuse and neglect. And I have worked with adults who were once abused themselves, and haven't found a way to stop that vicious cycle.

Thanks to the hard work of so many of you -- and the commitment of my husband and his Administration -- we have made significant progress in our efforts to strengthen the child welfare system. Perhaps our greatest victory was coming together across party lines to pass the landmark Adoption and Safe Families Act. With this law we strike a better balance between family preservation and the well being of the child. And we say once and for all that the health and safety of our children will always be our first concern.

This was an extraordinary accomplishment. But as you well know, our work is far from done. We must continue to move forward: By implementing the laws we've passed; by giving more support to judges; by helping children who have aged out of the foster-care system; and by stopping abuse before it ever happens. Only then will we create a world in which all children grow up free from violence; with parents who love and support them; and with the opportunities they need to reach their god-given potential. With all of you leading the way, I know we can make this possible.

Thank you for all you have done -- and will continue to do -- on behalf of America's children. I hope you have a wonderful conference.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
OF THE
THIRD NATIONAL INCIDENCE STUDY
OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
(NIS-3)**



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect