

Why Reporting is Important?

- To identify children suspected to be victims of sexual abuse
- To prevent them from further harm
- Without detection/reporting/intervention-children may remain victims for the rest of their lives
- There would be opportunities for psycho-social support for the children who have been abused/legal intervention
- Reporting would prevent Secondary/ repeated abuse of the child

Why it is difficult for children to come forward to report

- Child victim may not understand that it is abuse as the abuser normalizes the actions in the guise of love and grooming
- May be under threat
- Not have a person of trust to report
- May find it difficult that adult may blame them and the possible involvement of parents, family, friends or other close persons, makes it extremely difficult for children to come forward to report about the abuse.

To break the culture of 'silence'

Failure to Report CSA

- Under section 21(1)- any person who fails to report the commission of offence or who fails to record such offence-imprisonment which may extend to six months/fine or both.
- Reporting false abuse- Sec.22(1)- with the intention to humiliate, threaten etc (sec3,5,7 & 9)- punishment imprisonment six month/fine or both.
- Sec22(2)False complaints or information provided by a child no punishment shall be imposed on child (counseling)
- Sec22(3)If it is against a child the punishment may extend to one year.

Punishment for Non Reporting

Persons in the position of responsibility such as the Principal/ Hospital Administrator, Child Care Institution Incharge etc. could be booked or charged under Abetment

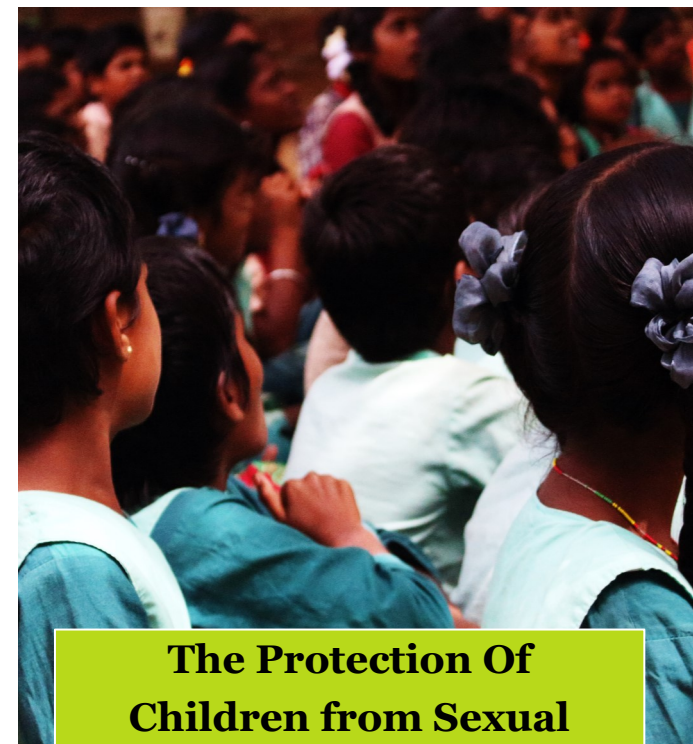
What can you do as a Teacher ;

PREVENTION

- Creating safe spaces for disclosure
- Providing awareness to teaching & non teaching staff and parents
- Child Protection Policy is a must including safe recruitment policy
- Providing awareness to children to protect themselves as well as report
- Doing regular safety audits of schools including of staff , infrastructure

INTERVENTION

- Noticing the signs and symptoms and identifying any victims of CSA
- Extending their support to the child to build their confidence to disclose/ refer to counsellor
- Mandatory reporting – following the protocol of reporting in school
- Maintaining confidentiality of the child victim
- Extending any other support to child or family/ accompany the child
- Ensure that child is not getting in contact with abuser
- Interpreter if required
- Can support during medical examination



The Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act -2012 Keeping Children Safe– A Teachers' Guide



CHILDLINE INDIA FOUNDATION
South Regional Resource Centre
Nos. 71, Kannappan Street
Nelson Manikam Road, Aminjikarai,
Chennai-600029

What is Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)?

“Any act, using a child for the sexual gratification by a powerful person”

CSA takes place in the context of relationship of responsibility, trust or power which are abused by the perpetrators.

Types of Sexual Abuse

Contact Abuse

- Penetrative-Peno-Vaginal intercourse, anal sex, oral sex, insertion of objects into the vagina or any other private body part of the child
- Touching of the child's private body parts, making the child touch the powerful person's private body parts
- Fondling of the child's body with an intention of sexual gratification of the powerful person.

Non-Contact Abuse

- Exposing child to pornographic content
- Making the child watch others while indulging in sexual activity or showing private body parts of others.
- Talking about sex and sexual activity with the child.
- Passing comments of sexual nature.
- Sending messages/images which are sexual in nature
- Showing the child private parts, looking at a child's private body parts while undressing or bathing for sexual gratification.

