



# Corbin & Associates, Inc.

## Lesson Plan of the Month (February 2000)

**Topic:** Child Abuse  
**Target Group:** High School  
**Prepared By:** James Williams  
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### Objectives:

- 1) The student will be able to define Child Abuse.
- 2) The student will be able to identify the various types of Child Abuse.
- 3) The student will be able to identify the signs of Child Abuse.
- 4) The student will be able to list the area resources for victim assistance.

### Introduction:

Good morning, I am Deputy James Williams. I am one of your Youth Services Officers. Today, I am here to talk to you about a very important topic, Child Abuse. Child Abuse is something that would take more than one class to really discuss, so I am going to give you a broad overview. I will, define Child Abuse, identify the types and give you examples of each, and finally discuss the resources available.

### Body:

- I. Definition of Child Abuse - Anyone who causes or allows unjustified physical pain or mental suffering.....
  - A. Physical Abuse involves bodily injury.
  - B. Emotional Abuse involves mental suffering.
  - C. Sexual Abuse involves inappropriate touching of a child or any act that provides arousal or sexual gratification.
  - D. Neglect is failing to provide for the needs of a child in your care.
  - E. Medical Neglect is not providing medical treatment for a child in your care who has a life threatening condition.

II. Statistics on Child Abuse (1997 Statistics)\*

A. Neglect is most common type of abuse - 54%

B. Physical - 24%

C. Sexual - 13%

D. Emotional - 6%

E. Medical Neglect - 2%

1. Most victimized children suffer from more than one type of abuse.
2. 1,196 died in 1997 as a result of child abuse or neglect nationwide.  
Over 3/4 were children three and under.\*\*

III. Examples of Child Abuse

A. Physical Abuse

1. "Normal" injuries are on elbows, knees and forehead.
2. "Abnormal" or possible signs of Child Abuse are in middle of back, thighs, buttocks, and mouth.
3. Types of injuries may include:
  - a) Cuts
  - b) Bruising
  - c) Binding or gag marks
  - d) Bite Marks
  - e) Hair pulled out
  - f) Black eyes
  - g) Broken bones
  - h) Burns (cigarette, hair dryer, electrical, rope)
  - i) Poisoning

## B. Emotional Abuse

### 1. Verbal examples

- a) "You are stupid."
- b) "You are bad."
- c) "You can't do anything right."
- d) "I wish you had never been born."

(1) Statements that tend to lower child's self-worth or esteem.

### 2. Non-verbal examples

- a) Avoiding the child
- b) Failure to show physical affection
- c) Ignoring the child every time he/she goes to the adult with a need.

\* Child Abuse & Neglect Clearinghouse Web Page

<http://www.calib.com/nccanch/pubs/factsheets/infact.htm>

\*\* Child Abuse & Neglect Clearinghouse Web Page

<http://www.calib.com/nccanch/ubs/factsheets/infact.htm>

## C. Sexual Abuse

### 1. Physical Signs/Injuries

- a) Tears or bruises around genitals
- b) Soreness or discomfort around genitals
- c) Redness around genitals

### 2. Review "Good touch/Bad touch"

- a) Good touches are medical treatment, teaching of menstruation care
- b) Bad touches are fondling, squeezing, insertion or touch with finger or other objects into body cavities.

#### D. Neglect

##### 1. Examples:

- a) little to no food
- b) dirty/unsafe home
  - (1) no running water
  - (2) human/animal feces in house
  - (3) rodents or other insects all over
  - (4) exposed wiring

##### 2. Possible signs of neglect

- a) Malnutrition
- b) Poor hygiene
- c) Home alone for long periods of time (unsupervised)
  - (1) Does he/she know what to do in emergency?
  - (2) Have a "plan"
  - (3) Ability to feed & care for him/herself
- d) Constantly tired

#### E. Medical Neglect

- 1. Diabetic child not given insulin as directed by child's Doctor.
- 2. Asthmatic child having a severe attack not taken to doctor.
- 3. Severe cut of a major vein or artery, again, not taken to doctor.

#### F. Corporal Punishment

- 1. definition "physical punishment"\*\*\*\*
- 2. California still allows as long as it does not cause a "traumatic condition" and is not "cruel or inhuman".\*\*\*\* i.e. spanking is still allowed
  - a) "traumatic condition" is generally an injury or bruising

\*\*\* Merriam-Webster online dictionary <http://www.m-w.com/cgi-bin/dictionary>

\*\*\*\* West's California Penal Code section 273d & Sacramento County Sheriff's Child Abuse briefing presentation (December 1999)

#### IV. Resources available to victims of Child Abuse

- A. Local Law Enforcement
- B. Child Protective Services - 916-875-5437
- C. Doctors
- D. School personnel
- E. Family & relatives

## **Review:**

This is merely an overview of the many areas of Child Abuse, as there are many aspects that need to be discussed in order to fully understand it. Child Abuse is the mistreatment of a child that results in harm or injury. The types of Child Abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual, neglect or medical neglect. We also discussed examples of each type of Abuse. Finally, I have provided you with resources available to victims or people who know victims of Child Abuse. Child Abuse is a serious matter and should never be ignored.

## **Practice:**

If you think you are a victim of abuse or think you know someone who is, please remember the people I pointed out that you can talk to and tell one of them as soon as possible. Any questions?

## **Sources:**

- Child Abuse Lesson Plan - L. Scott Hamby, Holts Summit P. D., MO  
<http://www.copsite.com/corbin/lisn0698.txt>
- California Penal Code sections 270, 273, 288, et al
- Child Abuse & Neglect Clearinghouse Web Page  
<http://www.calib.com/nccanch/pubs/factsheets/infact.htm>
- Sacramento County Sheriff's Department Child Abuse Bureau (Briefing Presentation Dec. 1999)

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