

The Cost of Child Abuse

Hawaii Children's Trust Fund

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Child maltreatment is any act or series of acts by a parent or caregiver that results in harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to a child.

Child maltreatment can be
divided into two categories:

Acts of Commission

Three broad categories of abuse:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Emotional (psychological and verbal abuse; mental injury)

Acts of Omission

Neglect

Failure to provide for the child's basic needs

- Physical
- Emotional
- Medical
- Educational

Failure to protect a child

- Inadequate supervision
- Exposure to violent and unsafe environments

Child Protective Services (CPS)
confirmed approximately
905,000 cases of child
maltreatment in the US in 2007.

1,530 children died in 2007

4 Children die each day in the US

Hawaii in 2004

3,629 victims of child maltreatment

1,823 removed from their homes

6 confirmed child deaths from CA/N

National Surveys reveal
about 1 in 8 children ages 2
to 17 years reported having
experienced maltreatment.

Victim Facts

60% Neglect

20% Physical Abuse

10% Sexual Abuse

7% Emotional Abuse

Maltreatment by Gender

Boys and girls are about
equally likely to be abused
or neglected

Maltreatment by Race

- 56% White
- 26% Black
- 11% Hispanic
- 2% American Indian or Alaska Indian
- 1% Asian-Pacific Islanders

Child Deaths

- 41% of children killed were younger than 1 year old
- 76% of children killed were younger than 4 years old

Reporting Sources

- 57% of reports came from professionals
- 16% Teachers
- 16% Law and Law Enforcement
- 13% Social Service Workers
- 8% Medical Personnel

Reporting Sources

- 44% came from non-professional sources such as parents, relatives, friends and neighbors
- 10% came from anonymous sources

Adults reveal high rates of
childhood maltreatment:

20% to 32% of women

14% to 40 % of men

Child maltreatment often has
immediate effects:

- traumatic brain injury
- death
- childhood emotional and behavioral problems

Prevent Child Abuse America

Children who have been abused or neglected are more likely to experience adverse outcomes throughout their life span in a number of areas:

Poor Physical Health

- Chronic fatigue
- Altered immune function
- Hypertension
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Obesity

Poor Emotional Health

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Eating Disorders
- Suicidal thoughts and attempts
- Post-traumatic stress disorder

Social Difficulties

- Insecure attachments with caregivers
- Difficulties in developing trusting relationships

Cognitive Dysfunction

- Deficits in attention,
- Abstract reasoning
- Language development
- Problem solving skills
- Poor school performance

High Risk Behaviors

- Higher number of lifetime sexual partners
- Younger age of first voluntary intercourse
- Teen pregnancy
- Alcohol and substance abuse

Behavioral Problems

- Aggression
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Adult criminality
- Abusive and violent behavior

Direct Costs for CAN

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hospitalization | \$6,625,959,263 |
| Mental Health Care System | \$1,080,706,049 |
| Child Welfare Services System | \$25,361,329,051 |
| Law Enforcement | \$33,307,770 |
| Total Direct Costs | \$ 33,101,302,133 |

Total Indirect Costs for CAN

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Special Education | \$2,410,306,242 |
| Juvenile Delinquency | \$7,174,814,134 |
| Mental Health and Health Care | \$ 67,863,457 |
| Adult Criminal Justice System | \$27,979,811,982 |
| Lost Productivity to Society | \$ 33,019,919,544 |
| Total Indirect Costs | \$70,652,715,359 |

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta has identified safe, stable and nurturing relationships (SSNR's) between caregivers and children as the foundation ...to empower parents and caregivers to reduce and prevent child maltreatment.

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

Description and Content Components of Parent Training Programs:

1. Child Development Knowledge and Care

Developmentally appropriate physical care such as feeding, diapering, home safety;

Learning child development for appropriate expectations;

Fostering positive self-worth

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

2. Positive Interactions with Child

Learning the importance of positive, non-disciplinary interactions with children;

Using skills that promote positive parent-child interactions

Providing positive attention

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

3. Responsiveness, Sensitivity and Nurturing

Demonstrating empathy in responding to children's emotional and psychological needs

Being positively attuned to children's needs and desires

Using gentle touch like massage regularly

Engaging in activities that promote positive parent-child attachment

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

4. Emotional Communication

Using relationship building communication skills like active listening, honoring a child's desire, problem solving, negotiation and compromise.

Helping children identify and appropriately express feelings.

Avoiding the use of blaming and taking responsibility of one's feelings.

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

5. Disciplinary Communication

Using re-direction away from dangerous to safer situations.

Using praise for “being” and praise for “doing” to promote positive self-worth and self-esteem.

Using choices and consequences

Empowering to “act in”

Using “power stories” to reinforce desired behaviors.

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

6. Discipline and Behavior Management

Establishing discipline practices that promote the dignity of all family members.

Using behavior management strategies that promote and reinforce healthy emotional growth.

Incorporating dignified reward and punishment techniques in promoting desired behaviors.

Establishing a predictable and secure home life.

Safe, Secure and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

7. Promoting Children's Social Skills

Sharing

Cooperating

Using good manners

Making good social choices

Choosing a peer group that supports healthy morals

Valuing being a member of a social club

Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships (SSNR's)

8. Promoting Children's Cognitive Skills

Fostering children's brain development through cognitive/sensory experiences.

Promoting children's language and literacy development.

Enhancing children's school readiness.

Nurturing Parenting Programs

For more information on evidence-based Nurturing Parenting Programs and on valid and reliable parenting assessments, contact:

Family Development Resources

Phone 800-688 5822

E-mail: fdr@nurturingparenting.com

Website: www.nurturingparenting.com

Training website: www.nurturingtraining.com