

6 Steps for Preventing Adult Sexual Misconduct & Child Sexual Abuse.

[ESCAPE Program Logo: End Sexual abuse of Children with Prevention, Awareness and Education]

Educational Video Series. Developed in conjunction with Diane Cranley, an expert in child sexual abuse prevention. This module is part of a series designed to help school staff identify and report suspicious behaviors that may indicate child sexual abuse. A Discussion Guide accompanies each module of the series. A Collection of educational reading materials and resource lists are also included.

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Module 1: Introduction

[Sources cited in this video are included at the end of the transcript]

Narrator, Diane Cranley: Hello, I'm Diane Cranley, Author of 8 Ways to Create Their Fate and a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Consultant. Welcome to the Adult Sexual Misconduct and Child Sexual Abuse Prevention in Schools Series.

1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18.

Sources: 1, 2, 3

The long-term consequences of sexual abuse are staggering and openly apparent in our children and in adult survivors including: Low Self-Esteem, Depression, and Suicide, Post-Traumatic Stress, Dissociation, and Attention Issues, Promiscuity, Teen Pregnancy, and Contracting STDs, Anger, Aggression, and Criminal Behavior, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Cutting, and Eating Disorders and even Homelessness.

Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

The consequences not only affect individuals, they also impact our communities through rising healthcare costs, social services costs, and increased prison populations. Research has shown that, nearly 50% of women in prison were abused and over 75% of serial rapists report they were sexually abused as children.

Sources: 10

It's important to take a leadership position on this very sensitive and crucial issue. In the past we have focused, and will continue to focus, on preparing our district employees to respond appropriately as mandated reporters because 35-45% of childhood molestation happens within the family and school employees must be trained to recognize the consequences of abuse.

Sources: 1, 3, 11

But 55-60% of child molestation happens at the hands of someone outside the family that the child knows and trusts. In fact, nearly 10% of 8th through 11th-graders surveyed, say they were sexually abused on campus at some point during their school career by either another student or a school representative.

Sources: 1, 3, 12

This statistic has become painfully real for the children who attend our schools and millions of dollars have been spent to resolve these types of claims and losses. This is money that has been taken directly out of the classroom. And we know that this is just a fraction of the abuse that's taken place because 86% of sexual assault cases are never even reported.

Sources: 5

The reality of children being abused in our schools has opened our eyes and broken our hearts. As educators, we have long been committed to recognizing and reporting signs of abuse at home. As our awareness of the prevalence of child sexual abuse in schools increases, our efforts toward prevention must increase as well. In this series, we'll empower and equip your school community to understand when and how to intercede on behalf of children while in your care.

We need you to join us in our efforts to pave the way to a brighter, safer tomorrow for children in our schools. We all play a part in the solution and we encourage you to engage in the dialog because child sexual abuse affects everyone

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

How have you been impacted by sexual abuse around you?

How has your district been impacted by child sexual abuse?

How can you help your school district/community understand the importance of the prevention of child molestation?

Thank you for taking the time to watch this video and engage with us in preventing child sexual abuse. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact your Human Resources Department.

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Sources

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