



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ...  
STRENGTHENING FAMILIES



## **It is the Law!!!!**

(because our children are our greatest resource)

**It is the law that all schools provide information to parents/guardians and students on the identification and prevention of child abuse. In 2007 the Senate adopted Bill 279, which revised the required training on child abuse. This law not only requires the reporting of child abuse by school personnel; it also requires yearly training on the identification and prevention of child abuse. This same law includes the information on identification and prevention to be provided to their students and families.**

**On the following page, we have provided descriptions on the types of child abuse and solutions for the prevention of this abuse.**

### **What is child abuse and neglect?**

Oregon law defines abuse and neglect as:

“an injury to a child that is not accidental. Most parents do not intend to hurt their children, but abuse is defined by the effect on the child, not the motivation of the parent”.

### **The major types of abuse include:**

- Physical injury
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- Threat of harm
- Mental injury
- Child selling.

**If you wish to research abuse in more detail, the Oregon Department of Human Services ODHS, has this website [www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse)**

**If you think a child is being abused or neglected,  
you can report this to Klamath Falls DHS at 883-5570.  
Help us Help Oregon's Children.**

# ***Oregon law recognizes these types of abuse:***

## ***Physical Injury***

- Bruises, welts, burns, cuts, broken bones, sprains, bites, etc., which are deliberately inflicted.
- **Injuries may:**
  - Be in the shape of the article used (electric cord, belt buckle, etc.).
  - Not match children's description of how they occurred (fracture from falling off sofa, etc.).



## ***Neglect***

- Failure to provide food, shelter, medicine, etc., to such a degree that a child's health and safety are endangered.
- **Children often:**
  - Don't want to leave school.
  - Are constantly tired.
  - Are left alone with no supervision.
  - Have unmet physical, emotional or medical needs.

## ***Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation***

- Any sexual contact in which a child or teen younger than 18 years is used to sexually stimulate another person is illegal. This may be anything from rape to fondling to involving a child in pornography.
- **Children often have:**
  - Poor peer relationships, fantasy or infantile behavior, fear of being left with someone.
  - Inappropriate interest in, knowledge of or acting out of sexual matters.
  - Any of the behavioral problems listed under "Mental injury."



## ***Threat of Harm***

- Threat of harm is subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare.
- The presence of domestic violence is a risk for children.
- Children may exhibit any of the behaviors listed on this page.

## ***Mental Injury***

- A continuing pattern of rejecting, terrorizing, ignoring, isolating or corrupting a child, resulting in serious damage to the child.
- **Children often:**
  - Have speech or sleep disorders.
  - Fail to grow normally.
  - Are very aggressive or withdrawn.
  - Show an abnormal need for emotional support.

## ***Child Selling***

- Buying, selling or trading for legal or physical custody of a child.
- Does not apply to legitimate adoption or domestic relations planning



Klamath Falls Office:  
541-883-5570

Department of Human Services  
500 Summer St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**If you think a child is being abused, you must report it to a Department of Human Services office or a law enforcement agency. Nearly three quarters of children are referred to DHS by mandatory reporters. You may be their best hope.**