

THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE



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Presenter's Introduction



- Ambassador for Protective Behaviours WA
- Serving Police Officer – 28 years
- Safeguarding Officer for the Perth Catholic Archdiocese
- Inaugural Inductee WA International Women's Hall of Fame – 2011
- Mother of 6 , Grandmother of 2
- Wife of 1

Child abuse is a sensitive issue

Protective Interruption Strategy



Photo – Broome Cable Beach

Safe Place Visualisation

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Some of the key findings include :

- 5111 people have told their story
- In WA a total of 320 different organisations have been reported - 600 private hearings
- 62% are Male
- 50% have been penetrated
- The average abuse has been perpetrated over 3 years
- 60% of Complainants are from Faith based organisations
- 43% are from out of home care

Creating Child Safe Organisations



12 National Standards
Childwise 2014

Definition

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse occurs when a child is exposed to, or involved in, sexual activity that is inappropriate to the child's age and developmental level. It includes circumstances where the child has less power than another person involved, is exploited or where the child has been bribed, threatened, or coerced. It also includes situations where there is a significant difference between the developmental or maturity level of the child and another person involved.

Ref: Department for Child Protection WA

Definition

Sexual Abuse

Is when a child is tricked, coerced, forced or threatened to take part in a sexual activity by an older person.

Prevalence and Risk

The most vulnerable ages for children to be exposed to sexual assault appears to be the ages from three to eight years of age, with the majority of onset of abuse happening between these ages

(Ref : Browne & Lynch, 1994).

Child Sexual Abuse – Prevalence

- One in three girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused in some way before the age of 18 years.
- At a national level the bureau of Criminal Intelligence conservatively estimates 40,000 Australian children will be sexually abused each year.
- Girls and boys of all ages are abused including toddlers and babies.
- Child sexual abuse spans all races, economic classes, religious and ethnic groups.

(Australian Institute of Criminology)

Identifying a child molester

- Preferential or Non Preferential
- Most allegations of child abuse in Western Australia relate to incidents within the family and are mostly caused by non-preferential child molesters.
- Non-preferential child molesters don't necessarily prefer children as sexual partners but due to circumstances, have sexual activity with children.
- Preferential child molesters are often consumed by their need to engage in sexual activity with children. This need is often the driving force behind their lives and everything they do is geared to the goal of obtaining children for sexual gratification.

Reference : WA Police Sex Crimes website

- Preferential child molesters often engage in activities which bring them into contact with children, such as sporting clubs, youth groups, through their employment, community/church groups, loitering where children congregate and internet chat rooms.
- They often target children emotionally in need, often taking on the "father figure" role, will offer gifts such as toys, entertainment, clothing, money, alcohol, cigarettes or drugs and will often spend considerable time developing the trust of the child and the family.
- Most offenders offend in their own home or in the home of the victim. They have the potential to offend over and over again throughout their lives

Child Sexual Abuse – The Offenders

- The majority of perpetrators are male (in excess of 95%).
- Between 80% - 96% of the time the offender is known to the child.
- Predatory or Persuasive .
- One in three child sexual offenders are adolescents.
- Most offenders abuse more than one child.
- Only 1 in 100 sex offenders in a given year ends up convicted of sexual assault.
- More likely to target 0 – 10 year old children.

Offender Definitions

Paedophile:

an adult or older adolescent who experiences a primary or exclusive sexual attraction to prepubescent children, generally age 11 years or younger.

Ref: Wikipedia

Offender Definitions

Hebephile

is the primary or exclusive adult sexual interest in pubescent individuals approximately 11-14 years old,

Offender Definitions

Paederast:

homosexual relationship between an adult male and a pubescent or adolescent male.

The word pederasty derives from Greek (paiderastia) "love of boys".

Ref: Wikipedia

Offender Definitions

Ephhebophile :

which is the primary or exclusive sexual attraction to those in later adolescence approximately 15-19 years old.

The Reach of Offenders

In another study by Gene Abel and colleagues in the late 1980's which was voluntary and provided absolute confidentiality , 232 child sex offenders admitted they had attempted committing 55 000 acts of indecent dealing (molestation). They were successful in 38 000 attempts and had created 17 000 victims.

Most of these offences were **NOT** detected and Abel's research suggests that only 3% of offences are detected.

Victorian Police Service – 20 Years of Statistics

ACCESS TO VICTIMS

Access To Victims %

- Relative ----- 14.50
- Neighbour ----- 8.40
- Sport/community group ----- 14.12
- Youth organisation --3.82
- Nanny/babysitter -----2.29
- Welfare industry ----- 4.58

Access To Victims %

- Loiterer ----- 6.11
- Open house ----- 5.73
- Church ----- 0.76
- Teacher -----12.26
- Patient ----- 0.38
- Friend of family ---- 25.95

A System for Protecting Children

Reference : DSS

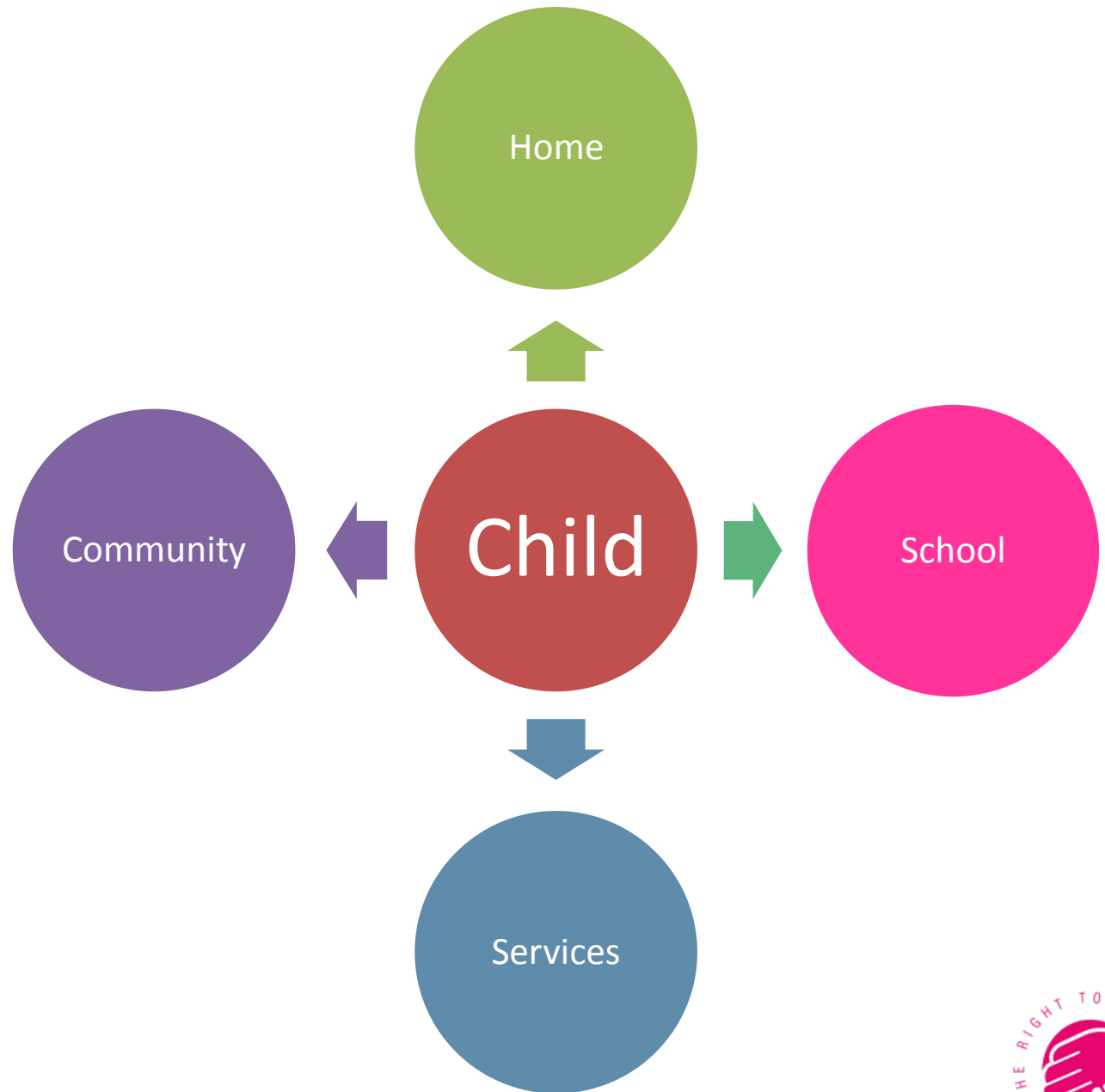
Statutory
Services

Targeted services and
programs for
“at risk” families and
children

Early intervention services
targeted to vulnerable families
and children

Universal preventative initiatives
to support all children and
families

Increasing Prevention



REALITY

The reality is that most institutions are are in fact safe places for children

But

Recipe for Crime



Why do we need to teach children Protective Behaviours ?

- To give children and young people permission to talk about problem situations they face
- Because 96% of children and young people who are abused are abused by someone known and trusted by them
- To empower children and young people with the *right to feel safe*
- To break the cycle of offending

Why are children vulnerable to Child Sexual Abuse ?

- They are powerless, trust and depend on adults
- They are taught to obey adults
- Young children can't assess adults' motive's
- Children will tolerate the most painful abuse to maintain emotionally rewarding relationships
- Sexual abuse by adults is confusing

Why don't children talk about abuse?



Why don't children talk about abuse?

The grooming process, the abuse and the secrecy surrounding it all creates a number of barriers that prevent children from talking about the abuse that is happening to them. Victims often don't disclose because they:

- are scared and live in fear
- are ashamed
- Are afraid they won't be believed
- Think they are strange in some way

- Feel embarrassed or guilty
- Have problems communicating or expressing themselves
- Don't want to upset or hurt other family members
- Don't want other people or friends to find out

(SNAICC, Through Young Black Eyes, Child Abuse and Neglect, 2007)

The Grooming Process

- Is the process of reducing resistance of a child preparatory to the commencement of the abuse.
- This is achieved through increasing a child's fear of what would happen should they report the abuse.

What Perpetrators have to say about sexually abusing children and grooming

The Centre for Behavioural Intervention in Beaverton, Oregon conducted a study in which child sexual predators in treatment were interviewed. These are actual quotes from convicted child molesters:

Parents are so naive—they're worried about strangers and should be worried about their brother-in-law. They just don't realize how devious we can be. I used to abuse children in the same room with their parents and they couldn't see it or didn't seem to know it was happening.”

“I was disabled and spent months grooming the parents, so they would tell their children to take me out and help me. No one thought that disabled people could be abusers.”

“Parents are partly to blame if they don't tell their children about [sexual matters]—I used it to my advantage by teaching the child myself.”

“Parents shouldn't be embarrassed to talk about things like this—it's harder to abuse or trick a child who knows what you're up to

Reference : *Educaterempowerkids* January 2016

The Grooming Process

- Choose target for age and appearance.
- Become someone the child's parents think they can trust and rely on.
- Build up a trusting relationship with the target.
- Engage the target in innocent forbidden activities
- Test out whether the target will keep innocent secrets.
- Build up the idea of a special and exclusive relationship
- Test out non sexual physical contact ie. Accidental touching
- Lower the targets inhibitions
- Manipulate the child to perform some sexual acts.
- Blackmail to ensure secrecy
- Sexual Assault(s)
- Termination of relationship : target no longer innocent or desirable.

Four Preconditions to the Occurrence of Child Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is different to other forms of child abuse as it is usually premeditated. The abuser grooms a child and may trick, bribe, threaten or force a them to take part in sexual activity.

- Motivation
- Overcoming Internal Inhibitors
- Overcoming External Inhibitors
- Overcoming the resistance of the child



The Protective Behaviours Program

What is Protective Behaviours....

Protective Behaviours is a personal safety program that can teach you skills and strategies to :

- identify unsafe situations,
- respond to unsafe situations,
- find help in a range of unsafe situations.

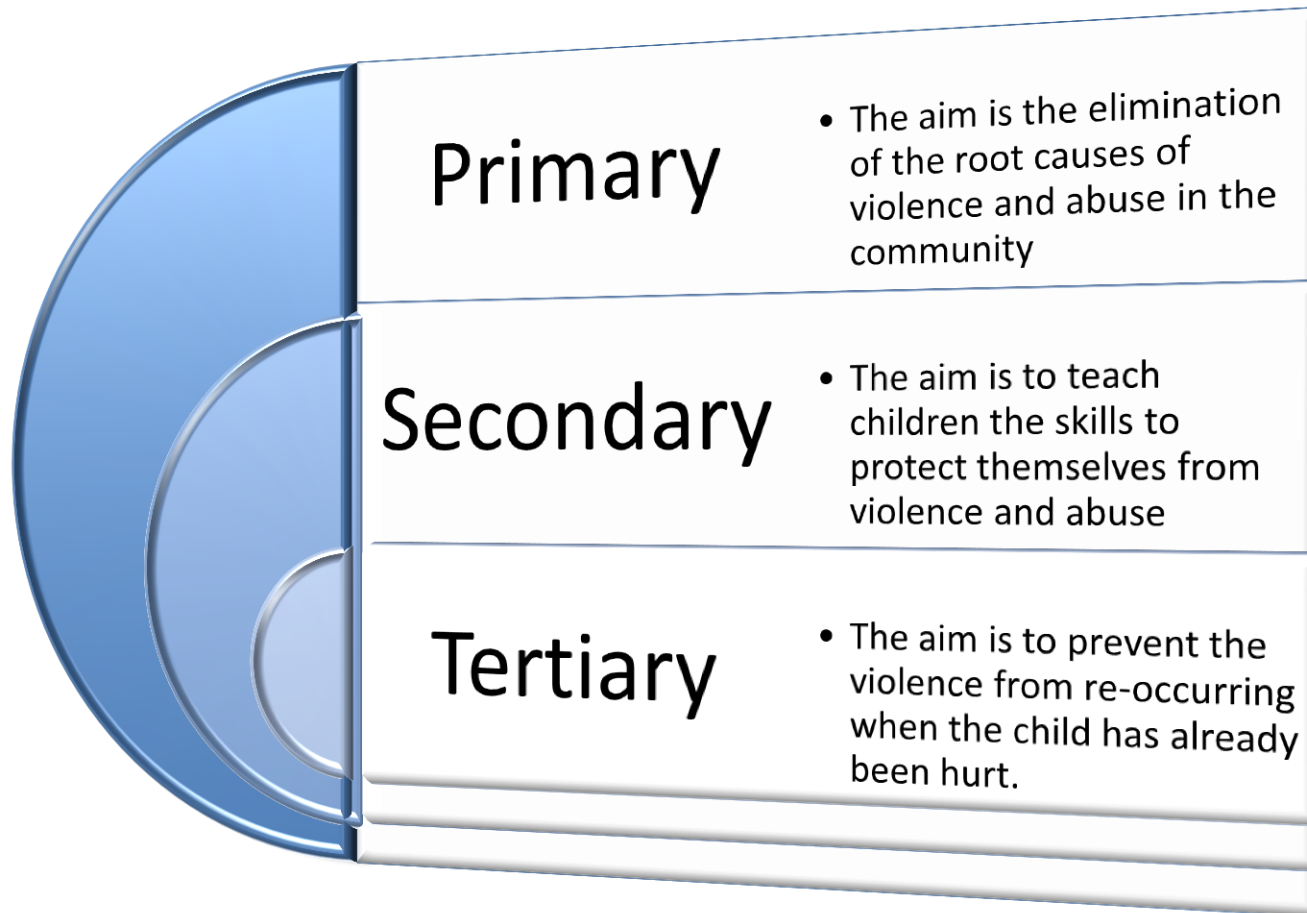


It's About

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse and Empowering children with their voice instead of allowing sex offenders to silence them.



3 Stages of Prevention Activity

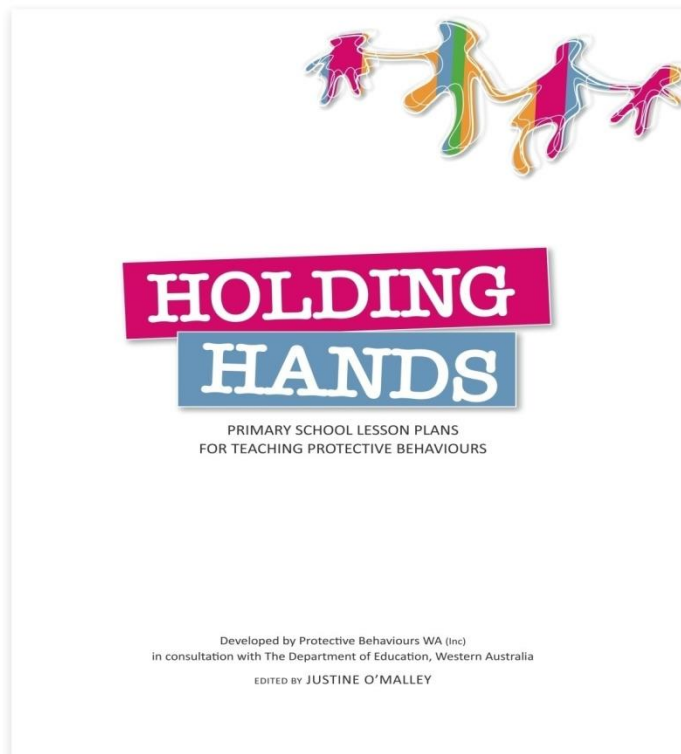


Creating Child Safe Organisations



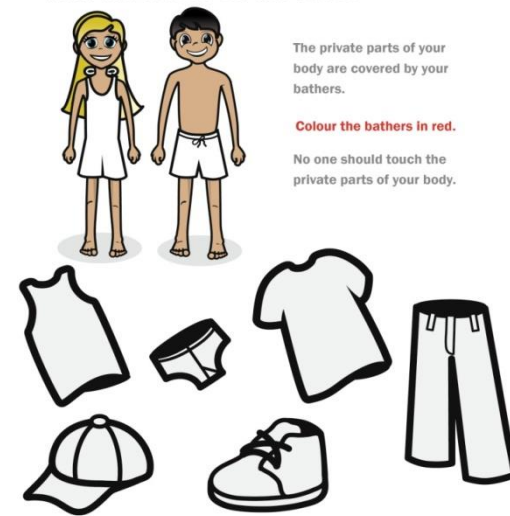
12 National Standards
Childwise 2014

Holding Hands Primary School Lesson Plans



K - P ACTIVITY SHEET 8

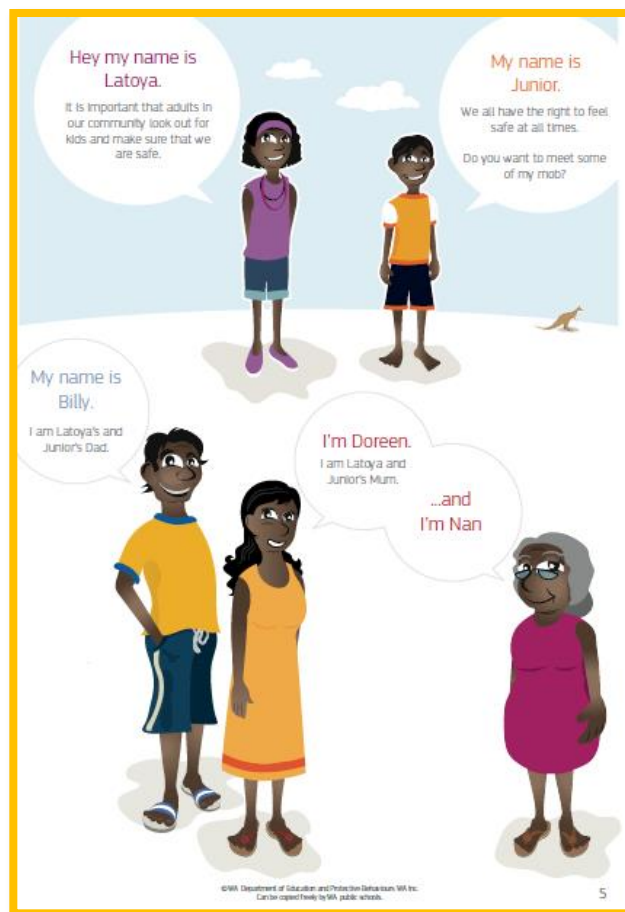
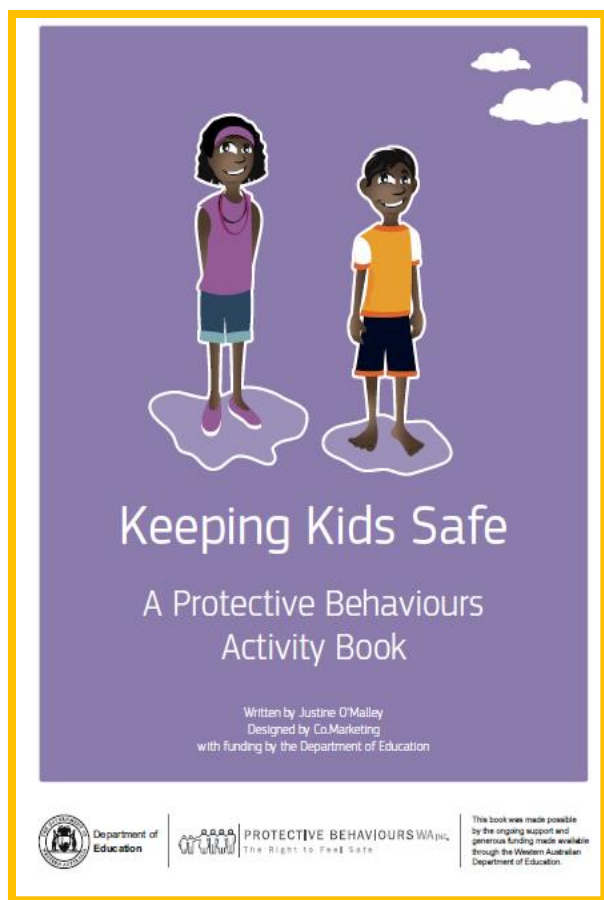
I AM THE BOSS OF MY BODY



Colour the private clothes in red.
Colour the public clothes in green.



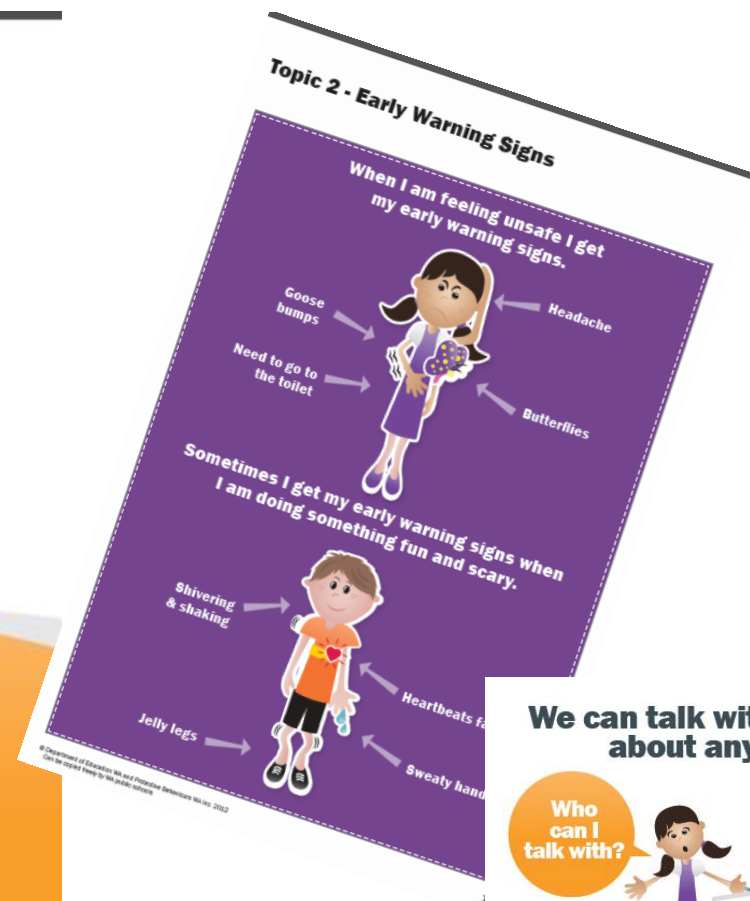
Protective Behaviours for Indigenous Children



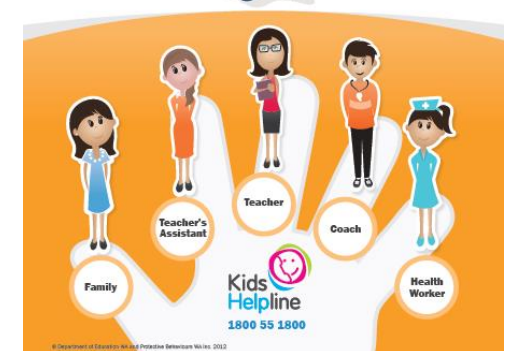
Feeling Safe Staying Safe

Protective Behaviours Activity Package

Resource for Children with Special Needs



We can talk with someone about anything.



Teenagers Guide to Personal Safety

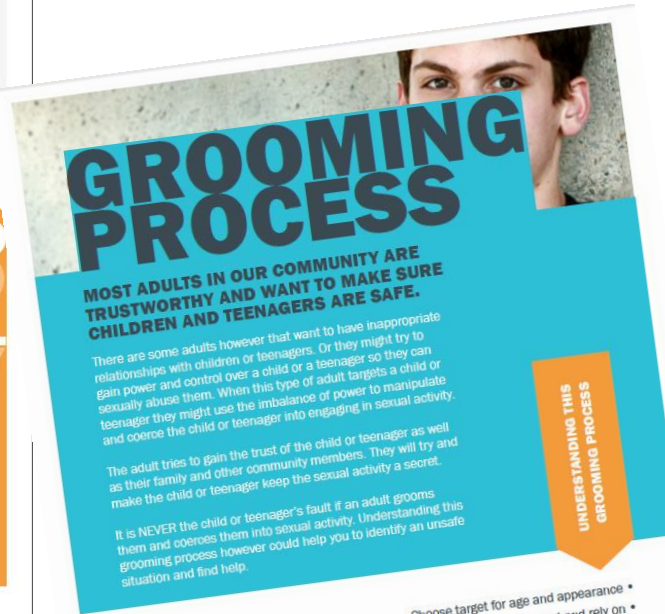


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PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS WA INC.
The Right to Feel Safe

Page 1.1



- Choose target for age and appearance •
- Become someone the child's parents think they can trust and rely on •
- Build up a 'trusting' relationship with the target •
- Engage the target in innocent forbidden activities e.g. food •
- Test out whether the target will keep innocent secrets •
- Build up the idea of a special and exclusive relationship with the target •
- Test out non-sexual physical contact e.g. accidental touching •
- Lower the target's inhibitions e.g. through use of pornography •
- Engage target in illicit activities e.g. drugs & alcohol •
- Blackmail to ensure secrecy – threaten to tell parents or police of other activities •
- Manipulate the child to perform some sexual acts e.g. touching •
- Sexual assault(s) •
- Termination of relationship: target no longer innocent or desirable •

CDSP6012 | Teenager's Guide to Personal Safety
© Department of Education WA and Protective Behaviours WA Inc. 2013. Can be copied freely by WA public schools.



Parent and Carers Handbook



Protective Behaviours

Parent Handbook

Parent & Carers Guide to Teaching the Protective Behaviours Program

In Partnership & Sponsored by Cerebral Palsy



PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS WA (PBC)
The Right to Feel Safe

the centre for
cerebral palsy
colouring personal, creating possibilities



Theme One

A human right that we are all **born with**, cannot be taken away and does not have to be earned

**We all have
the right to
feel safe
at all times.**

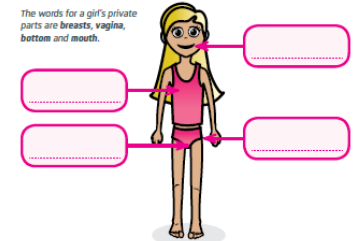
Physical & emotional,
it's a personal,
individual experience

All of us,
you, me,
friends, family,
strangers...everyone

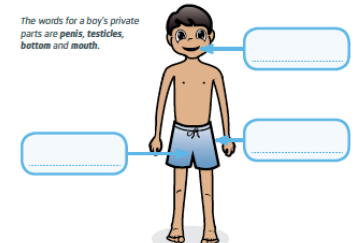
24 hours a day
in the morning, during the
day, at night time, at home, at
school, at grandma's, at after
school care.



Label the pictures with words for the private parts of the body.



The words for a girl's private parts are breasts, vagina, bottom and mouth.



The words for a boy's private parts are penis, testicles, bottom and mouth.

"Your body is special and it belongs to you"