

Child Welfare Information Gateway

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The following new or updated publications and resources are now available from [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#). Use the links listed below to request a print copy, if available.

Child Abuse & Neglect

Child Abuse and Neglect: General Information Packet

This information packet includes fact sheets about child maltreatment and the services available from the Child Welfare Information Gateway. The fact sheets review the definitions of maltreatment, child abuse and neglect prevention, and provide statistical information about the prevalence of child abuse and neglect and the characteristics of victims and offenders. Directories of federal clearinghouses, hotlines, state agencies, and other organizations that disseminate information about family and domestic violence and substance abuse are also inserted.

PDF: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/can_info_packet.pdf

Contents Include:

What is Child Abuse and Neglect?

This fact sheet explains how child maltreatment is defined in federal and state laws. Distinctions between the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and state civil and criminal statutes are highlighted. Operational definitions of physical abuse, child neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse also are included.

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan.pdf>

Child Maltreatment 2004: Summary of Key Findings

This fact sheet summarizes Child Maltreatment 2004, a publication that provides child abuse statistics submitted by states to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) during 2004. Highlighted topics include reports of child abuse and neglect; victims of maltreatment; perpetrators; fatalities; and services.

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/canstats.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/canstats.pdf>

Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Symptoms

The first step in helping abused or neglected children is learning to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect. This fact sheet lists general signs that may signal the presence of child abuse. It also includes signs associated with specific types of abuse such as physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional maltreatment.

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/signs.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/signs.pdf>

How Does the Child Welfare System Work?

The child welfare system is a group of services designed to promote the well-being of children by

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ensuring safety, achieving permanency, and strengthening families to successfully care for their children. Child welfare systems are complex, and their specific procedures vary widely by State. The purpose of this fact sheet is to give a brief overview of the purposes and functions of child welfare from a national perspective. It discusses what happens when a report of possible abuse or neglect is made, what happens when a report is screened in, and what happens in substantiated cases. It also discusses what happens to people who abuse children, and what happens to children who enter foster care.

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/cpswork.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/cpswork.pdf>

Long-Term Consequences of Child Abuse and Neglect

The impact of child abuse and neglect is often discussed in terms of physical, psychological, behavioral, and societal consequences. In reality, however, it is impossible to separate them completely. Physical consequences (such as damage to a child's growing brain) can have psychological implications (cognitive delays or emotional difficulties, for example.). Psychological problems often manifest as high-risk behaviors. Depression and anxiety, for example, may make a person more likely to smoke, abuse alcohol or illicit drugs, or overeat. High-risk behaviors, in turn, can lead to long-term physical health problems such as sexually transmitted diseases, cancer, and obesity. This fact sheet provides an overview of some of the most common physical, psychological, behavioral, and societal consequences of child abuse and neglect, while acknowledging that much crossover among categories exists.

HTML: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/long_term_consequences.cfm

PDF: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/long_term_consequences.pdf

With the exception of Child Maltreatment 2004: Summary of Key Findings, the above publications are also available in Spanish:

El abuso y negligencia de menores: Paquete de información general

(Child Abuse and Neglect: General Information Packet)

PDF: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/sp_can_info_packet.pdf

Contents Include:

¿Qué es el abuso y negligencia de menores?

(What is Child Abuse and Neglect?)

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/ques.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/ques.pdf>

Comó Trabaja el Sistema de Bienestar Infantil?

(How Does the Child Welfare System Work?)

HTML: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/spcpswork.cfm>

PDF: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/spcpswork.pdf>

Reconociendo el maltrato de menores: los indicios y los síntomas

(Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Symptoms)

HTML: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/sp_signs.cfm

PDF: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/sp_signs.pdf

Consecuencias a largo plazo del maltrato de menores

(Long-term Consequences of Child Abuse and Neglect)

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HTML: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/sp_long_term_consequences.cfm

PDF: http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/sp_long_term_consequences.pdf

Other

To familiarize users with our new website, this area will feature a different section of the website each month.

Family-Centered Practice

(<http://www.childwelfare.gov/famcentered>)

Find resources to support and preserve families through a respectful, strengths-based approach that views the family as central to the child's well-being. This section includes information on specific family-centered practice approaches, such as family group decision-making. Also included are resources on cultural competence, casework practice, and providing and evaluating family-centered services.

Contact Information

Child Welfare Information Gateway

Phone: 800.394.3366

Email: info@childwelfare.gov

Web: <http://www.childwelfare.gov>

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