



Reporting Child Sexual Abuse

TO REPORT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

1-800-252-5400

www.txabusehotline.org

IF THE CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER

Call 911

Texas law only requires that you have a suspicion to report abuse. That means that you do not need proof that the child is being sexually abused.

Suspicion means :

- you have witnessed physical or behavioral signs of maltreatment, either in the child or parent/caregiver
- The child has made an outcry

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO MAKE A REPORT?

Necessary Information

- Child's name, address, and age
- Parents' name and address
- Nature of abuse

Helpful Information

- Perpetrator's name
- Details of the abuse

What to do when a child makes an outcry

- Believe the child
- Do not blame the child
- Try to remain calm
- Do not make promises
- Do not hug the child
- Do not investigate

REPORT IMMEDIATELY!!!!



Things to remember:

- Do not notify the child's guardian or parents about the report, especially if someone in the home is the suspected abuser.
- Respect the child's confidentiality. Keep the report on a "need to know" basis.
- Document. Keep a record of when and who the report was made.
- Do not lose faith!!! Even though your report may not result in legal action, the investigation may trigger other services to take place.