

## Some Facts About Child Sexual Abuse



Word and Action, Inc. (W&A) is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that aims to prevent and/or decrease occurrences of child sexual abuse, and all other types of child abuse in our community.



WORD & ACTION, INC.

### FACTS

- ❖ 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18.
- ❖ 1 in 5 children are sexually solicited on the internet.
- ❖ Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults, including those on adults occur to ages 17 and under.
- ❖ The median age for reported sexual abuse is 9 years old.
- ❖ Approximately 20% of the victims of sexual abuse are under age 8.
- ❖ 50% of all victims of forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling are under age 12.
- ❖ An estimate 39 million survivors of sexual abuse exist in America.
- ❖ Most child victims never report the abuse.
- ❖ Sexually abused children who keep it a secret or who “tell” and are not believed may be at greater risk than the general population for psychological, emotional, social, and physical problems often lasting into adulthood.
- ❖ 30-40% of children who are sexually abused are abused by family members.
- ❖ As many as 60% are abused by people the family trusts. Abusers often try to form a trusting relationship with parents.
- ❖ More than 90% of children who are sexually abused know their abusers. This means fewer than 10% of abusers are strangers.
- ❖ Nearly 40% are abused by older or larger children.
- ❖ More than 50% of the victims of older or larger children are under 12 years of age.
- ❖ People who abuse children look and act just like everyone else. In fact, they often go out of their way to appear trustworthy to gain access to children.
- ❖ 70-80% of sexual abuse survivors report excessive drug and alcohol use.
- ❖ One study showed that among male survivors, more than 80% had a history of substance abuse, 50% had suicidal thoughts, more than 20% had attempted suicide, and almost 70% had received psychological treatment. Approximately 30% violently victimized others.
- ❖ Young girls who are sexually abused are more likely to develop eating disorders during adolescence.

—National Based Statistics Research

WORD AND ACTION, INC.  
P.O. Box 310744  
Miami, FL 33231-0744

PHONE  
USA: 305-647-8973

WEB  
[www.wordandaction.org](http://www.wordandaction.org)