Baylor University
Keeping Our Minors Safe

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How Abuse Happens in a University Setting

Offenders have infiltrated every youth development organization in the United States. The threat of this type of abuse is in schools, at camps, in churches, and other youth serving organizations.

Sexual offenders on campus can be:
- Minors
- Strangers
- Adults in our campus community, including students, faculty or staff members, or volunteers

Of all abuse that is committed, which group is the highest percentage of offenders: family members, strangers, or someone else the minor knows?

Take note of the percentages.

_____% are by family members
_____% are by strangers
_____% are by someone else the minor knows

What Are the Characteristics of an Offender?

Make note of the common characteristics.


After completing this lesson, I am able to:

☐ Identify how abuse could occur on campus
☐ Explain who is most likely to abuse minors
☐ Describe characteristics of offenders
How Offenders Operate

There are three types of offenders:

- Preferential offenders – prefer sexual contact with minors over sex with adults
- Situational offenders – may offend when they are in a stressful situation or when they find a minor who is alone
- Indiscriminate offenders – have no sense of right or wrong

Types of Control

Some offenders gain control by violating four types of boundaries with minors. List examples of each of the four boundary violations:

1. Physical boundaries:

2. Emotional boundaries:

3. Behavioral boundaries:

4. Community boundaries:

After completing this lesson, I am able to:

☐ Differentiate between types of offenders
☐ List three things that an offender needs to harm a minor
☐ Explain how offenders violate boundaries with minors
Impact of Sexual Abuse

High-risk Characteristics
What characteristics cause some minors to be at higher risk for sexual abuse than others? List the characteristics.


Sexual Abuse Affects Minors
In what ways does sexual abuse affect how minors think, feel, and act?

THINK:

FEEL:

ACT:

Make some notes about how adults abused as minors can be affected by abuse.


After completing this lesson, I am able to:

☐ Describe high-risk characteristics of minors
☐ Describe how minors who have been abused think, feel, and act
☐ Recall how adults who were abused as minors are affected
Best Practices for Abuse Prevention

Accounting for Minors:

- Be sure that minors are accounted for at all times.
- Immediately report any missing minors to your supervisor or program director.

It is your responsibility to establish and maintain appropriate boundaries when interacting with the minors in your care. It’s also your responsibility to encourage appropriate boundaries between minors.

List examples of appropriate and inappropriate boundaries, both physical and verbal.

Appropriate:

Inappropriate:

There are six potentially dangerous situations on campus where most abuse occurs. Think about how these situations relate to your program, and make notes on how you might manage these high-risk situations.

1. Isolated areas

2. Unstructured times

3. Mixed age groups

4. Bedtime

5. Off-site events

6. High-risk minors

After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Explain how to account for minors
- List appropriate and inappropriate boundaries
- Describe six high-risk situations
Protect Yourself from False Allegations

*Fill in the missing words below.*

You can reduce the likelihood of a minor falsely accusing you of abuse by taking these actions:

1. **Follow applicable rules and procedures.**
   a. Do not decide for yourself whether a rule or procedure is ______ or ______.

2. **Keep your boundaries with minors clear.**
   a. Only use the types of _________ contact authorized in your program.
   b. Do not discuss details of your ________ life with minors.

3. **Avoid improper appearances.**
   a. Avoid being alone with a minor in a private ________.

After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- □ Explain the importance of following applicable rules and procedures
- □ Know how to keep my boundaries with minors clear
- □ Describe how to avoid improper appearances

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Reporting Abuse and Suspected Abuse

**Why People Don’t Report**

Barriers to reporting can be categorized into 3 primary reasons:

- Uncertainty
- Fear of reprisal
- And wrongly accusing

As part of the Baylor community serving minors, you must report three types of conduct.

1. Suspicious or inappropriate behaviors involving adults and minors (red flag behaviors)
2. Suspected abuse of a minor
3. Minor-to-minor sexual abuse and sexualized behaviors

*Write down some examples of suspicious behaviors that must be reported.*
The four major categories of child abuse are:

1. __________________
2. __________________
3. __________________
4. __________________

If something looks suspicious, you should:

1. Interrupt
2. Report

Texas law requires some individuals, known as mandatory reporters, to report suspected child abuse to state authorities. According to the list of mandatory reporters in Texas, are you a mandatory reporter?

**Baylor University Policy to Protect Minors and Prevent Abuse**

Baylor’s reporting requirements:

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- [ ] Understand why reporting is critical and define common reporting barriers
- [ ] Understand what types of conduct must be reported
- [ ] Know how to report
When a Minor Discloses Abuse

Often, minors don’t tell anyone about abuse. Why not?

Five techniques to follow if a child discloses abuse:

1. Listen
2. Reassure
3. Protect
4. Report

Notes:

After completing this lesson, I am able to:

☐ Explain why minors are reluctant to tell about abuse
☐ Describe how to follow up on vague disclosures
☐ Follow the four steps for following up when a minor discloses abuse

Important Contact Information
Immediately report to Baylor any suspicious or inappropriate conduct or policy violations, suspected abuse, and minor-to-minor sexualized behaviors by notifying:

- Your supervisor or an administrator and the Baylor University Child Protection Coordinator, or
- The confidential abuse reporting hotline (866) 607- SAFE (7233)

If you suspect child abuse or neglect, in addition to reporting to your supervisor or program director or to the confidential hotline, you must also immediately notify:

- Baylor University Police Department at (254) 710-2222, and
- Texas authorities.
  - If you suspect the abuse occurred at camp, make an online report to The Office of Inspector General, https://oig.hhsc.state.tx.us/Fraud_Report_Home.aspx
  - If you suspect the abuse happened away from camp, select from the following options:
    - Contact your local or state law enforcement agency.
    - Contact the Department of Family and Protective Services Abuse Hotline, which may be reached at (800) 252-5400 or through the website, http://www.txabusehotline.org/
    - Contact the agency designated by the court to be responsible for the protection of children.

Contact Baylor’s Child Protection Officer at (254) 710-3867 if you have any questions about reporting.