



Children's Trust Fund

Missouri's Foundation For Child Abuse Prevention

Strong Families, Safe Kids



Prevent Child Sexual Abuse

We **ALL** have a role to play
to keep children safe.

REPORT CHILD ABUSE:
800-392-3738

cft4kids.org

How can we prevent child sexual abuse?

1. Learn the Facts

- ▶ Child sexual abuse occurs in every community
- ▶ 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday
- ▶ 90% of abuse is committed by someone the family knows, likes, loves or trusts
- ▶ Most child victims delay or NEVER disclose because they are afraid and ashamed

2. Create Open Communication

- ▶ Be confident while teaching your children:
 - the correct name for body parts starting at age 2
 - they have a right to their own body, and that no one else has the right to look at or touch their private parts...not even family, friends or older youth
 - to be comfortable talking with you about anything whether good or bad, fun or sad, easy or difficult
- ▶ Talk to your children about:
 - sex by age 8
 - healthy relationships and consent when they reach their teens
 - Internet safety

3. Ensure Youth-Serving Organizations Put Your Child's Safety First

- ▶ Reduce isolated, one-on-one situations between adults and children by making interactions interruptible and observable
- ▶ Implement a Code of Conduct that is written out, clear and displayed publicly
- ▶ Use background screening and personal reference checks for all employees and volunteers
- ▶ Train staff in child sexual abuse prevention
 - To schedule a free training, email ctf@oa.mo.gov

