



Introduction to the Talking About Touching

Child Personal Safety Curriculum



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STRENGTHENING FAMILIES • PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE

Introductions



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An informational overview of a child personal safety prevention curriculum.



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You Will Leave Today's Training

- With an understanding why it is important to teach children about abuse prevention
- **With an understanding why abuse prevention is best taught along with other general safety lessons**
- Feeling a little more comfortable about talking with children about personal safety
- **With knowledge why children may not tell you if they have been abused**
- With an overview of the *Talking About Touching* abuse prevention curriculum



The Scope of the Problem

- 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 10 boys will be sexually abused before reaching 18 years of age
- **80% - 90% of abusers are known, loved and trusted by the child**
- Child abuse happens in all racial, religious, ethnic and economic groups
- **Only 2% of child sexual abuse occurs in daycare settings**
- 3% of child sexual abuse is violent (as opposed to 97% that is manipulative)
- **1/3 of all cases of child abuse involve children under the age of 5**



Why Don't Children Tell if They Experience Abuse?



Children May Not Tell Because.....

- Bribed
- **Too young**
- Fearful
- **Threatened**
- Want affection
- **Told that abuse is normal**
- Want to please adults
- **Feel guilty**
- Don't have the language to tell
- **Don't know who to tell**



What We Can Do



Teach Children the Way They Naturally Learn



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Children Can Learn

- Using developmentally appropriate methods
- **Having skills modeled for them**
- Having time to practice
- **Repetition**
- Using “What If” situations
- **When making lessons fun and engaging**
- Make family safety rules, place them where everyone can see and practice often



Use A Good Personal Safety Program

- One that Focuses on General Safety
- **Introduce Personal Safety Along Side All General Safety Discussions (e.g. Fire, Gun Safety)**
- Use Safety Rules – Not Feelings
- **Children Learn What to do if Someone Breaks a Safety Rule**
- Allow Children to Practice
- **Help Children Identify Who to Tell**
- Remind Children it's Never Too Late to Tell Someone That Something Has Happened



Personal Safety Rules & Steps

Touching Rule

No one should touch your private body parts except to keep you clean and healthy

Safety Steps

If someone breaks the touching rules,

- **Say NO!**
- **Get Away**
- **Tell a Grown up**



Who Can Children Tell?

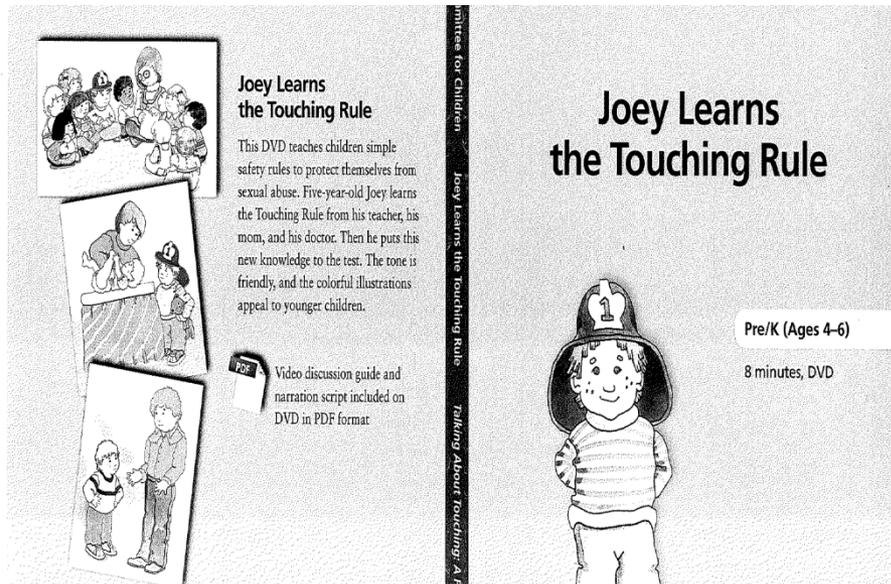


**Remind children
it is never too
late to tell
someone**



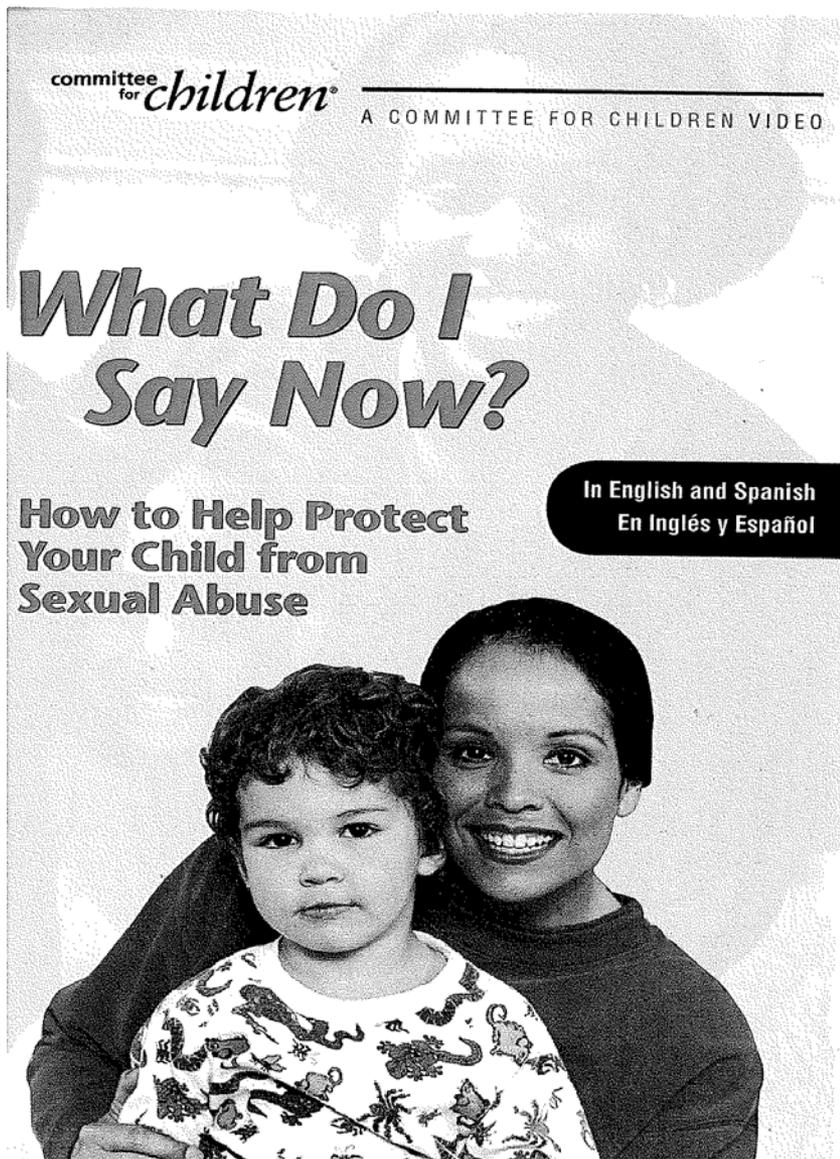


Joey Learns the Touching Rule



**7 minute DVD on
the touching
rule and safety
steps**





Family Safety

Rules

Family Rules and Involvement in their child learning about personal safety is important



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Babysitting and Dating Guidelines



**Thank you for
attending**



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