



SUPPORT CHILDREN & YOUTH IN LOUISIANA BY:

COMPREHENDING THE FACTS CONCERNING CHILD ABUSE

The effects of child abuse extend far beyond childhood; robbing children of their infancy, creating a loss of trust, and the feeling of guilt along with the self-abusive behavior is appalling. We know child abuse is happening throughout Louisiana and our goal must be to encourage preventive actions against it. We must finance and promote programs to support the victims and stop the abuser. Proper financing must be supported to end the problem of child abuse in our communities.

THE CURRENT PICTURE...

- Darkness to Light reported that the public is unaware of the magnitude of sexual abuse because only 38% of child victims disclose the fact that they have been sexually abused; some never disclose.
- They also reported that it is a family member who abuses 30% of children who have come forward.
- According to Childhelp, close to 5 children die every day as a result of child abuse in the United States.
- Erika Simon, Senior Coordinator of the Children's Advocacy Center, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, stated: "in 2015, the CAC interviewed 655 children alleged to have been physically and sexually abused and/or witnessed a violent crime."
- Erika Simon added, "Child abuse is more widespread within 2 to 12 years of age based on the Children's Advocacy City statistics collected in Southwest Louisiana."

AS YOUNG PEOPLE OUR HUMBLE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE...

- Increase awareness throughout our schools. Providing information and brochures necessary for students to understand sexual abuse and how to report it can be helpful.
- Provide mentors, support groups, or programs that will guide parents on how to talk to their children about sexual assault and ways to prevent it from happening.
- Promote education and awareness about abuse in any form more in schools, churches, doctor offices, and stores.
- Support schools by providing the faculty with the proper resources to know how to identify the signs and symptoms of child abuse.