



IF THIS IS AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911!!! National Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-8255 !!!

SAFE SCHOOLS LOUISIANA

SAY IT HERE™

Made Available By CrimeStoppers, Inc

CHILD ABUSE is when a parent or caregiver, whether through action or failing to act, causes injury, death, emotional harm or risk of serious harm to a child. There are many forms of child maltreatment, including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, exploitation, neglect, medical neglect, and human trafficking.

In 2019, there were 1,840 child fatalities from abuse and neglect, 79.7% of those fatalities were done by a parent of the child and 51% had a caregiver that was under the influence of drugs at the time of that child's death with marijuana topping the list.

In Louisiana, the Department of Children & Family Services received 52,862 reports of child abuse or neglect in 2019.

In 2019, there were 656,000 victims of child abuse and neglect nationwide.

Most information provided by crime-stoppers.org

PARENT TIPS

- ◆ Help your child identify a trusted adult in their home, school, and community that they can confide in case of an emergency.
- ◆ Discuss the roles of adults such as teachers, coaches, etc. and clearly define physical/emotional boundaries.
- ◆ Behavioral changes are more common than actual verbal disclosures of abuse. Indicators of stress or trauma include depression, anxiety, withdrawal from family, friends, normal activities, fear of certain places or people, loss of appetite, etc.
- ◆ Believe your child if they tell you that someone has made them feel uncomfortable. If your child acts up or shows distress when being left with a caretaker trust your instincts and your child's.
- ◆ Seek counseling if any abuse has occurred or been attempted. Physical symptoms of abuse may heal but the emotional effects can last a lifetime.
- ◆ Cool down before disciplining your child. If you find yourself becoming agitated, call family, a friend, or a neighbor for help. Discipline and punishment have two separate meanings and effects on your child.