

#### Children Exposed to Domestic Violence:

- 15.5 million children live in households where domestic violence has occurred within the past year (McDonald et al, 2006)
- 62% of 11-14 year olds say they know friends who have been verbally abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend (Liz Claiborne, Inc, 2008)
- One in five 13-14 year olds say they know friends and peers who have been struck in anger by a boyfriend or girlfriend (Liz Claiborne, Inc, 2008)
- 50% - 70% of men who batter a female partner also abuse children in the home.
- A child's exposure to the father abusing the mother is the strongest risk factor for transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next (APA, 1996).

#### Children from Substance Abusing Homes:

- Approximately 5 million Americans either abuse alcohol or are alcohol dependent and have at least one child under the age of 18 living in their home (SAMHSA.gov).
- Fathers (8%) are nearly twice as likely to abuse substances as mothers (4%). However, these rates are lower than the general population (men, 14%; women 6%) (SAMHSA.gov).
- Children living with an addicted parent are at greater risk for abuse, neglect and trauma (NACoA.org).
- 80% of child welfare professionals report that substance abuse causes or contributes to at least half of all cases of child maltreatment. 40% say it is a factor in over 75% of cases (NACoA.org).
- 72% of child welfare professionals cite substance abuse as the top cause for the dramatic rise in child maltreatment since 1986 (NACoA.org).

#### Emotional Abuse:

- At least 1/4 of American children are victims of severe psychological aggression by parents.
- 6% of children experienced frequent & severe emotional maltreatment.
- Mothers and fathers were 'equally likely responsible' for emotional maltreatment.
- 18% of children experienced humiliation and/or attacks on self-esteem during childhood

#### Sexual Abuse:

- 1 in 3 girls is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- An estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse exist in America today.
- 30-40% of victims are abused by a family member.
- Another 50% are abused by someone outside of the family whom they know & trust.
- The median age for reported abuse is 9 years old.
- >20% of children are sexually abused before the age of 8.
- Research estimates that as many as 69% of children in foster care have a history of sexual abuse.
- 54% of girls under 21 have experienced sexual abuse
- 31% of boys under 21 have experienced sexual abuse
- > 50 % of children will engage in some type of sexual behavior before their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Sexually reactive children display sexual behaviors 2 to 3 times that of children who are not abused
  - 80-90% perpetrators are known by the victim
  - 70% perpetrators have 1-9 victims
  - 20% perpetrators have 10-40 victims
  - Serial Child Molesters have as many as 400 victims in his lifetime

#### Children with Disabilities:

- Compared to other children, children with disabilities face:
- Increased risk for maltreatment
- Longer duration of maltreatment
- More severe and long-lasting effects of maltreatment
- Reduced likelihood of intervention
- Children with Disabilities
- are:
- 3.4 times more likely to be abused than others (Sullivan, 2001)
- 1.7 times more likely to be abused than others (Westat, 1991)
- 4-10 times more likely to be abused than others (Garbarino, 1989)

#### Male Sexual Abuse:

- Up to 1 out of 6 men report having had unwanted direct sexual contact with an older person by the age of 16.
- 1 in 33 men in the United States has experienced an attempted or completed rape (Tjaden and Thoennes 2000).
- About 1 in 10 rape victims are male
- In the U.S. about 2.78 million men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.
- Only 5 to 20% of **all** victims of sexual assault actually report the crime-- the percentage for male victims is even lower

### Myths of Male Sexual Abuse:

- Boys and men can't be victims.
- Sexual abuse of boys is perpetrated by homosexual males.
- If a boy experiences sexual arousal or orgasm, this means he was a willing participant or enjoyed it.
- Boys are less traumatized by the abuse.
- Abused boys will become homosexual.
- The "Vampire Syndrome"
- If perpetrator is female the boy should consider himself fortunate.