

I BELIEVE A CHILD IS 'AT RISK' OF HARM ...

"Who can I tell?"

"What should I do?"



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Safe Place Services (Adventist Church)

Australia 1800 220 468 or New Zealand 0800 442 458 or website
www.safeplaceservices.org.au

ACT—Office for Children, Youth & Family Support 1300 556 729

NSW—Community Services 132 111

NT—Department of Health & Families 1800 700 250

NZ—Child, Youth & Families (CYFs New Zealand) 0508 326 459

QLD—Department of Child Safety 1800 811 810 (for details of nearest Local Office) or 1800 177 135 (after hours)

SA—Families SA Child Abuse Report Line 131 478

TAS—Department of Health & Human Services Child Protection Intake 1300 737 639

VIC—Department of Human Services 1300 650 172 or 131 278 after hours

WA—Department of Child Protection 08 9222 2555 during office hours; Perth after hours 08 9325 1111; Regional after hours 1800 199 008



Local Conference Safe-Place Coordinator:



Responding to Kids 'At Risk'



Seventh-day Adventist Churches
of Australia and New Zealand

WHO CAN I TELL?

If you reasonably suspect that a child (any person under 18 years) is at risk of abuse or harm please tell the local church *Safe Place Coordinator*, or *someone* in leadership that you trust and is available, such as the *pastor*.

If a child is in danger, or where a crime — on face value — has been alleged, the matter should be report to local Police and to the State/Territory/Country *Child Protection Service* in your region (see list on back page).

DISCLOSURE

If someone tells you that they have been abused remember:

Listen ... and do not add anything to what the child says

Reassure ... the child that they have done the right thing in speaking to you

Inform ... the child that you need to tell people who can help

Ensure ... that the child is not in immediate danger

Act ... by reporting the matter to authorities

Don't ... start an investigation into the information

Don't ... promise the child that the abuse will stop

Don't ... tell anyone who does not need to know

Don't ... appear shocked to the child



REMEMBER

You don't have to prove that a child is being abused, only report your concern of risk or possible harm.

The Church requires concerns to be reported since this is in the 'best interests' of the child.

REPORTING & SEEKING ADVICE

When to report?

You should report as soon as possible if you believe or suspect that a child has been (or is at risk of) abuse, harm or neglect

Who reports?

Anyone can make a report by calling the Government Helplines that are listed on the back page.

It is the local Church *Safe Place Coordinator's* role to ensure that reports are made on matters within the local Church. If you make a report direct to the Government Help line, advise the local Church *Safe Place Coordinator* so that they can keep a log of the local Church's response.

If you are unsure if a situation should be reported, call *Safe Place Services* or the Conference *Safe Place Coordinator* to discuss if a report should be made (see list on back page).

How to report

Each State/Territory/Country Helpline has trained workers to help you make a report.

Note about emergencies ...

You should contact Police in an emergency by phoning 000 in Australia or 111 in New Zealand.