

- B. Q: Who must report sexual/child abuse?
A: Under Kansas statute, teachers, administrators and other employees of schools (including day cares) are MANDATORY reporters. If they suspect sexual/child abuse, they are required to report it under penalty of law.
- C. Q: Who else may report sexual/child abuse?
A: Anyone who is not a MANDATORY reporter is strongly encouraged to report any suspected child abuse. As a Christian, we have a moral obligation to report any suspected child abuse.
- D. Q: Can the reporter of child abuse be sued for reporting child abuse?
A: Kansas law provides immunity from lawsuits against reporters of child abuse.
- E. Q: Can the identity of the reporter be protected?
A: Under most circumstances, the reporter's identity will not be disclosed.

Symptoms of Abuse/Molestation

Church workers and staff **should be alert** to the physical signs of abuse and molestation, as well as the behavioral and verbal signs that a victim may exhibit. **Some** of the signs are summarized below:

Physical signs may include:

- Lacerations and bruises
- Nightmares
- Irritation, pain or injury to the genital area
- Difficulty with urination
- Discomfort when sitting
- Torn or bloody underclothing
- Venereal disease

Behavioral signs may include:

- Anxiety when approaching church or nursery area
- Nervous or hostile behavior toward adults
- Sexual self-consciousness
- "Acting out" of sexual behavior
- Withdrawal from church activities and friends

Verbal signs may include the following statements:

- I don't like (a particular church worker).
- (A church worker) does things to me when we're alone.
- I don't like to be alone with (a church worker).
- (A church worker) fooled around with me.