

Types of Abuse

Child Neglect: Omission of the child, youth or vulnerable adult's basic physical, environmental, emotional and nutritional needs (necessary for basic well-being), or the failure to protect a child, youth or vulnerable adult from harm.

Emotional Abuse: Emotional abuse is mental or emotional injury to a child, youth or vulnerable adult that results in an observable and/or material impairment in the victim's growth, development or psychological functioning.

Physical Abuse: Physical violence toward a child. Physical abuse is non-accidental injury, which is intentionally inflicted upon a child or youth.

Sexual Abuse or Sexual Molestation: Any sexual contact with a child, youth or vulnerable adult. These acts may range from touching of the penis, vagina, buttocks, or breast/chest area to sexual intercourse. This includes any activity which is meant to arouse or gratify the sexual desires of the adult, child or youth.

Sexual abuse may also be perpetrated by one child, youth or vulnerable adult against another. Any contact or activity which is meant to arouse or gratify sexual desires that is not mutually consensual is abuse/molestation. In some instances, consent is impossible or irrelevant. For example: by law a child cannot consent to sexual contact with an adult. Nor can someone who is impaired, incapacitated, or helpless consent to sexual contact/activity. If you wish further information concerning MN Sexual Crime Statutes, please visit MN Stat§ 606.34x and 609.35x at the MN Revisor of Statutes at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes>.

Drug & Alcohol Abuse: There is an increase in the use of alcohol among junior and senior high school students. Children or youth that show up at church under the influence of alcohol or drugs, who bring these substances with them on church retreats, camp or other activities or those who are reported by peers to be intoxicated may need help to stop dangerous behavior.

Economic Exploitation: Economic exploitation is the deliberate use of a child, youth or vulnerable adult for money or power. Examples may include theft, swindle, forced labor, and/or using another person's labor without offering them adequate compensation.

Bullying: Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose. Usually, bullying is repetitive. Bullying also can happen on-line or electronically(eg. 'Cyber Bullying' refers to bullying done over the Internet, mobile phones or other technology.