

A good practice experience on
child sexual abuse

Advocacy, network and training



Bill Foley / Save the Children

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Report on the prevention and raising awareness program on
child sexual abuse (1998-2004)
Save the Children Spain

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INTRODUCTION

Save the Children is an Alliance of NGOs which fights for children rights. Our framework is the UN Child Rights Convention (CRC). One of our priorities is to prevent any form of violence against children.

Following this objective, Save the Children Spain has been developing since 1997 the Prevention and Raising Awareness Program on Child Sexual Abuse supported by General Direction of Families and Childhood of Spanish Social Welfare Ministry. This program has been selected by the International Alliance Save the Children as a good practice model to include in its global contribution to the UN study on violence against children. The report we introduce tries to give an idea of the work developed in this program during last five years as well as resources and good practice models on child sexual abuse developed in our country.

Save the Children Spain prevention and raising awareness program is a primary prevention program, in which one of the main areas of work is the advocacy. Save the Children has defined different advocacy guidelines on child sexual abuse at national and international level trying to influence childhood programs and politics with the objective of a effective protection of children from any kind of violence, a high level of quality in the necessary intervention when this violence has been unavoidable and the promotion of children right to a process which guarantees children rights and full development.

The initiatives in this prevention program on child sexual abuse during last years have been the result of a joint project with different professionals and associations, creating a network at national and international levels. The exchange of experiences in the network has been the main benefit for us. Building networks between professionals, training and advocacy have been some of the main strategies used by Save the Children Spain in this area.

Save the Children Spain advocacy guidelines on child sexual abuse are the following ones:

- **Promotion of inter-institutional and multi-disciplinary networking** in the intervention in child sexual abuse.
- **Promotion of social raising awareness, improvement of sexual-affective education and promotion of good treatment, as well as the family support programs.**
- **Multi-disciplinary training of professionals .**
- **Equalization of standards** across autonomous communities in the assistance to the victims of child sexual abuse.
- **Demand of institutional involvement** in the amplification, funding and continuity of the existing programs on prevention and therapy in different autonomous communities, and implementation of these programs in those autonomous communities which lack of them.
- **Promotion of a model of joint action protocol in cases of child sexual abuse** for all the autonomous communities.
- **Demand of a specialized center for assessment and therapy** in each autonomous community.
- Training and raising awareness of the judicial staff.
- **Promoting the national action plan on child sexual exploitation**, to convey social raising awareness and approaching the problem, basically as a country of origin of sexual tourists, receiver of trafficking of Children, demand of child prostitution and consumption of child pornography.

- **Promotion of the research and development of therapy programs for sexual offenders**, especially when they are children.
- **Promotion of a change in the protection system approach**, in the line of the victim protection measures considered in different European countries.

In this report, the lector will find:

- A legal and theoretical approach to child sexual abuse and some data of incidence of this problem in Spain.
- Good practice models identified in Spain in the framework of our program. Main messages on the issue and activities developed for ending child sexual abuse.

We have not tried to collect every centre, resource or program on child sexual abuse in Spain, only those who have been involved in the network and from which Save the Children Spain has a wide knowledge.

The final objective of this report is that the learning from this program could be applied to different levels of intervention and make the professionals and institutions understand Save the Children Spain evaluation of progress in this field in Spain during the last five years.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Save the Children Spain wants to thank to every institution, centre, program reflected in this report, as well as every person who are developing their work in them, their openness, generosity and kindness demonstrates during these years participating in the network promoted by Save the Children on child sexual abuse. It is not possible for us to mention them one by one, but we have tried to summarize their work with justice.

Save the Children Spain wants also to thank to the General Direction on Families and Childhood from the Spanish Social Welfare Ministry their financial support to the program since the beginning, without which many things which appear in this report could never have happened.

To everyone of them we send our thankfulness for contributing to improve the care to children involved in child sexual abuse cases as victims or aggressors. The reality we face is sometimes so hard that to know that there are a lot of professionals in different field and levels of actuation fighting everyday to improve the intervention with these children, as well as the quality of the work they are developing and their human quality they have demonstrated to us are all of them reasons for the hope for Save the Children Spain.

We hope that this report will be a way to make them understand the positive evaluation we do about the progress in the intervention in child sexual abuse cases during last years in Spain. We point out the lacks, needs and duties yet to face, but sometimes it's necessary to say that the efforts of many professionals are worth enough.

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CHAPTER I

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS¹

In spite of the high incidence of child sexual abuse, there is no evidence that present cases be more abundant than 40 or 50 years ago. However, the detection has undergone an important increase, as both professional training and social raising awareness on the problem have improved. Moreover, we are aware that only 10 to 20% of the total real cases are actually known.

Sexual abuse on Children is more frequent than the general public think, although it must be pointed out that the percentages mentioned in the studies include sexual behaviors without physical contact (for example, exhibitionism), as well as more intimate behaviors, like anal or vaginal coitus. Thus, one out of four cases of child sexual abuse consists on very intimate and demanding behaviors, as vaginal or anal coitus, oral sex and masturbation.

The studies developed about child sexual abuse in Spain have followed different methodologies, some of which can be described as follows:

Retrospective studies for all over Spain, where adults were asked if they suffered different modalities of sexual abuse before the age of 17. 23% of the girls and 15% of the boys had suffered sexual abuse with different intensity (López et al., 1994). 90% of the sexual offenders, regardless of their age, are male. It is also important to state that most sexual abuse are committed by close people, and known to the child, very often from his/her own family, parents' friends, neighbors, etc.

Studies on protection files in Spain. We can remark that the percentages of cases of child sexual abuse are similar, although the total number of cases has increased. The rate of child abuse for the year 2000 was 7.1 cases per 10,000 Children.

Studies on different cases of abuse detected from different environments: social services, education, health, etc. but not all necessarily reached the protection system. In Catalonia, the only autonomous community that has carried out two comparable studies, monitoring of the cases of child abuse has been carried out, and the only form of maltreatment that has significantly increased is the sexual abuse of children, which has risen from an incidence of 2.1 percent in 1988 to 9.2 percent in 1998. This same trend is expected in the rest of the Self-governing Communities. The figures always come from identified cases, not actual ones. In 1998, 0.4 percent of children between 0 and 18 years old were identified by professionals as victims of some type of maltreatment. In 1998 this percentage was 1.8 percent, probably because detection by and training of professionals had considerably increased. The percentage of child sexual abuse was 9.2% of the detected cases in 2000.

¹ See Chapter 3 for a selection of resources, programs and institutions, and national and autonomous communities' plans on prevention, detection and therapy

TYPOLOGY OF CHILD MALTREATMENT	SPAIN cases that reached the protection system		CATALONIA cases detected from different environments	
	(1995)	(2000)	(1988)	(1998)
Negligence	79.1%	86.4%	78.5%	72.7%
Emotional maltreatment	42.5%	35.4%	43,6%	38,8%
Physical abuse	30.1%	19.9%	27%	15.5%
Labor Exploitation	4.2%		9.3%	2.5%
Beggary	9.3%		-	-
Corruption	4.2%		0.7%	1.2%
Sexual abuse	4.2%	3.6%	2.1%	9.2%
Prenatal abuse	5.0%		3.1%	4.1%
Prevalence rate	0.44‰	0.71 ‰	5.1‰	18‰
Number of cases	8,575	10,777	7,590	5,154

INGLÉS, A i altres (1991): "Els maltractaments infantils a Catalunya. Estudi global i balanç de la seva situació actual". Generalitat de Catalunya.

INGLÉS, A i altres (2000): "El maltractament d'infants a Catalunya. Quants, com i perquè. Departament de Justícia". Col. Justícia i Societat 22. Generalitat de Catalunya.

Studies on cases transferred to evaluate the reliability of the child's testimony in situations of sexual abuse from the forensic perspective. For example, the study on a sample of 100 cases carried out by the Forensic Clinic of Madrid². The main results we can highlight are:

- Most of them were chronic abuse (49%), abuse with penetration had happened in 47% of the cases and only 11% included physical violence.
- Most of the offenders were known to the victim (62%), 31% were relatives and only 7% were unknown. The authors outline the hypothesis that the hidden figure of incest is higher than the hidden figure of known offenders.
- The accusation originates in the victim's report in 58% of the cases, and in 39% from a witness. In half the cases, over a year elapses from the beginning of the situation of abuse until the accusation comes up.
- After the Statement Validity Analysis (SVA), 79% of the cases are considered credible, 17% non-credible and 4% uncertain.
- The main sequels are emotional (57%), behavioral (35%), physical (25%), social (17%) and sexual (8%).

These methodologies imply a limited access to the real data, but they constitute, for the time being, the only valid way of access to them. Therefore, one of the most extended demands of the professionals in this area is **the need to unify approaches to elaborate statistics**, both across Autonomous Communities and across the different approaches of the studies. The fact that the percentage of files has not been increasing can be explained because, as the studies of Catalonia support, the detection level is unequal across different autonomous communities.

² Centro Reina Sofía para el estudio de la violencia (2004): **Abuso sexual infantil. Evaluación de la credibilidad del testimonio**. Serie documentos nº 6.

Now, there are different types of notification sheets on child maltreatment in the different autonomous communities. That is why the Observatory for Childhood (advisory organization for all childhood topics, promoted nationwide by the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs, with the participation of the different Autonomous Communities) has developed a standard sheet for the registration of cases, favoring thus a unified system of detection, notification and registration of cases. The aim is to contribute to the quantification and real dimension of the problem.

The Spanish Ministry of Social Affairs has given us the following data (2002) about offences against freedom and sexual indemnity:

Offences against sexual freedom and indemnity	Victim under 12	-13	-14	-15	-16	-17	-18	TOTAL
Child sexual abuse	515	98	114	84	83	92	62	1048
Child sexual abuse with penetration	32	8	8	12	17	7	4	88
Sexual harassment	11	10	4	9	11	17	14	76
Sexual aggression	164	54	80	96	81	117	111	703
Sexual aggression with penetration	41	29	39	590	57	75	64	364
Induction to prostitution	14	0	3	6	14	22	47	106
Child corruption	14	8	10	10	14	29	2	87
Exhibitionism	318	63	85	60	43	39	11	619
Child pornography	17	3	4	4	0	0	0	28
Sexual provocation	16	3	3	3	3	4	0	32
TOTAL CASES WITH FEMALE VICTIMS	1142	276	350	343	323	402	315	3151
Child sexual abuse	148	59	63	50	43	24	21	678
Child sexual abuse with penetration	19	1	1	1	4	1	0	27
Sexual harassment	2	0	1	4	1	0	2	10
Sexual aggression	60	11	10	6	13	5	6	111
Sexual aggression with penetration	30	9	10	2	3	1	5	60
Induction to prostitution	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Child corruption	31	5	5	3	4	1	0	49
Exhibitionism	95	8	11	6	3	5	2	130
Child pornography	11	2	4	2	0	0	0	19
Sexual provocation	8	2	1	4	4	0	0	19
TOTAL CASES	1560	335	413	393	366	426	336	3829

The Board of the General Council of Judicial Power created in 2002 a Working Group commissioned to study the incidence that domestic violence exerted on Children has in the judicial environment, among other questions, in the daily practice of the Courts of Justice. The first report advances the results obtained during the first semester of the year 2003. A total of **100** procedures filed on domestic violence in the environment of Children have been surveyed. Eighty-one percent of the procedures were filed the same day, or the following day, or within

the following week. The two major types of aggression on the child are: 52% that include physical injury, and 29% that attempt on the Child's sexual freedom. In relation to the latter, 63% of the Children were under eleven and 31.6% were under five years of age.

In a study³ carried out on a sample of 485 youths around 20 years of age, 40.9% of the girls claim to have had some type of unwanted sexual intercourse. The girls that state to have held unwanted non-coital sexual intercourse because a friend used verbal pressure or encouraged the consumption of alcohol or other drugs tend to accept that the male has the right to use these strategies if the woman previously "led him on", in comparison to the rest of the women. On the other hand, women that report having held non-coital sexual contacts because their partner used that way, or made an effective use of physical force, tend to consider, in a greater degree, that women lose the right to say "no" beyond certain limits, as compared to the rest of the girls.

With regard to the victim of sexual abuse being male or the female, we must emphasize once again the gender element. The studies prove that in the case of girls the abuse is more severe and more violent, in addition to the fact that the age at which the abuse begins is lower in their case. The age of maximum incidence of cases of abuse, for girls as well as for boys, is normally between the age of 8 and 13. We must equally emphasize the greater prevalence of sexual abuse in children with physical and psychological disabilities. A child with these types of characteristics is three times more likely to suffer from sexual abuse than any other child. It seems, according to some authors, that it could be almost twice as much, but there are few studies.

There is a wide overlapping across the abuse typologies. A report on Violence carried out in 1999 by the Conselleria of Social Affairs of the Generalitat Valenciana, in collaboration with the Reina Sofía Center, showed that **almost all types of maltreatment appear in combination with others, except in the case of negligence**. Frequently, the factors of risk and protection of sexual abuse are the same as for other types of child abuse. On the other hand, the behaviors of the offenders and the abused are frequently very similar within the different abuse types.

The sexual abuse of children is not a new phenomenon, although it is certain that in the last few years new trends have been recorded. For example, there are indications of an increase of abuse committed by young people and adolescents. Some researchs assert that Children carried out 20 percent of rapes. This is a significant fact that should not be ignored, since the possibilities of rehabilitation of this category of offenders are much greater, as are the institutional resources available for rehabilitation.

³ M. Ramos Vergeles, A.Fuertes Martín: Vulnerabilidad frente a la victimización sexual: factores psicosociales y contextuales asociados. Universidad de Salamanca, publicado en Revista de Sexología Integral Vol. 2 N° Enero-marzo 2005

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK: LEGAL TREATMENT OF THE CRIMES AGAINST SEXUAL FREEDOM INFLICTED ON CHILDREN

Since 1996, a new penal legislation is in force in our country, in agreement with the deep social, economic and political evolutions along time, which outdated the previous criminal laws, written during the previous century. The new Penal Code earned itself a number of opponents, both political and social, from the very moment of its approval, as some obvious legal gaps remained, leaving the rights of the children unprotected in front of certain behaviors. However, in the last few years there has been a significant change in the social perception of the seriousness and transcendence of sexual crimes committed on Children.

The Law 11/99 revised the Penal Code, of April 30, presenting a punitive increase in the group of sexual crimes. As for sexual abuse, some substantial changes were introduced, such as raising from twelve to thirteen the age limit within which consent is declared immaterial. In addition, the incrimination of the use of Children with exhibitionistic or pornographic aims or shows was completed and supplemented with a new typical behavior that would involve selling, distributing, exhibiting or facilitating the production, sale, broadcasting or exhibition by any means of pornographic material in which Children have been used.

The last revision of the criminal code included the possession of pornography as a crime.

Our criminal laws pick up the following main groups of punishable behaviors that attempt against sexual freedom: sexual aggressions, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, exhibitionism and sexual provocation; prostitution and corruption of Children (includes pornography and trafficking of children).

In crimes such as aggressions, abuse and sexual harassment, the pardon of the victim does not put an end to the criminal action, nor the criminal liability. This direction is meant to prevent any possible blackmail or pressure that the victim may undergo. The system of prescription of the crimes against Children has been modified in order to allow the terms to be computed from the date when the Child comes of age. Thus, the victim is freer to reveal some facts that will surely have affected him/her traumatically.

On the other hand, criminal laws have come to emphasize that prostitution crimes and the corruption of Children, including those related to pornography, are subjected to the principle of universal justice. This implies that the prosecution of these crimes is applicable regardless of the nationality or residence of the offender, or if the fact is regarded as a crime in the State where it was committed (principle of double incrimination). The non-requirement of double incrimination is extremely important, especially in behaviors related to child prostitution, often tolerated *de facto* in some countries or deficiently contemplated in the respective criminal laws.

SEXUAL AGGRESSIONS

According to the writing devoted to sexual aggression by the legislator, we can point out three components:

- a) an action with a clear lustful spirit;
- b) carried out with violence and/or intimidation;
- c) against or without the valid consent of the victim.

For the sexual act to become a sexual aggression, an absence of consent is required. In no case should the active subject's behavior be justified because of a supposed right being exercised, such as marital rights or the belief that a person loses his/her

freedom to decide, on the account of his/her previous behavior (prostitution). The consent granted by disabled persons or under thirteen years of age is irrelevant. Another requirement for this crime to be regarded as such is the co-occurrence of violence and intimidation.

Apart from the previous requirements, the existence of **the active subject's criminal aim** is necessary, i.e. that the offender has known and wanted the action described above, that is to say, awareness of the sexual nature of the action carried out on the body of the other person, and the absence and immateriality of the victim's consent. An aggravated behavior of sexual aggression occurs when it comes to carnal access, either vaginally, anally or orally, or by inserting objects into any of the first two orifices. These behaviors are termed as rape.

In addition, due to the high frequency of sexual aggressions on Children at the heart of the family, the Penal Code increases the penalty "whenever, for the execution of the crime, the offender has taken advantage of a relation of superiority or kinship, of either descent, brotherhood, by adoption or closeness to the victim."

SEXUAL ABUSE

The Criminal Code differentiates sexual aggression and sexual abuse in the existence or non-existence of violence or intimidation. This precept refers only to non-consented sexual acts carried out without violence or intimidation and to those where no "carnal access, either vaginally, anally or orally, or by inserting objects into any of the first two orifices" is present.

Non-consented sexual abuse are those carried out on Children. The Penal Code forbids any interference in the sexual life of a child under thirteen, and in any circumstance. This same effect takes place when the sexual acts carried out on disabled people or that suffer mental dysfunction whenever the offender takes advantage of this situation. In addition, it is necessary for the existence of these crimes that the offender is aware of those circumstances, that is to say, the age of the child, the disability, or the disorder condition.

It is required that a deceit to alter the victim's willingness converges so that the sexual act should be regarded as such. That deceit will be the result of a seduction process, by virtue of which the offender makes the victim believe something to consent to have sexual intercourse with the former. If the referred process and its effect fail to happen, the contact will not have taken place.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The 1999 revision introduced the possibility for this type of crime to occur without taking advantage of a situation of superiority on the victim. This way, anyone requesting sexual favors, continuously or habitually, is to be prosecuted, whenever that behavior causes an objectively and seriously intimidating, hostile or humiliating situation to the victim. Therefore, sexual harassment between peers is prosecuted.

EXHIBITIONISM AND SEXUAL PROVOCATION

The exhibitionism and sexual provocation behaviors consist, on the one hand, in executing acts of obscene exhibition in front of Children or disabled people, and on the other, in broadcasting, selling or exhibiting, by any means, pornographic material among Children and disabled people. These legal definitions regard those

communities as the only victims. The protection age for this type of crimes is up to eighteen years.

As regards exhibitionism as an act of obscene exhibition, we must include actions exhibiting erotic contents that most of the times will co-occur with masturbation or revealing the genitalia. They will always be regarded as serious, and should neither be confused with demonstrative behaviors whose practice in public is commonly accepted, nor with immoral or simply vulgar attitudes. We should not forget that the act of obscene exhibition must be carried out in front of the victim, not requiring physical contact between the offender and the victim, but only his/her visual participation.

As for pornography, the typical behavior lies in broadcasting, selling or exhibiting pornographic material among Children. Therefore, it seems that writing, filming, depicting, drawing, and publishing are, in principle, atypical behaviors. It is not even punishable to sell or distribute pornographic material to other than Children or disabled people. Therefore, not every behavior related to pornography is described in our laws. One of the key aspects in the analysis of this type is to determine the concept of pornographic material.

The aspect that arouses a greater interest in connection with these crimes could be that of the pornography broadcast through communication networks with a multitude of potential addressees. This implies the need to outline primarily the problem of the control on the broadcast of illicit contents over the Internet or the information freeways and to the specification of liabilities.

PROSTITUTION AND CORRUPTION OF CHILDREN

Prostitution should be understood as “the activity that, exercised on some daily or habitual basis, consists on the provision of sexual services in exchange for an economic benefit.” In addition, the 1999 revision of the Penal Code introduced a new possibility: the trafficking of people for sexual exploitation. This precept prosecutes those who directly or indirectly favor the entrance, stay and exit of the national territory with the purpose of their sexual exploitation, using violence or intimidation, deceit or taking advantage of a situation of superiority or the victim's vulnerability. The cases that move inside or outside our frontiers are excluded from this type. The use of Children with exhibitionistic or pornographic aims or shows, or to elaborate any kind of pornographic material is considered criminal.

Another innovation that the widely mentioned Law 11/99 has also included is the incorporation of the old crime of corruption of Children that had been removed from the 1995 Code. In this sense, corruption of Children will be punished when a Child or disabled person is made to participate in a behavior of sexual nature that harms the evolution or development of his/her personality. This crime does not require either the presence of violence or intimidation of any kind nor a limitation of the sexual freedom, as provided for aggression and sexual abuse. On the other hand, it always requires the offender's active intervention, either directly in the sexual act or by means of the direct induction of the victim to participate in an act with a third party. The victim should be a Child but always over thirteen. The Spanish judges will keep in mind the sentences passed by foreign courts, as to the apply the aggravating factor of recidivism.

CHAPTER 2

THE PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY SAVE THE CHILDREN SPAIN

Save the Children Child Sexual Abuse Raising Awareness and Prevention Program that Save the Children Spain has been developing since 1997 is the answer to a detected social necessity. It is a program of **primary prevention** and as such, its aim is to guarantee the raising awareness and the social agents' training involved in the issue. Therefore, and under the perspective that the most appropriate intervention is prevention, we have been carrying out different actions around the prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and we intend to keep on implementing the training programs and the professionals' information, impelling their coordination. The objectives of this program are:

- Raise social awareness on the problem of child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation.
- Facilitate the training of professionals on Child Sexual Abuse, facilitating their access to specialized information.
- Promote multi-discipline networks and joint action protocols.

Save the Children Spain has been able to become a mediator organization between the professional experts on the field and the professionals of education, social services, police, judicial and health that directly assist the Child, developing the prevention and detection work of Child Sexual Abuse. In this work, the organization detected a series of **needs and deficiencies** in relation to Child Sexual Abuse:

- Poor training of professional general practitioners, lack of spaces for professional exchange and scarce multi-discipline work.
- Difficulty of access to specialized information and confusion regarding the accusation procedures.
- Scarce involvement of the institutions, especially in granting the continuity of the programs of prevention and therapy and in the issue of sexual offenders.

The **methodology** used by Save the Children in this program aiming to play the above mentioned mediating role included a working plan structured around the following lines:

- **Generate a multi-discipline network**, both at state and European level, and also among the professional experts in the field and the agents and institutions responsible for the final intervention, in the following aspects:
 - Identify the relevant agents in the field of Child Sexual Abuse in Spain: institutions, expert professionals in prevention, assessment and therapy, pilot programs on prevention and therapy, NGOs etc.
 - Generate materials to facilitate the access to specialized information of field professionals and their appropriate training. The prime example was to develop Training Manual for Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse.
 - Create forums for exchanging of experiences, and round tables among the agents implied in the intervention at different levels.
 - Carry out proposals and develop advocacy messages from these forums for the appropriate institutions.
 - Unify some legal, medical and psychological concepts related to Child Sexual Abuse.

- **Multi-discipline training courses** for professionals in the educational, social, health, police and court environments, both in Spain and in Latin America. The methodological basis of these courses was the materials put together in co-operation with the experts at state level. In the international framework, Save the Children has delivered training seminars, not only at national level, but also in South America and Asia, apart from taking part in all the coordination meetings of each existing program.
- **Develop research** at national and European level on the crucial aspects of the approach to the cases of Child Sexual Abuse: the judicial procedure, the therapy of sexual offenders, the prevention in the educational environment
 - Broadcast through the media the results of that research.
 - Work jointly with the mass media, trying to encourage a non sensationalist approach of the topic on the press, radio and television.

AGENTS INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAM

The institutions with which we have co-operated inside the network that has been built along these years have been:

Organizations providing funds for the program or its activities:

- Ministry of Work and Social Affairs
- European Union
- Alliance Save the Children
- Autonomous Governments: Valencia, Andalusia, Basque Country, Aragon, Catalonia, Castilla-La Mancha, Balearic Islands.

Platforms and institutions that have co-operated and participated:

- Observatory for Childhood⁴
- Platform of Childhood Organizations
- Working tables for promoting the action protocols in cases of sexual abuse in the Basque Country, Navarre and Andalusia.
- National Police
- Civil Guard
- Mossos d'Esquadra
- Ministry of Social Affairs
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Secretary of Tourism
- Ministry of Justice
- Ombudsman for Children of the Community of Madrid
- Ombudsman for Children of the Balearic Islands
- Ombudsman for Children of Catalonia

Organizations and centers having co-operated in the network:

- Child Focus
- Centro Espill
- Fundación Márgenes y Vínculos
- Eicas-Adima

⁴ The Observatory of Childhood is an advisory organization on childhood topics, promoted from the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs, and with the participation of all the appropriate institutions at national and autonomous level in childhood policies.

- FAPMI
- Plataforma de organizaciones de infancia
- CAVAS
- ADAVAS
- Preescolar na casa
- UNICEF
- ECPAT
- Tierra de hombres
- Red Cross
- ACNUR
- Centro Reina Sofía para el Estudio de la Violencia
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Universidad de Salamanca, Universidad de Valencia, CEES,
- Centro de Terapia de Conducta
- Centro de Psicología Noguerol
- Cinteco
- Equipo ZUTITU
- Fada

SAVE THE CHILDREN SPAIN ADVOCACY WORKING GUIDELINES ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE. ACTIVITIES AIMED AT THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION.

PROMOTION OF THE INTER-INSTITUTIONAL AND MULTI-DISCIPLINE INTERVENTION ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

Identification of the agents at national level.

Constitution of the network through the broadcast of information, to create multi-discipline meeting spaces for professional experts in the framework of the following projects:

I. International programs

- **Prevention of child sexual abuse in the educational environment, together with the Alliance Save the Children financed by the UE in its Daphne 2000 line**
 - Participation in the European Seminar in Helsingor, with participants from Catalonia and Andalusia and Castilla-León.
- **Child sexual offenders' therapy, in co-operation with the Alliance Save the Children financed by the UE in its Daphne 2000 line**
 - Organization of the European Seminar on sexual offenders' therapy in Madrid.
- **Children having been victims of sexual abuse and its judicial procedure, in co-operation with the Alliance Save the Children, financed by the UE in its Daphne 2002 line**
 - Participation in the European Seminar in Copenhagen, with representatives of the Observatory for Childhood, Ministry of Justice and judicial power.
- **Children sexually exploited and missing, with Child Focus, financed by the E.U. in its Stop 2003 line.**
 - Participation in the European Seminar in Lisbon with representatives of the judicial power.
- **Enact programs against the trafficking of Children, together with the Alliance Save the Children financed by the E.U. in its Stop 2003 line.**

- Participation in the European Seminar in Rome with representatives of the national police, the ombudsman for Children of the Community of Madrid and the Observatory for Childhood.
- Training courses and participation in international forums in South America, Central America, South and Southeast Asia.

2. Events in Spain

1998

- Seminar "Breaking Silences" Valencia

1999

- Presentation and Broadcast of the News Bulletin about Child Sexual Abuse

2000

- Seminar therapy of Young Sexual offenders: possibilities and challenges
- Seminars in Barcelona, Seville and Valencia on the prevention of sexual abuse in the educational environment

2001

- Encounters for the Multidiscipline Making of the Manual for the Training of Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse.
- Establishment of the network.

2002

- Presentation and Broadcast of the Manual for the Training of Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse.

2003

- September's World Seminar on Child Sexual Abuse

2004

- Working table on trafficking of Children
- Working table for the Assessment of the National Action Plan on the Child sexual exploitation 2001-2003

PROMOTION OF THE SOCIAL RAISING AWARENESS, IMPROVEMENT OF THE SEXUAL-AFFECTIVE EDUCATION AND PROMOTION OF THE GOOD TREATMENT, AS WELL AS OF THE FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS.

- 83 training courses from the year 2001 to 2005 in all the Autonomous Communities.
- 6 Press conferences at state level plus the autonomous ones
- Publications (included in the website)
 - Manual for the Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse.
 - Prevention of sexual abuse in the educational environment
 - News Bulletin about child sexual abuse
- Released copies of materials:
 - Manual For the Training ... 2500
 - Secrets that destroy 750
 - Vision and reality 750
 - Judicial research 1500
 - World Seminar 150
 - Working Tables 300

MULTI-DISCIPLINE TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS

- 83 multi-discipline courses
- Publications (see bibliography), especially the Manual for the Training of Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse of 2001

- Revised edition of the Manual for the Training of Professionals on Child Sexual Abuse in the Comunidad Valenciana and Castilla La Mancha.
- Seminars previously mentioned
- Relevant research previously mentioned.

EQUALIZATION OF STANDARDS ACROSS AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES IN THE ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

- Relevant research:
 - Children victims of child sexual abuse and the legal procedure.
 - Child sexual exploitation: analysis of the situation in Spain.
 - Missing Children: analysis of the situation in Spain.
 - Trafficking of Children: analysis of the situation in Spain (printing)
 - Institutional attention to Children, children of women victims of domestic violence (in progress)
- Working tables: Trafficking of Children, assessment of the National Action Plan against child sexual exploitation.
- Participation in the group on child abuse of the Observatory for Childhood.
- Promotion of circuits of primary prevention and multi-discipline training of professionals with a unified methodology.
- Promotion of the combined action protocols in cases of sexual abuse.

DEMAND OF INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE IMPROVEMENT, FUNDING AND CONTINUITY OF THE EXISTING PROGRAMS ON PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION IN DIFFERENT AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROGRAMS IN THOSE AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES WHICH LACK OF THEM.

- Working with the institutions at national, autonomous and local level.
- Participation in the group of abuse of the Observatory for Childhood
- Working table: trafficking of Children, assessment of the National Action Plan against the Child sexual exploitation
- Proposals for further improvements based on relevant research.

PROMOTION OF A MODEL OF JOINT ACTION PROTOCOL IN CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CASES FOR ALL THE AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES.

- Support to the work of the Observatory for Childhood as regards the combined action protocol and the notification sheets.
- Support to the making of combined action protocols in Navarre, Basque Country and Andalusia.

DEMAND OF AN SPECIALIZED CENTRE FOR ASSESMENT AND THERAPY IN EACH AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY.

- Proposals for further improvements based on relevant research.
- Working with the institutions at national, autonomous and local level.

- Support to and broadcast of the work and effectiveness of the existing therapy centers.
- Creation of forums and working tables for the institutions and the professionals of these therapy centers.
- Training and advice to projects like "Respuesta en Red".
- Give support and advice to the cases coming into the program, transferring them to the nearest specialized assistance resource.

RAISING AWARENESS AND TRAINING OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM AGENTS.

- Research on Child sexual abuse and the legal procedure. Proposals of improvement and broadcasting of conclusions.
- Training of the judicial staff.
- Participation of the Police and the Ministry of Social affairs and Justice in all the forums set up at national and European level.
- Include the issue in the agenda and publish it through the media.
- Give support and advice to the cases coming into the program, transferring them to the nearest specialized assistance resource.

PROMOTING THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, TO CONVEY SOCIAL RAISING AWARENESS AND APPROACHING THE PROBLEM, BASICALLY AS COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF SEXUAL TOURISTS, RECEIVER OF TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN, DEMAND OF CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CONSUMPTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.

- Making and mass media broadcast of the research on the child sexual exploitation in Spain.
- Working table for the assessment of the National Action Plan against the child sexual exploitation 2001-2003.
- Presentation of the improvement proposals approved in that table to the group of abuse of the Observatory for Childhood.

PROMOTION OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS FOR SEXUAL OFFENDERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY ARE CHILDREN.

- Seminar on Child sexual offenders' therapy.
- Support and broadcast of the work developed by the scarce existing therapy programs.
- Advocacy work with institutions at national, autonomous and local level.

PROMOTION OF A CHANGE IN THE PROTECTION SYSTEM APPROACH IN THE LINE OF THE VICTIM PROTECTION MEASURES CONSIDERED IN DIFFERENT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

- Recommendation of good practice resulting from the European comparative study on the judicial procedures in cases of child sexual abuse.
- Bring the issue to the specialized forums for reflection.
- Advocacy work with institutions at national, autonomous and local level.

CHAPTER 3

GOOD PRACTICE CONTENTS AND EXAMPLES IDENTIFIED IN SAVE THE CHILDREN PROGRAM

Save the Children Spain works with a concept of child sexual abuse, which includes child sexual exploitation also. That is why in each of the following points --those that have implied some learning-- both are integrated. In addition, the key elements of methodology used in the program have been the training and generation of networks: starting from advocacy activities, making training manuals by consensus, and research. Therefore, all these aspects are presented in each of the points described in this section.

The six thematic blocks around which the presentation of results is structured are the following:

- ADVOCACY WORK
- MULTI-DISCIPLINE AND INTER-INSTITUTIONAL APPROACH TO THE PREVENTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.
- JUDICIAL PROCEDURE IN CASES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE
- TREATMENT OF VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS
- ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING
- CHILD PARTICIPATION AND WORK IN THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Inside each of the six blocks, we point out for the Spanish reality:

- Advocacy's main messages.
- Some **professional approaches**.

Both the advocacy messages and the approaches have been discussed and agreed upon by professionals that participate in the network. Apart from the consensus, the different professional disciplines and territories they represent come as a plus.

- As refers to the **good practices** that we have identified, we point out a brief reference whose details can be found in Chapter 5.

In order to regard them as good practices, we have considered they should contain several of the following criteria: innovation, strategy, multidisciplinary approach, participation, transferability and transversality.

I. ADVOCACY WORK

The program of raising awareness and training of Save the Children Spain is a primary prevention program, which is why one of its higher priority working areas is advocacy. Advocacy means political influence, and Save the Children has developed different working lines at national and international level to influence childhood policies. The ultimate aim is to achieve a real and effective protection of the children from any way of violence, a quality intervention in the cases where violence could not be avoided, and the promotion of the right of the children to an appropriate therapy that guarantees their full development.

The specific lines of advocacy work in the issue of child sexual abuse of Save the Children Spain are the following⁵:

1. **Promotion of inter-institutional and multi-disciplinary networking** in the intervention in child sexual abuse.
2. **Promotion of social raising awareness, improvement of sexual-affective education and promotion of good treatment, as well as the family support programs.**
3. **Multi-disciplinary training of professionals .**
4. **Equalization of standards** across autonomous communities in the assistance to the victims of child sexual abuse.
5. **Demand of institutional involvement** in the amplification, funding and continuity of the existing programs on prevention and therapy in different autonomous communities, and implementation of these programs in those autonomous communities which lack of them.
6. **Promotion of a model of joint action protocol in cases of child sexual abuse** for all the autonomous communities.
7. **Demand of a specialized center for assessment and therapy** in each autonomous community.
8. Training and raising awareness of the judicial staff.
9. **Promoting the national action plan on child sexual exploitation**, to convey social raising awareness and approaching the problem, basically as a country of origin of sexual tourists, receiver of trafficking of Children, demand of child prostitution and consumption of child pornography.
10. **Promotion of the research and development of therapy programs for sexual offenders**, especially when they are children.
11. **Promotion of a change in the protection system approach**, in the line of the victim protection measures considered in different European countries.

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION ⁶

As an expression of the advocacy work developed by Save the Children, we summarize the proposal developed in the Working Table for the Assessment of the National Action Plan against the Child sexual exploitation 2002-2003, promoted by Save the Children and the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs, gathering a series of proposals of improvement for the development of the new Plan for the period 2005-2007, still to be approved by the Observatory for Childhood. This is particularly justified because the realities of sexual abuse and the child sexual exploitation overlap within the prevention and therapy strategies. The extension of the problem of sexual abuse in the statistics of identified cases is much wider than that of the child sexual exploitation, in spite of which a specific plan has a series of advantages:

- **Promote the National Action Plan against the child sexual exploitation** (independent from child sexual abuse) appears as a plus in the children protection plans whose responsibility befalls on the Autonomous Communities. This may allow approaching actions on this problem that require working at

⁵ For a critical valuation of each of these messages, see the conclusions chapter.

⁶ Propuestas de Acción para el Plan Nacional contra la Explotación Sexual 2005-2007 Save the Children (2004)

national and international level, and that cannot be developed from the action plans of the different autonomous communities.

- **Strengthen the inter-institutional and multi-discipline coordination work** to manage the Plan to be known at least by the agents directly involved in the problem at local, autonomous and national level, and to be introduced as a priority to the work of these agents. To create exchange spaces where the intervention strategies will be standardized in the different autonomous communities.
- **Establish a minimum consensus in all the autonomous communities** with regard to intervention in this problem, backing up the exchange of information and experiences among them, and promoting the necessary political commitment about it. This minimum consensus includes: 1) an inter-institutional combined action protocol in cases of abuse and child sexual exploitation, generating effective action circuits (networking) in each case, aiming at the protection of the rights of the victims (children). 2) Specialized assessment and therapy centers in each autonomous community, for the experts to report and validate testimonies, to provide a specialized and quality therapy for the victims and sexual offenders, and to promote the combined work between the protection and judicial systems.
- The new National Action Plan should include **a budget and a schedule** for the activities contemplated in the Plan, as well as specific assessment indicators.

The common strategies for all the aims we put forward are the following ones:

- All the actions contemplated in each aim focus both the victim and the offender, setting a difference between the offender and the client.
- A common priority to all aims is the multi-discipline and inter-institutional coordination, monitoring the commitments made at the different institutional levels.
- International cooperation.

The general aims and proposed actions are:

Knowledge of child sexual exploitation as it is in Spain.

- Promote quality and effective detection and accusation mechanisms, combined action protocols,
- Promotion and standardization of case recording mechanisms.
- Promotion of an appropriate legislation and of the work with the agents of the judicial procedure, to guarantee the protection of children's rights involved in any form of sexual exploitation, both as victim and as offender.
- Improve the application of the extraterritoriality principle and promote bilateral agreements.
- Promotion of the training and the agents' of the judicial procedure raising awareness.
- Promotion of a judicial procedure that guarantees the rights and special needs of the children that suffered sexual exploitation, including the recommendations set up during the research on Children victims of sexual abuse and the judicial procedure.
- Promotion and improvement of the assistance to the victim.
- Creation and improvement of specialized assessment and therapy centers.
- Promotion of the specific research on the topic.
- Training of professionals and agents involved in the intervention.
- Creation of professional exchange spaces.
- Social raising awareness on the problem.
- Promotion of specific campaigns of social raising awareness, not only dedicated to the victim but to the offender, through the mass media.

- Publicize the same National Action Plan among the professionals involved in the different intervention levels.
- Promotion of educational initiatives and/or professional training.
- Change the term "child pornography" for "filmed child sexual abuse", as "sexual tourism" changed to "sexual exploitation in travelling".
- Need of a specific research on the therapy of sexual offenders, as much in prison as outside, within the Spanish context.
- Develop economic actions to act on the networks of sexual exploitation, and involve the agents responsible for this type of actions in the Plan.

2. A MULTI-DISCIPLINE AND INTER-INSTITUTIONAL PERSPECTIVE IN CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION ⁷

RESEARCH, TRAINING AND RAISING AWARENESS

All the institutions should:

- Promote the **carrying out of surveys on the incidence of child sexual abuse** in the different Autonomous Communities, also establishing a **unified recording of cases**, so as to get a realistic picture of the extent of the problem in our country.
- Develop working lines that include **the training of professionals, social raising awareness, assessment of programs, and surveys on the incidence of all abuse typologies**, including negligence and psychic abuse.
- Provide the professionals involved in prevention programs with the **action strategies and a multi-discipline training**. In addition, the issue of sexual abuse should be included in the formal curriculum of the professionals directly involved in family assistance.
- Promote **social raising awareness programs** that increase the knowledge on child sexual abuse and eradicate the false social beliefs that underlie the distorted vision of the problem, thus causing people and institutions to deny it or disqualify themselves from it.

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- UNICEF Campaign, Ministry of Work and Social Affairs, Secretary of Tourism and ECPAT "There are no excuses" against the sexual exploitation in travelling. www.unicef.es, www.ecpat.es
- FAPMI Raising awareness Program (Federation of Associations for the Prevention of Child Abuse). www.fapmi.es
- **Platform of Childhood Organizations** www.poi.es
- **Campaign against the child sexual exploitation ANESVAD** www.anesvad.org
- **Ombudsmen for Children**: Community of Madrid, and the Balearic Islands.
- **Sindic de Greuges**.
- **IUNDIA** Instituto Universitario de Derechos y Necesidades de la Infancia
- **Research by Save the Children**: child sexual exploitation, trafficking of children, Children missing, Children victims to sexual abuse and the judicial procedure.
- **World Seminar on child sexual abuse** by Save the Children
- Surveys by the **Centro Reina Sofía para el Estudio de la Violencia**

⁷ From our understanding of primary prevention, we have worked on the initiatives contemplated in the section on local ownership and the adult challenge in this section, as a part of the programs on community prevention.

PREVENTION

Child sexual abuse results from of the combination of different factors. There is not an only cause. Therefore, it is important to work and promote the protection factors and evaluate the added risks coming from the so-called “risk populations”, but without stigmatizing them.

The prevention of child sexual abuse is a complex work that not only concerns the professionals, but must be also developed involving the different social agents of the community. Any **prevention program** must be designed according to three requirements:

It should be included into a framework that promotes good treatment to childhood and sexual-affective education.

It should have some minimum contents, regardless of the targeted population.

It should target the possible victim but also the potential offender.

Any prevention program should contemplate **three levels**: primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, and include five **working environments**: educational, health, social, police and judicial.

The local institutions should promote **circuits of community networking**, where the work of the involved professionals is coordinated, based on a combined action protocol, and aiming at encouragement of good treatment.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- **RESPUESTAENRED** <http://fresno.cnice.mecd.es/respuestaenred>
Is an innovative research project on sexual abuse and other forms of child abuse as well as on the promotion of primary prevention programs in community environments based on the constitution and strengthening of the multi-discipline networks.
- **COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER CHILD MALTREATMENT** “¡Eh! No te despistes!” www.ub.edu/orsb/
- **Preescolar na Casa**, family support and educational program on television.
- **Preinfant** program for the support of mothers and children in the first years of life www.abd-ong.org
- **Training manual for professionals on child sexual abuse by Save the Children** www.savethechildren.es
- **Working table on the trafficking of Children in Spain, Save the Children** www.savethechildren.es
- **The mentioned therapy programs as models of good practice** (see chapter five) include prevention work in community environment.

It is necessary to design programs of prevention **bearing in mind the differential characteristics of the identified groups of risk**, without stigmatizing them, and offering preventive tools. Every child is at risk of becoming the victim of child sexual abuse, regardless of his/her origin or characteristics. However, the possibilities increase in the case he/she belongs to a group of risk.

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- Research carried out by Save the Children www.savethechildren.es
When speaking of groups of risk in child sexual abuse, disabled children deserve special attention. Save the Children carried out a **pilot research** on the assistance centers for children with a physical or psychic disability in the Community of Madrid. The professionals admitted not to work on the contents about sexual abuse. They only worked on sexuality and aggressiveness when the children in the center were adolescent. Many of them had also known some case of suspicion of sexual abuse as much among the Child as on the part of educators. Most of them had not been reported.

□ Miguel Ángel Verdugo, University of Salamanca,
www3.usal.es/~inico/personal/miguelangel.htm

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES ENVIRONMENT

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- **SPANISH ASSOCIATION OF PEDIATRICS (AEPAP)** www.aepap.org/previnfad/
- **COMMUNITY OF MADRID.**

Training of the Professionals in the health environment. DIAZ HUERTAS et al. Since 1997 in Madrid Region the CHILD ABUSE ATTENTION PROGRAMM directed by the Madrid Institute for Childhood and Family of the Family and Social Services Department of Madrid Region.

In 1998 began a Work Group with the participation of the environment of justice (judge, police, child prosecutor), social services, child protection, sanitary, associations,..., for agreeing the procedure for attention the sexual abuse of Child cases.

The **Sexual Abuse Attention Program** is an initiative for develop the general way, the frame of actuation, that the health, judge-legal-police, social services, child protection services, associations,..., are consider as the minimum requirement for the adequate attention to the child considering the concrete characteristic of this problem

According to the **Child sexual abuse attention in the Madrid Regional Protocol** there was established as a general criterion:

- in the face of probably or certain cases of child sexual abuse with physical contact that require urgent medical-legal attention because there past less of 72 hours from the fact success or for other clinic circumstances, the Child will be attend in his reference hospital to his address, which inform by phone to the Judge Group of Police of Child (GRUME) for contacting with the Judge of Guard for assure, at the less time as possible, that the personal of the judge that will be valued necessary for the case attention and for facilitate the evidence forensic in avoid of repetition probes and declarations, goes to the hospital.
- In the rest of the cases, in those in which there isn't any urgency will procedure as the Child abuse attention program established (Medical forensic clinic. Justice Ministry)

The Program includes the formation of professionals. In 2001 we celebrated the first annual course.

There is a training manual for proffessionals: Atención al abuso sexual infantil (Child abuse attention). Díaz Huertas JA, Casado Flores J, García E, Ruiz M, Esteban J.. 2000.

http://www.madrid.org/cservicios_sociales/immf/atencion_maltrato_infantil.htm

Commissions for family support as an element of primary prevention contemplated in the law. <http://fresno.cnice.mecd.es/respuestaenred>

- **HOSPITAL DE VALME (Seville)**. Juan M. Gil Arrones. Coordinator of the Program of Social Pediatrics (PPS)

Multi-discipline prevention, detection and intervention program, in cases of sexual abuse, within a Public Hospital of the Andalusian Health System, with special dedication to social risk Children (FRS), abuse indicators and, especially, indicators of suspicion of abuse and sexual aggressions.

The PPS gathers up the Consultation Sheets sent in by the professionals that detect the indicators of suspicion, the transferred cases for study on the part of the police, judges, psychologists, social workers or other primary assistance doctors, the possible accusations or the Child's stories or of his relatives. Then, they assess them from the medical and social point of view, establish a diagnosis and an initial assessment on their protection, and later transfer the case to the institutions of justice or of protection. The psychological assessment of the Child goes through the EICAS and the possibility of psychological therapy through the team of the ADIMA.

EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- **FUNDACIÓN MÁRGENES Y VÍNCULOS** "Sentir que sí, sentir que no"

This program involves the educational community (parents, teachers and students), whose focus is to offer sexual-affective education for children, giving instruments to identify situations of risk and self-protection forms to face sexual violence. It favors the importance and protective value of the adults around the child. This program is carried out from adapted and self-designed materials, using body language, music and theater.

- **COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER CHILD MALTREATMENT** "¡Eh! No te despistes!" www.ub.edu/orsb/

- **DEL CAMPO, A. and LÓPEZ, F.** Prevention of sexual abuse to Children (1997)

- Professionals' Training by Save the Children

- Seminars and report on prevention of sexual abuse in the educational environment.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL ENVIRONMENT

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- Crime Unit on the net, National Police www.policia.es/cgi-bin/denuncias/webdriver?Mlval=Denun

- **Europol** www.europol.net/

- **Technical unit of the Judicial Police of the Civil Guard**

EMUME (Woman-Child Team) Central

e-mail: utpj-reg@guardiacivil.es

The scope of EMUMEs includes:

- Violence within the family, in all its forms (from bad psychological treatments to injury and homicides).

- Crimes against sexual freedom, as aggressions and sexual abuse, inside or outside the family.
 - Crimes related to juvenile delinquency.
 - Criminal deeds related to trafficking with human beings aiming at sexual exploitation, and child pornography for Internet.
- Domestic Violence Unit of the Metropolitan Police of Madrid

ORGANIZATIONS

FUNDACIÓN SAVE THE CHILDREN

www.savethechildren.es

Most reports detailed in the bibliography can be downloaded in pdf format, both on child sexual abuse and on other topics, as corporal punishment, etc.

FAPMI (FEDERACIÓN DE ASOCIACIONES PARA LA PREVENCIÓN DEL MALTRATO INFANTIL)

www.fapmi.es/

ASOCIACION ESPAÑOLA DE PEDIATRIA (AEPAP)

www.aepap.org/previnfad/

PREVENTION AND DETECTION OF CHILD ABUSE
MANUAL OF PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES IN CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

ANESVAD

www.anesvad.org

ECPAT

www.ecpat.org

HOMBRES POR LA IGUALDAD

www.ahige.org/

www.hombresigualdad.com/

ASOCIACIÓN SOMALY MAM-AFESIP SPAIN

spain@afesip.org, www.somalymam.org

Part of AFESIP'S international net, to collaborate in their fight against the sexual slavery of women and Children.

3. THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS IN CASES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

REVEALING, COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

Reporting the suspicion of sexual abuse is a **legal and ethical obligation** of the professional. The authorities must guarantee the anonymity of the reporting adult and the protection of the reporting services.

The adult, whoever he/she may be, when **the child reveals the abuse**, must provide accompaniment, affective support, remove any guilt from the Child, report the fact to the appropriate authority to guarantee his/her protection.

A specialist should carry out any interview with the Child, held subsequently to the revealing.

It is necessary to respect the child's rhythm when carrying out an expert assessment. The urgency of the process should not take precedence over the child or hinder his/her story. In the final report, the psychologist should always

recommend therapy or professional support to the child, as a preventive measure. This support should extend to the child's environment.

It is necessary to supply enough resources dedicated to the research, in order to develop valid approaches of non-verbal reliability for children under five years of age.

Professionals must take up the same attitude towards a revelation or a retraction, so that they underrate not only the positive reinforcements but also the negative ones.

The professionals involved in judicial proceedings must be aware that a Child induced to carry out a false accusation of sexual abuse, in any case, is subjected to abuse.

In Spain a current proposal of **notification sheets** (RUMI: Central Registry for Child Maltreatment) has been devised by the Observatory for Childhood (at state level) for different environments, so that it works as a unified and consistent system across the different autonomous communities. Regarding the following table, summarizing the situation of the notification sheets in the Spanish communities, we should point out that they are not necessarily used in practice, because this depends on the professionals' raising awareness, training, and resources available.

Notification Sheets on Child Maltreatment (Scopes and Autonomous Communities)

8

AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY	SCOPE					
	Health	Pregnancy and infant	Social Services	Education	Police	Omnibus (all scopes)
Andalusia	X					X
Aragon	X		x	x		
Asturias			x			
Balearic			x			
Canaries	X	x	x	x	x	
Cantabria	X					
Castilla La Mancha						
Castilla León	x		x			
Catalonia						
Ceuta				x		
Extremadura			x			
Galicia	x	x	x	x	x	x
Madrid	x	x	x	x	x	
Melilla	x	x	x	x		
Murcia	x		x			
Navarre			x			
Basque Country	x		x		x	x
La Rioja	x	x	x	x	x	
Valencia Community	x			x	x	

SOURCE: Observatory for Childhood. Working Group on Child maltreatment (2001), complemented with their own materials.

⁸ NOTES:

- **Andalusia:** inter-institutional coordination protocol exists.
- **Castilla-La Mancha:** notification sheet, but no protocol exists. There is a protocol draft for Social and Health Services, but not yet effective.
- **Madrid:** there are only register and sectorized notification sheets but no protocol. The law acknowledges the family support commissions, but there are no printed supports for the work of the commissions as a protocol. There are registration sheets for health, education, social services and police.
- **Basque country:** it varies from one "*diputación*" to another. Now the new equality law acknowledges service coordination, implying a future setting up of protocols, but not yet.
- **Galicia:** notification sheets exist and an agreement between the autonomous police and the family *consellería*
- **Catalonia:** protocol both exist but not notification sheet.
- **Valencia Community:** sheets and protocol both exist.

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

- **Working table for Institutional coordination** (EICAS Team). EICAS is integrated in the social environment, coordinated with all the professional and institutional sectors that may supply relevant information regarding the research. This includes: suspicion of sexual abuse on the Child (supposed victim) and his/her family (School, Protection Center, Community Services, Health Center,...), closer origin (police records, judicial background, quarrels, labor stability, medical, psychiatric records), as well as those professionals (pediatric, gynecological, forensic analysis, psychological therapy, pharmacological therapy...) that will be involved in the multi-discipline assistance of a case of sexual abuse. With this aim, the EICAS Team promoted, in co-operation with the Seville Office of Children, a working table for Institutional coordination. They gathered 42 professionals of all environments involved in the intervention of sexual abuse (Office of Children, Service of Protection of Children, Hospitals, AMUVI-Association for the Assistance to Victims of Sexual Aggressions, Police Team for Child Protection and EICAS).

The main advantages of that coordinated research and assessment were avoiding the duplicity of the actions, preventing the re-victimization of the children and their families in the intervention procedures, favoring the use of resources, achieving a higher reliability in the diagnosis of the case. This allows multi-discipline action, consensus, and an increased dynamism, since it establishes a systematic and agreed coordination, where responsibilities are shared, but limits the actions that each sector is to carry out, thus encouraging networking. The coordination from the EICAS Team involves all these Institutions in any phase of the intervention procedure in a case. These phases can be listed generically as 'detection', 'notification', 'initial research', 'assessment' (in any discipline, police, medical, social, judicial, psychological, etc.,...), 'treatment' and 'judicial proceeding'.

- **Research on Children, victims of sexual abuse and the judicial proceedings.** Final recommendations presented to the Observatory for Childhood:

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Need to build multidisciplinary networks with joint action protocols.

Need to raise awareness and give training to professionals.

Obligation to give information to social welfare authorities about any suspect in cases of sexual abuse of children.

Process of making an accusation.

How to deal with a disclosure from a child.

Need to unify ethical codes of different professionals.

Need to establish an assessment and therapy centre in each region, for victims and offenders, adults and children.

Need to modify the focus of the Spanish system of child protection.

COURT PHASE

Give priority to trials in which children are involved.

Continue proceedings even if children pull out.

Give training to police, lawyers, prosecutors and judges.

Establish a correct procedure for children to give testimony, one that respects their psychological welfare and legal rights.

INTERVIEWS WITH CHILDREN AND TESTIMONY IN TRIAL

Children should give testimony with the support of a close relative or a teacher.

Meetings between children and offenders in courts and policy departments should be avoided.

Trials should be established without publicity.

Information should be given to children about the court proceedings and what is going to happen to them.

Children should not have to speak in public.

Language comprehensible for children should be used.

Legal clothing should be avoided in judges, prosecutors and lawyers.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE ENVIRONMENT

In the report, the recommendations differ in the administrative and judicial environment, the preliminary research phase and that of the oral trial. The institutions responsible for each one of the environments are obviously different, but the final work should be coordinated.

1. Establish combined action protocols at the autonomous level and primary prevention circuits at local level, apart from standardized registration sheets for each one of the involved environments: educational, health, social, police and judicial.
2. Establish therapy centers for victims and offenders, at least one in each autonomous community.
3. Promote and increase the training of the professionals involved in the process. Both the training of the professionals and the reference centers would guarantee, on the one hand, the specialization of the professionals that made the expert reports, and the rehabilitation possibility for the victim and the offender on the other.
4. The only real possibility of intervention in child abuse is the preventive work and the therapy of the offenders.
5. It is necessary to modify the focus of the protection system to avoid the victim's secondary victimization. The fact that Spain and Greece are the only countries that continue taking out the child from his home in the event of suspicion of abuse without the estrangement of the presumed offender should make us wonder if the approach should be to create welcome centers for maltreated women and children, or therapy centers for the offenders, for example.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPING A JOINT ACTION PROTOCOL

1. Any effective protocol should contemplate the following environments: educational, health, police, social and judicial.
2. Any protocol cannot include only the administrative level, but should also involve the judicial environment.
3. Apart from the protocol of combined action involving the different authorities responsible in the different autonomous communities, common registration sheets should be established, as proposed by the observatory for childhood, for each mentioned environment, and constitute, at metropolitan level, the circuits for primary prevention where designated people would put in common the information and action for each case.
4. To carry out any work on this issue in the environment of the observatory for childhood, the involvement of the security forces (police and civil guard) should be pondered).
5. The existing protocols are focused on the health environment or constitute general reference frameworks. These protocols should enclose

a development of primary prevention registration circuits at local level, and a unified information recollection for each new working environment.

6. The action protocols in the women abuse issue can be a valid reference and applicable in many aspects to child abuse.
7. Protocols should have the aim to train and specialize the professionals that interact with the child during the judicial proceedings, streamlining the procedure, and unifying the registration of data.

- **Survey of the Working Group of the General Counsel of Judicial Power** about the impact that the domestic violence on Children has in the judicial environment (2003)
- **Assistance Offices to the Victim** in the Courts of Justice of the Basque Country

4. THERAPY FOR VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS

All public institutions must **provide the appropriate social services** with the human and material resources in order to guarantee a real protection to the Child directed to promote and maintain the child's protective environment, always avoiding any contact with the offender.

All the actions of the professionals should be guided by putting the superior interest of the child before any other, monitoring the cases and offering support to the family, not only to the child, victim of the sexual abuse.

An individualized therapeutic intervention is not always possible or suitable, so it is very appropriate to use other types of psycho-educational tertiary prevention strategies that can be the only vehicle of effective intervention.

As **good practices** in this line, we recommend referring to:

TREATMENT

ANDALUCIA

FUNDACIÓN MÁRGENES Y VÍNCULOS

acogida@correo.cop.es

www.fmyv.org

The Fundación Márgenes y Vínculos are a non-profit organization (state level) whose aims target social assistance, the development of international culture and cooperation, with more than a decade of experience. The social aims have priority on the other ones, and therefore has a staff characterized by its personal and professional worth. The Fundación Márgenes y Vínculos have as maxim to provide quality assistance, carrying out continuity programs devoted to the improvement of life in childhood, nuclei of coexistence, woman, immigrants, youth, people in exclusion situation, etc., all from a social commitment perspective.

The Foundation was granted in 2003 the Premio Infanta Cristina for Quality by the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs, for its participation and application of the quality standard "Quality NGO".

The developed programs are:

- Prevention Program on maltreatments in childhood and adolescence.
- Prevention Program for sexual violence on children "Sentir que sí, sentir que no"
- Radio programs for the prevention of drug consumption "No me gustan los lunes"
- Assessment and therapy program for the sexual violence to children
- Assistance Service to victims in Andalusia (SAVA), Campo de Gibraltar, Cádiz
Psycho-therapeutic intervention Program, social and legal orientation with families in whose heart domestic violence takes place, and therapy of offenders of sexual and/or family violence.
- Center of Immediate Admittance Luis Toribio de Velasco
- Specialized Center for the assistance of protected adolescents with serious behavior problems (Therapeutic Treatment Center, CTT)
- Program of external therapy to Children and young offenders with psychic imbalance and/or psychic alteration
- Program Family Network and/or people for simple and permanent admittance and program for alternative families FASE
- Program for social and family integration with convicted and ex-convicted women
- Program of intercultural mediation for immigrant mothers and children
- Children's Home "Río Azul", Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

EICAS (Evaluación e Investigación de Casos de Abuso Sexual)

Belongs to the ADIMA Association (Asociación Andaluza para la Defensa de la Infancia y Prevención del Maltrato)

Adima@correo.cop.es

www.fapmi.es/adima

The EICAS Team is headed by the Coordinator of the Team (social worker), five Consulting Psychologists, an Analyst Psychologist, a Social Worker and a Lawyer that works jointly with the Unit of Treatment to Children Victims of Sexual Abuse (from ADIMA), a documentation specialist and an administrative assistant. The Junta de Andalucía and the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs fund it. It started attending cases with suspicion of sexual abuse in 1998. At the moment the assistance is directed to four provinces of Western Andalusia. The total number of filed cases until February of 2005 is 849, which implies a total of 1023 Children presumed victims of sexual abuse, out of which 58% were Children with suspicion of family sexual abuse.

It consists of two sub-units, one focused on the Area of Protection of Children and the other on the Judicial Environment. This way, EICAS holds two different lines of assistance, which materialize in two research Units:

- Unit of Research and Assessment of Cases of High Risk and Family Unprotected Sexual Abuse to Children. It investigates and assesses cases of suspicion of high risk and Family Unprotected Sexual Abuse to Children that usually have not revealed the abuse, and in those that this usually goes associated to other abuse typologies and that are usually

transferred from Delegations for Equality and Social Well-being of provinces of Western Andalusia, Hospitals, etc.

- **Unit of Research and Assessment of Cases of Sexual Abuse to Child Not Linked To the System of Child Protection.** It investigates and assesses cases of suspicion of sexual abuse to Children that are not in an unprotected situation, which are pending of a judicial proceeding, and require the Child's statement on the facts. They follow some specific approaches for the appropriate validation of the credibility of the testimony and they are usually transferred from the area of Justice (Preliminary Research Court, Office, Family Courts, Policemen,...).

VALME HOSPITAL

Coordinator of the Social Pediatrics Program: Juan M. Gil Arrones

juanm.gil.sspa@juntadeandalucia.es

They are analyzing the existing situations in Spain with regard to the assistance of child sexual abuse, revising different aspects of the assistance to the sexual abuse of Children in the "health sector" of different Autonomous Communities:

- Concepts and approaches that for the diagnosis of the different types of sexual abuse.
- Professionals involved in the diagnosis.
- The professionals' integration in the public or private structure.
- Population's covering, access to this attendance.
- Approaches in the transfer or report to Court
- Applicable protection measures.
- Specific Regulations of the Autonomous Community.

ARAGON

ADCARA (Asociación para el desarrollo comunitario en areas de Aragón)

adcara@micorreo.cai.es

portal.aragob.es/iass/Menores

The "Experimental Program of prevention and therapy of unprotected situations and child abuse" is run by ADCARA in agreement with the Diputación General of Aragon. They work in social services environments, health, school and leisure. They have created a routine of brief intervention for families in crisis with adolescent children.

BALEARIC ISLANDS

SOCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTE (MALLORCA CONSELL)

Child protection service and attention to the family.

Childhood and family section

Child Sexual Abuse Program

Coordination of the program: Olga Guerra Arabolaza. Clinical Psychologist and Family Therapist oguerra@conselldemallorca.net

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPED ACTIONS:

1. Assessment of the sequels left by sexual abuse on the Child victim of the aggression.
2. Therapy, when appropriate, for Children victims of sexual abuse. The therapy modality is determined by the previous assessment, from a psycho-social support, to individual and/or group therapy.
3. Support to non-offender parents. When possible, non offender parents' group
4. Expert assessment reports

5. Preparation and accompaniment of victims of sexual abuse to statement sessions and court hearings.
6. Monitoring until final discharge
7. Supervision and advice to other professionals within the network and the Service, in cases of sexual abuse
8. Training on Detection and Methodology of Intervention in cases of Sexual Abuse to the Primary Assistance Services' staff

CANTABRIA

Assistance Center for the Victims of Sexual Aggressions of Cantabria
CAVAS

<http://www.violacion.org/donde/default.html>

CASTILLA-LEON

ADAVAS (Association for helping victims of sexual aggressions)

Assistance to victims of sexual aggressions, both women and Children, in several towns of Castilla-León.

adavas@inicia.es

It develops two main programs:

ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Provide the Child an integral assistance, maintaining a permanent contact not only with the victim but also with their nearer relatives.

- **Child Sexual Abuse Helpline.**
- **Legal Advice.** Private prosecution service. Attendance during the preliminary phase including the examination of evidence. Attendance in the phase of the hearing. Lodging appeals in the appropriate cases, during the whole proceedings, including appeals to the Supreme Court. If the private prosecution cannot be exercised, because parents don't grant the necessary authority, ADAVAS acts on its own behalf.
- **Psychological support and assessment.** Contact with the victim and detailed study of the case. Singular working sessions with each patient (one hour minimum). Psychological Therapy to the nearest relatives affected by the facts, and whose influence can have a negative influence on the victim's recovery. When the trial date is coming near, or if the judge requires a confrontation, a helping therapy is usually necessary in a very high percentage of the victims, even after having recovered. Psychological reports required by the judge and attendance to trial sessions as psychology experts.

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN ADOLESCENTS

Objectives:

- Report the circumstances of the crimes against sexual freedom,
- Spread educational strategies to prevent attitudes power abuse or sexist prejudices that might result in a sexual aggression
- Provide the boys with social skills that respect the girls' dignity and freedom, and awareness and self-control measures to inhibit the assault.
- Create a protection and prevention climate in the face of risk situations, enabling the adolescents' awareness that they can say NO, that there are people around that they can trust, and that are willing to help them.

Activities.

- Courses of violence prevention, with a minimum duration of 4 hours.
- Edition of informative leaflets for the adolescent population

CEPTECO

Miguel Ángel Cueto

www.cop.es/colegiados/CL00395/

cepteco@correo.cop.es

CATALONIA

HOSPITAL SANT JOAN DE DEU

Unidad de Atención Precoz del Hospital Sant Joan de Deu

FADA. Association for the Advice and Prevention of Sexual Abuse to Children

www.fada.voluntariat.org/

VALENCIA COMMUNITY

PSYCHOLOGICAL TREATMENT SERVICE FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS

Social Affairs and Child Protection Service of the Generalitat Valenciana, in collaboration with the Espill Institute of Psychology, Sexology and Medicine of Valencia. Diagnosis, therapy, monitoring, and psychological assessment of Child victims of sexual abuse and aggressions. Assistance to families. Therapy for the Child offenders.

www.espill.org

Telef. Valencia: 96 389 89 62

Telef. Castellón: 964 24 06 73

Telef. Alicante: 96 666 07 64

INFOABU. Hotline for Phone Information and Advice service on abuse to Children, subsidized by the Social Affairs and Child Protection Service of the Generalitat Valenciana, and dedicated to the Child itself and to the adults that want to protect them. Technical advice to professionals on detection and intervention in sexual abuse.

Telef.: 902 22 22 45

www.infoabu.com

MADRID

PSYCHOLOGY CENTER NOGUEROL

www.psicologianoguerol.com

CAVAS

Attention Centre for Sexual Abuse Victims

Women Victims Help Association

General Direction of Women in Madrid Community

O'Donnel 42

28009 Madrid

91 5740110

COMMUNITY OF MADRID.

Training of the Professionals in the health environment. DIAZ HUERTAS et al. Since 1997 in Madrid Region the CHILD ABUSE ATTENTION PROGRAMM directed by the Madrid Institute for Childhood and Family of the Family and Social Services Department of Madrid Region.

C/ Santa Tecla, 3

28022- Madrid (España)

Phone: + 34 91 741 89 00 - Fax. 91 320 47 19

email: maltratoinfantil@madrid.org

website:http://www.madrid.org/cservicios_sociales/immf/atencion_maltrato_infantil.htm

BASQUE COUNTRY

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE FOR OFFENDERS AND VICTIMS IN CASES OF FAMILY VIOLENCE. ZUTITU Team.

Program of Psychological Assistance to Family and Sexual Violence.

- Diputación Foral de Bizkaia.
- Diputación Foral de Álava y del Ayuntamiento de Vitoria.

zutitu@correo.cop.es

PSYCHO-SOCIAL JUDICIAL TEAM

Controlled by the Basque Government's Viceconsejería, it consists of three teams (psychologists, social workers and educators), with headquarters in Bilbao, San Sebastian and Vitoria. They are in charge, in the environment of their specialty, of attending the applications for assessment and expert reports requested by the judicial authorities and offices

Serafín MARTIN CORRAL martin.s@AJU.ej-gv.es

5. ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

The **assessment** of a program plays a crucial role because it provides information on its efficiency and effectiveness.

UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH

Reina Sofia Center for the Study of Violence

www.gva.es/violencia

Salamanca University

Félix López

Miguel Angel Verdugo

Madrid Autonoma University

Cristina del Barrio

Esperanza Ochaíta María Ángeles Espinosa

IUNDIA (Instituto Universitario de Derechos y Necesidades de la infancia)

Valencia University

Dra. Gemma Pons Salvador

Unidad de Investigación “Agresión y Familia”

D^a M^a Angeles Cerezo
Facultad de Psicología. Universidad de Valencia.

Basland University
Enrique Echeburúa
<http://www.sc.ehu.es/psweb/>

Joaquín de Paúl y Maria Ignacia Arrubarena
Psicología Social Y Metodología De Las Ciencias Del Comportamiento
<http://www.sc.ehu.es/psweb/>

DETECTION AND ASSESSMENT

“Guía de actuación del psicólogo en los abusos sexuales y otros maltratos en la infancia” (1999) Col.legi Oficial de Psicòlegs Catalunya.
www.copc.org/informacio/materials/cincoc.asp

EICAS (Evaluación e Investigación de Casos de Abuso Sexual)

It has an internal working methodology that favors the research of a case of sexual abuse without duplicating the actions and, though following a systematized procedure, is dynamic and adapts specifically in each phase of the intervention to the particular and intrinsic characteristics of each case. In this sense, all the interviews that are carried out are recorded on an audiovisual system, allowing an attention focused on the child, gathering both verbal and not verbal information, a supervision from other components of EICAS in any evaluation, second valuations for other external professionals, and pre-established tests. Thus, it avoids the repetition of interviews and therefore the re-victimization of the presumed victim of sexual abuse.

6. CHILD PARTICIPATION AND WORK IN THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT ⁹

As good practices in this line, we recommend referring to:

- COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER CHILD MALTREATMENT “¡Eh! No te despistes!”

www.ub.es/psicolog/observatori/ep/index.htm

This program (award-winning at the 12th “Ferran Salsas i Roig”, 2000 Award Community Health of Catalonia) financed by the Diputació of Barcelona, was carried out for the first time in two cities of the county. It arose from the need of having a model for the integral approach of the detection, intervention and prevention of sexual abuse and the rest of child maltreatments, applicable at municipal level. It was designed around an innovative and participative strategy, involving children, parents, faculty, health professionals, social services, security authorities, etc., and aimed at producing synergies among the institutions, the professionals, the entities and the rest of the community. The program consists of:

GUIDE FOR PARENTS www.ub.edu/orsb/

PEDAGOGIC GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS www.ub.edu/orsb/

“SENTIR QUE SÍ, SENTIR QUE NO” Video. www.ancoraudiovisual.com/

ON LINE TRAINING: www.complementaria.ubvirtual.com/ca/

⁹ In this chapter, we include children's testimonies gathered in the assessment and therapy process in cases of child sexual abuse.

- DEL CAMPO, A. Y LÓPEZ, F. Prevención de abusos sexuales a menores (1997)

RESEARCH ON YOUNG SEXUAL OFFENDERS PERCEPTION ABOUT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (part of save the children Spain contribution on child sexual abuse and child participation to the un study)

RESEARCH DEVELOPED IN THE FRAME OF PROGRAM OF TREATMENT FOR YOUNG AGGRESSORS FROM MARGNES AND VINCULOS FOUNDATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

“Therapeutic intervention, social orientation and judicial assessment with families in which there is domestic violence and treatment for young sexual aggressors” is a therapeutic program in which professionals try to intervene in abuse intrafamiliar in as holistic way, trying to repair damage on victim in a holistic way and give rehabilitation to the aggressor. The treatment program has two main objectives: prevention strategies for the aggressors not to repeat the offences, and second one, consider aggressors, specially when they are children, as victims who are demonstrating many affective and material carencies with the violence against others.

This a specialized resource of treatment for inside family violence phenomena and treatment for aggressors, adults and children. The detention and intervention with aggressors is seen as a preventive method for victims and childhood in general.

Intervention process has three phases:

Initial process (1 month)

All necessary information is gathered (previous information available, coordination with other professionals and interdisciplinary way of working) to be able to develop a concrete intervention strategy.

Intervention process (from 6 months to 1 year)

This process is divided in two parts: diagnostic and evaluation and treatment. In the first one, professionals will decide if it's possible to give treatment to the aggressor following two criteria: recognition of the abuse and empathy with victims. The second one, treatment itself is focused in social and psychological factors related.

Closing process

It could be closed because it is not possible to give treatment or because this treatment has been successfully finalized.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Semistructured interviews made with children in both phases, evaluation and treatment have been analysed, focused in children sentences analysis with four main thematic focus:

- **Focus one:** child perception of the victim and damage produced to him/her;
- **Focus two:** child perception about himself as aggressor and about his sexuality;

- **Focus three:** Child perception about support or reject from his family and carers;
- **Focus four:** child perception about support or reject from social context (neighbourhood, child protection services...).

Each one of the focus have been structures in four levels of analysis: children sentences, information from the context of the child, general considerations from the therapist, and professional consensus in the analysis.

DATA OF THE RESEARCH

Participants

10 young sexual aggressors involved in treatment program, all of them boys, between 10 and 13 years old, age average is between 10 and 12 years old. They come from rural context (50%) and urban background (50%). They are living mainly with family (80%) without previous antecedents of domestic violence neither sexual violence (60%).

They committed the sexual offence mainly between 10 and 12 years old and it has been one year since they committed it until they enter in the treatment program. Half of them have been selected in evaluation phase, half of them in treatment phase of the program.

The sexual offence have been mainly occasional (70%) in which participate more than one aggressor (60%) mainly focused in only one victim (90%) between 3 and 5 years old (50%) and mainly in a context extrafamiliar between peers (80%) being the aggressor mainly five years older than the victim (60%).

Sexual offences have been sexual abuse (50%), sexual aggression (abuse with use of physical violence) (50%), mainly anal penetration to victim(27,78%), masturbations to the aggressor (22,22%) and masturbations to victim (16.66%) and oral sex to victim and aggressor (11.11%).

These aggressions have been detected and sent to the program by Child Prosecutor (40%) by denounces from victims' family and through social services (40%).

RESULTS

FOCUS ONE: PERCEPTION ON THE VICTIM AND DAMAGE PRODUCED TO HIM/HER.

EVALUATION PHASE		INTERVENTION PHASE	
CATEGORIES	NARRATION	CATEGORIES	NARRATION
Perception of the abuse as a play	<p>“...When I arrived they were kissing each other, they said to me they have already done before behind a tree, kiss and touch them, I thought to say it to their parents because they tried to touch my ash and my pene...”</p> <p>“...I believe he liked what we did because he was laughing...”</p> <p>“...We were in the room alone, he left the trousers in the floor, and he said to me to touch his pen, I believe my brother didn’t feel bad because after he was laughing to me about it...”</p>	Perception of recognition to be present in the place, but not of the damage inflicted to the victim	“...I was there, but I did nothing...”
Perception in the victim of stimulus which make them think that they were looking for sexual contact	<p>“...She came to look for me many times, and he used to ask me why don’t we do what we have seen in the film and I used to say no to her...”</p> <p>“...She said to me, why don’t we do what my parents do, and she was talking about what was happening in the film...”</p>	Perception of negative emotions in the victim related to the abuse	<p>“...He should feel hate for me, now he will be happy because he doesn’t see us, but in that moment he was very scared...”</p> <p>“...He was probably suffering...”</p> <p>“...He was bad because I hurt him...”</p> <p>“...I believe she was sad and fear...”</p> <p>“...He was crying and sad because what we did to him and also sacred by it...”</p>
Perception of doubt about	“...Her family is bad, her parents	Perception of doubts about	“...That boy(referred to victim)

victim credibility	quarrel a lot, he arrive drunk to home, he laugh of old people..."	victim credibility	accused me of having touched other girl in the toilet, but I didn't , it was him, I don't know what they did then, but they kissed each other..."
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EJE II: PERCEPTION ABOUT HIMSELF AS AGRESSOR

EVALUATION PHASE		INTERVENTION PHASE	
CATEGORÍES	NARRATION	CATEGORÍES	NARRATION
Perception of himself as victim because he has to go to treatment	"...I did nothing, I was there and they begun, I only went out ..."	Perception of his own guilty with negative meaning	"...I'm nervous, I think a lot about what happened and always say Why I did it?..." "I was not ok with myself because I had done something I should not do..." "...I felt embarrassed and ashamed..."
Perception of himself as victim of sexual offence	"...They tried to touch my ash and pen, then mother came and said to me she was going to denounce me..." "...They didn't like me and wanted to disturb me, that's why they have lied about this, that family has done a lot of bad things to us..."	Perception of his own guilty trying to justify himself as victim	"...I'm not going to do again, because they said to me if I do it, they will hit me..." "...I have felt alone because they said I was guilty because I was the oldest, not my brother..."
Perception of his own guilty	"...I feel as a bad person because what I did, I was stupid doing that, I don't know why I did it..."	----- -----	----- ----- --

EJE III: PERCEPTION OF SUPPORT OR REJECT FROM FAMILY AND CAREERS

EVALUATION PHASE		INTERVENTION PHASE	
CATEGORÍES	NARRATION	CATEGORÍES	NARRATION
Perception of family support with recognition of the abuse	<p>“...My mother said that it was bad what I have done, because he was younger than me...”</p> <p>“...My father first was angry, but after he sit and asked to me and talked with me...”</p>	Perception of family support with negative meaning	<p>“...My family disturbed me a lot, asking why I have done it, and I was going to feel very much embarrassed...”</p>
Perception of family support denying the abuse	<p>“...My mother felt sad when she knew but she didn’t give importance to it...”</p> <p>- Reflected in corporal expression, apathy and negative ness, detecting of no recognition of abuse, and family support denying the abuse-</p>	Perception of positive family support	<p>“...My mother and my father are sad yet, but now they are closer and with more tender to me...”</p>
Perception of family reject	<p>“...My mother hit me and say to me: son of a bitch! And I don’t remember more...”</p>	Perception of child protection center support	<p>“Now I’m ok...”</p> <p>“...I’m ok in the centre...”</p>

EJE IV: PERCEPTION OF SOCIAL CONTEXT SUPPORT (NEIGHBOURHOOD AND CHILD PROTECTION INSTITUTIONS)

EVALUATION PHASE		INTERVENTION PHASE	
CATEGORÍES	NARRATION	CATEGORÍES	NARRATION
Perception of social reject after abuse has been known	<p>“...I was ok before in the neighbourhood but after mothers wee talking about me whispering and children didn’t want to play with me...”</p> <p>“...I don’t like everyone knows it, my aunts, my family, my mother has said it to everyone...”</p> <p>“...In my school they knew it</p>	Perception of social rejection after abuse has been known	<p>“...We didn’t even look when we are near them...”</p>

	because the child was saying it to everyone, he used to go with the worst ones in the institute..." "...at the beginning I felt supported but now I feel engañado..."		
----- -----	----- -----	Perception of social support after abuse has been known	"...Now I'm ok..." "...teachers have said to me that if someone hurt me or say something to me, I have not to answer them, I have to say it to them..."

CONCLUSION

Main objective of this research is try to understand the phenomenon of young aggressor thought their own perception of it, giving them voice. We have tried to know what they think about the victim, about the abuse, about themselves as aggressor and about the reaction at social and family level after the abuse has been known.

- **Focus one:** child perception of the victim and damage produced to him/her; There is a big difference between children in evaluation phase and children in intervention phase. At the beginning there is no motivation to treatment, and usually no recognition of the abuse, neither empathy with the victim. All of these thoughts and feelings appear in intervention phase.

In evaluation phase they try to deny the abuse, seeing them as victims and the abuse as a play, only through intervention therapeutic work, they begin to understand the meaning and consequences of what they have done. They describe the victim as a person with provocative intentions.

Inside of the treatment process, it seems to be a process: first they recognize they were there, but not the abuse, second they recognize the abuse and at the end they are able to empathise with the victim recognizing his/her feelings and suffering.

- **Focus two:** child perception about himself as aggressor and about his sexuality;

In the evaluation process, they see themselves as victims forced to go to treatment, only some recognize themselves as responsible of abuse. During the treatment process, they recognize their guilty, but some of them continue justifying themselves as victims also.

- **Focus three:** Child perception about support of reject from his family and carers;

Both in evaluation and intervention phases, children have perceived his family support. It's only meaningful that in those cases in which family deny the abuse is much more difficult for the child to recognize it.

- **Focus four:** child perception about support or reject from social context (neighbourhood, child protection services...).

Both in evaluation and intervention phases, children have felt social rejection in the neighbourhood after revelation of the abuse. In this moment, it's essential the role of professionals and protection institutions.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSIONS

As general conclusion, we have carried out an assessment on the evolution of the Save the Children Spain advocacy main messages during the time of the program, as well as some considerations and challenges for the public authorities, the network and Save the Children.

The evolution of the work in prevention, detection and intervention in cases of child sexual abuse in the last few years in Spain has been outstanding and positive. The development of programs and centers, and the institutional involvement at different levels has contributed to a significant advance in the approach to this problem. Precisely for that reason, the increase in the detection of sexual abuse in Spain during the last few years, chiefly due to a better raising awareness of the victims themselves, and of the professionals, should **entail a constant improvement of institutional responses**. Considering the experience in other countries, we should avoid the negative effects that may occur if this increase in the detection does not entail an improvement of the responses, i.e., decrease in the credibility of the victims, poorer social and institutional support and, paradoxically, decrease in the detection as both the victims and involved professionals become frustrated.

From this perspective, we consider that it is now necessary to increase the institutional commitment in this issue, so that, by including the innovative experiences and the professional maturity of professionals and entities, **these experiences of good practice and their guiding character** become generalized.

In the following table, we present each advocacy working lines relating to child sexual abuse of Save the Children Spain. We carry out an assessment on the evolution in Spain, understanding that the advances have taken place for the actions of different agents, and not only for those of Save the Children.

Lines of work of relative advocacy to child sexual abuse of Save the Children Spain	Valuation on the evolution in Spain (different agents' actions, not only Save the Children's)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of inter-institutional and multi-discipline networking on the intervention in child sexual abuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of the Observatory for Childhood by the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs. • Increase in the number of forums and professional exchange spaces (national congresses of childhood organizations, FAPMI, Board and Bonding Foundation) • Increase of networking at the different action levels. • Increase in the training of professionals at specialized level in several Autonomous Communities and at state level by Save the Children. • Lack of a multi-discipline and inter-institutional focus in the training. • Generation of combined action protocols and notification and registration sheets. • Unequal application of the existing instruments. • Creation and increment of the psycho-social teams in the courts of justice.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the social raising awareness, improvement of sexual-affective education and of good treatment, as well as family support programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of social raising awareness regarding the problem (increase of appearance of the issue in the media, and institutional actions in this matter) • Active position of the NGO's, leading proposals and services, ahead of the authorities in some cases. • Raising awareness to creation of "good Practice Toolkit" for internet companies to clean sexual abuse images. • Discontinuity in the application of the resources. • Lack of curricular contents, or of their application, and of an appropriate focus on the sexual-affective education and good treatment, as well as lack of development, amplification and improvement of family support programs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equalization of standards across autonomous communities in the assistance to the Children, victims of child sexual abuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inequality in the protection and assistance resources to the Children victims of child sexual abuse in the different Autonomous Communities. Child protection attributions belong to the Autonomous Communities and neither common nor standard rules are followed. • Lacks of specific protection measures in the judicial proceedings for the victim of these crimes when the offender is an adult. There is a Children Penal Law that acknowledges appropriate and positive measures of assistance and protection only if the child commits a sexual crime. The child offender has more protected rights and needs in the Spanish judicial system than the child victim has. • Lack of assessment of the developed resources and experiences. • Lack of continuity in these resources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand of institutional involvement in the improvement, endowment of resources and guarantee of continuity of the existing prevention and therapeutic programs in different Autonomous Communities and development of these programs in those Autonomous Communities which lack of them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the institutional involvement at national, autonomous and local level, although it often lacks of adaptation to the real needs of the expert professionals. • Increase of resources for child protection since Specialized Groups on Child and Woman of Security Groups (GRUMES in National Police and EMUMES in Civil Guard)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of a model of joint action protocol in cases of child sexual abuse for all autonomous communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advances in the development of joint action protocols and notification sheets at state level, from the Observatory for Childhood, as well as at the level of

	<p>different Autonomous Communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of “Detection and Notification Protocol” proposed by Childhood Observatory by Sepcialized Groups of Police.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-discipline and inter-institutional training of professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the training of the professionals in health, police, educational and social environment. • Lack of training of the professionals in the judicial environment. • Lack of contents on prevention, detection and intervention in the university curriculum for the professionals related to intervention (psychology, social work, medicine...) • Lack of multi-disciplinar focus in the training. The training in most cases is developed at specialized level.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand of a specialized assessment and therapy center in each autonomous community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of the number of specific therapeutic centers, either public or financed by public institutions, in seven autonomous communities. In this moment, 11 of 17 Communities in Spain has a public or private center or treatment for victims. • Creation and increment of the specialized units of intervention with children within the protection systems of several autonomous communities, but not specialized in the assistance, attention and intervention in child sexual abuse.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness and training of the judicial system's staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of raising awareness and training of the judicial system's staff: judges, lawyers, prosecutors... • Shortage of psycho-social teams for the assessment of the Child. • Non-enforcement of the protection measures for the Child contemplated in the law. • Children Courts only for Child who has committed a crime, including sexual offenders. • Improvement and creation of new Children and Women groups within the national police and civil guard and crimes unit on the net. This is the judicial agent involved with attendance to Children has significantly improved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion to the National Action Plan on Child Sexual Exploitation, as a vehicle for social raising awareness and approach to the problem basically as a country of origin of sexual tourists, receiver of trafficking of Children and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant improvement of the raising awareness and attention to this problem with the creation and multi-discipline assessment of the First National Action Plan against Child Sexual Exploitation on the part of the Observatory for Childhood.

<p>demand of child prostitution, and consumer of child pornography.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of this National Action Plan for the following period, with the inclusion of the different agents' proposals involved in the proceeding. • Lack of spread of the Plan and poor resources to develop it.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the research and development of therapeutic programs for sexual offenders, especially when they are children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of programs and shortage of funds for the few existing ones. • Lack of awareness of the need to promote these programs as a prevention strategy for the victim.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of a change in the protection system focus in the line of the protection measures for the victim contemplated in different European countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of reflection on the differences between the Spanish protection system and child protection systems of other European countries.

THE NETWORK Should we set up as an autonomous network?

The "net embryo" that Save the Children Spain has contributed to impel contains over 150 professionals of different environments and disciplines, and over 25 entities from different Spanish autonomous communities, as well as contacts with other national and international networks.

The professionals and entities that constitute the network should:

- Assess the continuity to the task of creation and growth of the network.
- Debate on the possible increase its degree of formalization and consolidation of the autonomous operation.
- Consolidate the net maybe through a minimum rotational structure, extranet and intranet web

Save the Children must define its role in deciding, for example, if they increase their degree of involvement in the line of promoting inter-institutional and multi-discipline networks (involving social, educational, medical, police, judicial environments,), and if they should supply contacts with other international networks. In addition, Save the Children is considering an improvement in the process of assessment of the programs by:

- Introducing an **external qualitative and quantitative assessment**, from the design phase of the program to its closing. A positive value is that, during the realization of the current program and the end of it, there has been an internal assessment;
- **Assessing the process of construction of the network along with the very participants** (participating people and entities, results obtained from the participation in the network, generated projects) in prevention, therapy, law, exploitation.

CHAPTER 5

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