

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE:

To report suspected abuse, CALL!!

- Military Police: (910) 396-0391
- Womack Dep. of Social Work: (910) 907-7869
- Child Protective Services: (910) 677-2450

Information to have together when making the call.

- Nature of the abuse or specific incidents that precipitated the report.
- Dates and the descriptions of the injuries/dangers.
- Identities of the perpetrator(s) and their relationship to the victim
- Witnesses to the incident(s) and how they may be reached
- Details of any physical evidence available
- Does the perpetrator have current access to the child
- The location of the child and directions to get there
- Any statements from the child
- How the reporter came to know the information

To schedule a class or prevention program:

- Child abuse prevention briefing:
(910)396-5521/4175
- Child Advocate: (910) 396-5521/4175
- Family Advocacy Program Manager:
(910) 396-5521/4175

WHO MUST REPORT?

All persons in any profession in any institution are required to report suspected child abuse.

Many people incorrectly believe that:

- By law, abused children must be removed from their homes immediately, this is the least likely outcome.
- Child abuse can be reported anonymously. In most states, you don't need to provide your name.
- The person reported for abuse is entitled to know who made the report. They are not.

INDICATORS OF CHILD ABUSE

- Appears to be different from other children either in physical or emotional makeup.
- May bear welts, bruises, burns, and other skin injuries.
- May be wary of physical contact.
- May exhibit a sudden change in behavior.
- May have learning problems that cannot be diagnosed.
- Habitually truant or late from school.
- Loss of appetite.
- Unexplainable fears.
- Nervous around adults.

**For more information visit
www.fortbraggmwr.com/ACS/fap**



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Q: Which child deserves protection?



A: All of them!



Family Advocacy Program

Guide to Detecting and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

**Soldier Support Center, 3rd Floor
Normandy Drive, Fort Bragg;
(910) 396-5521/4175**

WHY YOU SHOULD REPORT:

To protect the child: This is the bottom line. If you don't you are as guilty as the abuser.

To help the family: Abuse may be a "cry for help"; parents may be unable to ask for help directly.

Reporting begins change and involvement for the family: The purpose is to begin assessment of the family situation and to provide needed services.

To comply with the law: For persons mandated to report, failure to do so is illegal.

To provide relief to you, the reporter: By making a report, you are doing what you can to protect the child and begin intervention into a crisis situation.

TYPES OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Physical: Shaking, beating, burning, and failure to provide the necessities of life (e.g., adequate food).

Verbal: Abuse characterized by constant verbal harassment and denigration of a child (such as excessive yelling, belittling, and teasing).

Sexual: The use of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or older minor.

Neglect: Failure to provide for a child's physical, emotional, and educational survival needs to the extent that there is harm to the child's health or safety.

WHAT CAN I DO TO STOP CHILD ABUSE IN A PUBLIC PLACE?

Start a conversation with the adult to direct attention away from the child. For example:

"She seems to be trying your patience."

"My child sometimes gets upset like that, too."

"Children can really wear you out sometimes. Is there anything I can do to help?"

Divert the child's attention (if misbehaving) by talking to the child. For example:

"That's a great baseball cap. Are you a Swamp Dogs fan?"

"I like your t-shirt. Did you get that on vacation?"

Look for an opportunity to praise the parent or child. For example:

"She has the most beautiful eyes."

"That's a very pretty shirt on your little girl. Where did you get it?"

"Your son is very handsome."

If the child is in danger, offer assistance. For example:

If the child is left unattended in a grocery cart, stand near the child until the parent returns.

Avoid negative remarks or looks.

Negative reactions are likely to increase the parent's stress or anger, and could make matters worse for the child.

To learn more about child abuse prevention and how to keep your children and you safe:

*** Log onto www.childhelpusa.org**

*** Call 1-800-4-A-CHILD**

*** Request a Child Abuse Prevention Briefing (910) 396-5521/4175**

COMMUNITY SERVICES AVAILABLE

Ambulance/Emergency	911
American Red Cross	910-396-1231 877-272-7337
Army Community Service	910-396-8682/8683 800-457-4636
Military One Source	800-342-9647
Army Substance Abuse Program	910-396-4100
Chaplain, Family Life Section	910-396-4157
Child Advocate Program	910-5521/4680
Child Advocacy Center	910-486-9700
Child and Youth Services	910-396-8110
Child Protective Services	910-677-2450
Crisis Line (24 hours)	910-396-HELP
Domestic Abuse Hotline	800-799-SAFE
CARE Center/Domestic Violence Shelter	910-323-4187
Family Advocacy Program	910-396-5521/4175
Family Childcare Program	910-396-3415
Installation Chaplain's Office	910-396-1121
Legal Assistance (JAG)	910-396-6113
Military Police (Non Emergency)	910-396-9103
New Parent Support Program	910-396-5521
Veteran Affairs Hospital	910-488-6252
Victim Advocate Hotline	910-322-3418
Womack Advice Nurse	910-907-NURS
Womack Information	910-907-6000
Womack Dept. of Social Work	910-907-7869
Women's Center of Fayetteville	910-323-3377

