



Talk Early.



Talk Often.



Protect Our Kids.



Center for Child Protection
a children's advocacy center

Who We Are

The Center for Child Protection is a Travis County nonprofit that supports the investigation and prosecution of crimes against children. The Center provides a safe, child-friendly place where children impacted by abuse or violence can receive free services—including forensic interviews, therapy, and medical care. The Center also offers free child abuse prevention trainings to the community. Learn more at centerforchildprotection.org.



Our Mission

As a member of the Travis County Child Protection Team, the Center's mission is to reduce trauma for children during the investigation and prosecution of crimes against children.

Our Vision

The Center's vision is to end the cycle of child abuse through advocacy, education, and community support.

One in ten children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday.

(Darkness to Light, 2025)



Three out of five children never disclose their abuse.

(Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, 2024)

The Issue

Understanding the facts helps us break through myths and misconceptions, so we can properly protect our children. Knowledge is power when it comes to sexual abuse prevention.

About one-third of sexual abuse is committed by another child or youth.

(Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, 2024)

40% of minors have received requests for nude photos from strangers online.

(Thorn, 2022)

90% of child sexual abuse is conducted by someone the child knows and trusts.

(Darkness to Light, 2025)



Body Safety



It's never too soon to begin talking to your child about body safety. Normalizing conversations about their bodies makes it easier for them to speak up if something happens. Children who know the proper names for body parts and feel confident setting boundaries are less likely to fall victim to abuse.



WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO



Support your child's right to set body boundaries, even with family.

Explain that private parts are private.

Establish a "no secrets" rule in your home.

Teach your child proper names for body parts.

Teach them to say "no" clearly and confidently.

Give them choices, such as hugs, high-fives, or just "hello."



Have ongoing conversations where no topic is off-limits.

Help your child identify a safe adult in every situation.

Carefully vet caregivers, schools, and programs for safety.

Make all interactions visible and interruptible.

Stay actively involved in your child's life.

Minimize your child's alone time with others, even family.

WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO

Minimize Opportunity

Most abuse happens in one-on-one situations. Limiting isolation and vetting organizations with access to your child reduces the risk of abuse. A strong parent-child relationship also supports safety, and normalizing conversation about sex and consent establishes you as a safe person to talk to—about anything.

Internet Safety



Digital risks are just as real as physical ones. Abusers can now contact children directly, so it's important to know what apps your child is using and who they're talking to. Excessive social media use also comes with the increased risk of anxiety, depression, and exposure to inappropriate content.

WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN DO

Turn on parental controls & safety settings.

Monitor your child's online activity, app usage, and messaging.

Tell them to never send nude or partially-nude images of themselves.

Establish screen time limits and "screen-free" zones, like bedrooms.

Teach them to be suspicious of people they meet online.

Remind them they can always come to you if something happens.

Abusers may:

Choose children who are vulnerable, lonely, or lack confidence.

Build trust with the child and their family.

Create opportunities for alone time with the child.

Give the child special attention, gifts, or privileges.

Talk about sex or tell inappropriate jokes around the child.

Push physical boundaries (sexual & non-sexual).

RED FLAGS TO WATCH FOR

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Grooming

Grooming is the deceptive process an abuser uses to establish trust, gain access, and sexually abuse children without detection. Abusers often convince children that speaking out will lead to punishment, disbelief, or blame. Online, abusers may use threats or blackmail to sexually exploit children and keep them silent.

Free Monthly Webinars



The Center offers free, monthly webinars covering a wide range of child abuse awareness and prevention topics. Available in both English and Spanish, these webinars are relevant for parents, caregivers, educators, professionals, and the general public. Certificates of Completion and CEUs are provided.

Browse our upcoming webinars and explore more resources at ProtectAustinKids.org.

Follow us @Center4CP



Report Abuse

You don't need proof. If you suspect abuse, report it.

Child Abuse Hotline: **1-800-252-5400** or txabusehotline.org

If a child is in immediate danger, call 911.