

Creating Awareness on Child Sexual Abuse

Project 2 | Stage 3

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Focus

Creating an awareness in the society on Child Sexual Abuse.

Objective

To help parents initiate the discussion with their children on awareness about child sexual abuse.

What is Child Sexual Abuse?

- Assault including rape and sodomy
- Touching or fondling a child
- Forcing a child to exhibit his/ her private body parts
- Photographing a nude child
- Forcible kissing
- Sexual advances
- Exposure to pornographic material

According to WHO

India has world's largest number of sexually abused children.

A survey conducted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, in 2007, revealed that-

53.22% of children reported having faced one or more forms of sexual abuse.

Out of them, 52.94% were boys and 47.06% girls.

Among school going children, 49.9% reported having experienced some form of sexual abuse.

1998

RAHI surveyed 600 English-speaking middle and upper-class women, 76% of whom said they had been abused in childhood or adolescence, 40% by at least one family member, most commonly an uncle or cousin.

The Silent Problem

Generations of Indian Children have watched their parents remain silent on sexual issues.

In India, the children are taught to respect their elders come what may, the elders know what is good and they are never wrong.

Other reason - Child's sense of loyalty towards abuser.

Child is too ashamed or embarrassed to tell anyone.

Child feels no one will believe him/her.

The child's fear is played upon by the abuser.

Globally, researches have shown that children who are taught about the difference between a safe and unsafe touch are empowered to prevent abuse and also are able to seek help if they find themselves in a situation of an unsafe touch.

Primary and Secondary Study

Primary

1. Interaction with survivor
2. Interaction with Parents

Secondary study

1. NGOs
2. Their design interventions
3. Websites

Findings from the Study

- It is awkward for parents to talk about this to their own children.
- Very sensitive information, cannot talk randomly.
- Structure is required.
- Medium is required to talk with.
- Children cannot understand this before 10 years of age.
- To tell this information at so early age, is like burdening them.
- It can create fear among their mind.

Final Deliverable

A Book - Parents will read aloud the story for their child and ask them to do activities.

Why a book?

To address the issue of silence - a practical solution.

A tangible medium - more easy to perceive for children.

Expectation of engagement of both parents and child together.

Book Size - 8 x 10 inches - Handy, comfortable to read and economic

A Story with Activities

Children oftenly hear stories from their mother.

Chocolate - Story of Pinki (A character like every other child, become sad, then try to overcome her sadness, and again become happy)

But only story for the considered age group can become boring after a while. If child's involvement is asked, child will remain interested in the information.

Illustrations - Engaging visuals which attracts child's attention.







“We may not be able to prepare the future for our children. But we can at least prepare our children for the future.”
– Franklin D. Roosevelt

Bibliography

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Books

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Thank You