

# What To Do If You Are Worried

Call the  
Department of Human Services (DHS)  
541-776-6120

## Be ready to give specific information

- Name
- Age
- Birth Date
- Address
- Parent/Guardian name
- Information about the incident that prompted your call



Children's  
Advocacy

C E N T E R

OF JACKSON COUNTY

816 W. 10th Street  
Medford, Oregon 97501  
541.734.kids (5437)  
fax 541.734.2425  
www.cac4kids.us

Sponsored by: The West Family Foundation



# Domestic Violence and Physical Abuse

Healing Children at the Speed of Love



JACKSON COUNTY CHILD ABUSE TASK FORCE, INC.

## What is Domestic Violence ?

When adults in a relationship use assaultive behavior, physical or emotional abuse, or economic coercion to gain power and control, domestic violence occurs and places children at risk. The Department of Human Services (DHS) intervenes when there is currently domestic violence, or a history by the abuser, and one of the following conditions exists:

- The child intervenes between the adults or is present and might be exposed to "substantial harm"
- The abuser is preventing the child from accessing basic needs
- The abuser threatens to kill persons or pets in the family
- The child is in a constant state of fear because of witnessing serious violence

When children witness domestic violence, they are forced to live with Fear for themselves and those they love.

## What is Physical Abuse ?

A child has been physically abused if he or she has sustained any physical injury which has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury which appears to be at variance with the explanation given.

### Types Of Physical Abuse

- **Bruises or cuts**
- **Head injuries**
- **Poisoning**
- **Fractures, sprains**
- **Burns, scalds**
- **Internal injuries**
- **Electric shock**
- **Drug affected babies**
- **Shaken Baby Syndrome**

## Signs of Abuse

Male victimization is a crisis nobody wants to hear about because rape is thought of as a woman's issue. Happening to victims who are helpless, vulnerable, passive with weak traits that are not considered male. In our society, men are expected and socialized to be:

- Explanation of physical injury that doesn't make sense
- Child appears anxious or avoidant about questions
- Child who is anxious and fearful of adults
- Child who is afraid of punishment or being "in trouble"

### Children Learn What They Live...

If children live with criticism  
They learn to condemn

If children live with hostility  
They learn to fight

If children live with ridicule  
They learn to be shy

If children live with shame  
They learn to be guilty

If children live with tolerance  
They learn to be patient

If children live with encouragement  
They learn confidence

If children live with praise  
They learn to be appreciate

If children live with fairness  
They learn justice

If children live with security  
They learn to have faith

If children live with approval  
They learn to like themselves

If children live with acceptance &  
friendship  
They learn to find love in the world