

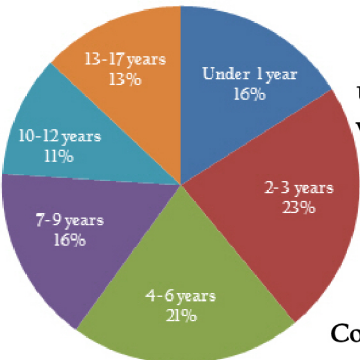
It shouldn't hurt to be a kid

In Texas, more than **2** children die from child abuse or neglect on an average every week, **185** children are confirmed victims daily, and more than **7** children are maltreated every hour.

Types of abuse documented are:

- Neglectful Supervision
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Medical Neglect
- Psychological Abuse

Most abuse is committed by someone the child knows and trusts.



Texas had over **65,000** unduplicated confirmed victims of child abuse & neglect this past year.

Age groups of Confirmed Victims

All children deserve a life free from abuse and neglect.

Know the Law

- Child abuse and neglect are against the law.
 - If you suspect a child has been abused or mistreated, you are required to report it immediately to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or to law enforcement.
 - Failure to report it is against the law.
- Reporting suspected child abuse makes it possible for a family to get help.



Report *suspected* abuse and neglect to

1-800-252-5400

or online reporting available at

www.txabusehotline.org

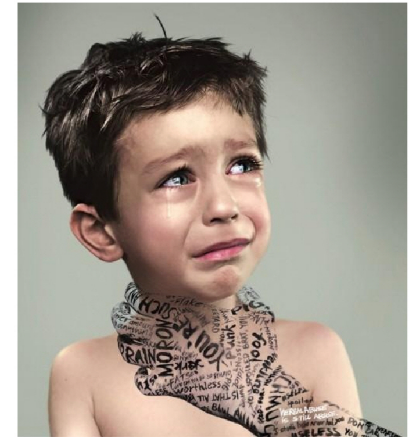
Confidential or Anonymous

Hays County Sheriff's Department

512-393-7896

San Marcos Police Department

512-753-2108



P.O. Box 1455
San Marcos, Texas 78667
512-754-0500
1-800-457-0797
www.gsmyc.org

CALL 911

It's Up to you....

What you can do to Help Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect

- Call or write your elected officials to educate them about issues in your community.



- Reach out to kids and parents in your community.

- Remember the risk factors:

Child abuse and neglect occur in all segments of our society.

- Recognize the warning signs:

The behavior of children may signal abuse or neglect before any changes in physical appearance.

- Report *suspected* abuse or neglect:

Child Protective Services

1-800-252-5400

or report online at

www.txabusehotline.org

or your local Police Department



-Physical Abuse-

- Frequent injuries, bruises, cut, black eyes
- Frequent complaints of pain, with obvious injuries
- Fear of going home or seeing parents
- Burns or bruises in an unusual pattern may indicate the use of an instrument or a human bite
- Chronic runaway
- Complaints of beating or other harsh treatment
- Injuries that appear after child isn't seen for days
- Cigarette burns on the face, arms, or palms
- Wears unseasonable clothes
- Frequent absences, tardiness without explanation

-Sexual Abuse-

- Physical signs of sexually transmitted disease
- Knowledge about sexual relations
- Suicide attempts
- Difficulty in sitting or walking
- Engages in sexually suggestible behavior
- Complaints of pain, itching in genital area

-Neglect-

- Habitually dressed in torn and/or dirty clothes
- Unattended for long periods of time
- Begs for or steals food
- Obvious malnutrition
- Lack of personal cleanliness
- Obvious fatigue and listlessness
- Frequently absent from school

'Children should be heard,
not hurt'

The facts about Texas Children

Every 8 seconds a child in Texas is reported abused or neglected. About **81%** of perpetrators were identified as parents. Another **5%** were the unmarried partner of a parent of the child, and another **4%** were other relatives of the child. Resulting in these children being **removed** from their homes.

Texas continues to lead the nation in abuse related deaths of children. The latest data reveals **over 170** children died in the state of Texas because of abuse and neglect.

Ideally, each child born would be protected and well cared for. Until this happens, there will be a need for places such as the Children's Shelter, operated by the Greater San Marcos Youth Council.

Learn more how you can help at
www.gsmyc.org

