

<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>It is easy for victims to stop the sexual abuse from happening. All they have to do is say no.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>It is very hard for children and adolescents to stop the abuse from happening. Children are taught to obey adults, so it is hard for kids to just say no. Victims are often tricked, bribed, or threatened into going along with the abuse. Abusers are often very tricky and know what to say or do to get kids to go along with the sexual abuse.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>All boys who are sexually abused by a male are gay.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Just because a boy is sexually abused by a male does not mean he is gay. Some boys who are sexually abused may feel confused about their sexual orientation. This is normal and OK. It can help to talk to someone about these confusing feelings.</p>
<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Most children who have been sexually abused keep the abuse a secret for a long time.</p> <p>Answer: FACT</p> <p>It is very common for victims of sexual abuse to keep the abuse a secret because they are afraid of what will happen if people find out or they worry they won't be believed.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Unless sexual intercourse occurs, it is not really sexual abuse.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Sexual abuse is when someone uses tricks, secrecy, or force to touch a child's private parts in a way that confuses them, scares them, or hurts them. It is also sexual abuse if someone forces the child to touch him in a sexual way, takes naked pictures of the child, or makes the child look at pornographic pictures</p>
<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Children are usually sexually abused by a stranger.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Most sexual abusers are known to their victims. Sexual abuse victims are most commonly abused by a family member—parent, step-parent, uncle, grandparent, or sibling—or by someone they know and trust like a babysitter, teacher, coach, or family friend.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Parents always believe their kids when they tell them they have been sexually abused.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Sometimes parents don't believe their kids when they tell them about the sexual abuse because it's hard for parents to accept that their kids have been hurt or that someone they love has hurt their child. Parents may need time to sort out their feelings and to get the right kind of help in order to be a support to their child.</p>

<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Sexual abuse happens mostly in poor families.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Sexual abuse happens among all groups of the population. It happens in all sociodemographic and education levels.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Most sexual abusers are sick and cannot stop themselves from molesting a child.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Although the behavior of child molesters is disturbing, most people who sexually abuse a child appear normal, and a few have a specific mental illness. Sexual abusers have control over their behavior. They are aware that they are doing something wrong and they are making a choice to abuse a child</p>
<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Victims of sexual abuse sometimes cause the abuse to happen because of how they dress or act.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Nothing the victim says or does causes the abuse to happen. It is always the sexual abuser's responsibility because he or she is making a choice to do something that is wrong.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Children rarely lie about being sexually abused.</p> <p>Answer: FACT</p> <p>Children rarely lie about being sexually abused. Even if the abuser is proven not guilty in court, this does not mean that the child was making up the story about being molested.</p>
<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>It is better to forget about the sexual abuse than to talk about it.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>Although it can be hard to talk about the sexual abuse, it is important for victims to get help and talk about what happened.</p>	<p>Myth or Fact?</p> <p>Child sexual abuse is rare and happens mostly to girls and hardly ever to boys.</p> <p>Answer: MYTH</p> <p>According to statistics, 50% of all women and 30% of all men were victims of unwanted sex acts as children (Badgley 1984).</p>