

# Identifying Sexual Abuse in Children and Teens in School

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# Introduction

• 65.3% of teachers who are employed in preschools, elementary schools, high schools, and centers for professional training have never received education about identifying and reporting sexual abuse.

PICO: In teachers who have received minimal sexual abuse training, is there an increase in early detection and recognition of abuse after receiving an educational session on the identification and reporting of sexual abuse compared to those who never receive education?



# **Literature Search**

**Databases:** CINAHL & UC Libraries

**Keywords:** Sexual Abuse, Identification, Children, Schools, Reporting, Abuse, Teens, Education on abuse, Abuse training, Risk factors, Teachers, Ohio Schools, Abuse in Ohio, Trauma, Elementary

**Article Date Range:** 2014-2019

# **Current Evidence**

#### We included 16 articles in our research

- Sexual abuse is traumatizing to children and leads to PSTD, depression, anxiety, altered sexual development and other symptoms later in life (Rheingold, 2015).
- 34.7% of teachers say they have received sexual abuse training, versus 65.3% who have never received training (Márquez-Flores et al., 2016).
- Teachers who received prior training possessed greater knowledge about the age at which sexual abuse begins, their knowledge of evaluation methods in cases of child sexual abuse, and knowledge of the legal implications of child sexual abuse

## **Education Plan**

Place: Creekside Early Childhood Center

Presented to: Teachers and other axillary staff

Overall Purpose: To train teachers in an early childhood school setting about recognizing and reporting sexual abuse and to provide a tool that they can keep for long-term knowledge

## Objectives:

- 1. Learners will be able to identify signs of sexual abuse.
- 2. Learners will be able to state at least three risk factors for sexual abuse.
- 3. Learners will be able to describe the process on how to report sexual abuse if they identify it.

# Implementation and Feedback

Target Audience & Location

- 3/9/2020 1600-1630
- Teachers, counselors, special education assistants and student teachers
- CECC multi-purpose classroom

#### Poster Presentation

- Twenty minute presentation referencing PowerPoint
- 19 teachers and other staff attended in the 30-minute window

## Survey

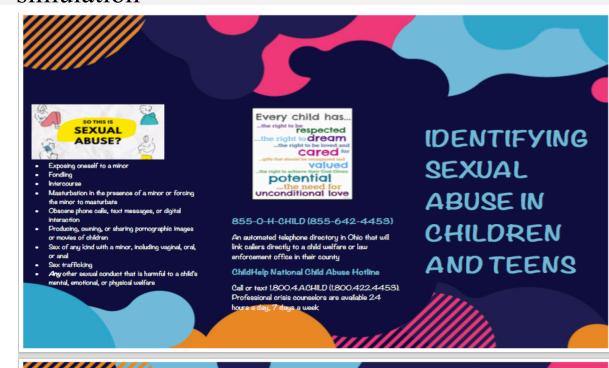
• Likert Scale; ranging from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5)

Questions Asked	Likert Scale Average
Prior to this session, have you ever received training on identifying sexual abuse?	100% yes
I can identify signs of sexual abuse.	4.63
I can identify at least 3 risk factors for sexual abuse.	4.79
If I identify sexual abuse, I know how to properly report the situation.	4.84
This educational session was a good use of my time.	4.84
Please provide any feedback you may have to improve our educational session:	N/A

## **Lessons Learned**

#### Results

- 19 participants said yes to receiving sex abuse training prior to this presentation
- Nearly 100% either strongly agreed or agreed to meeting our three identified learning objectives
- 16 strongly agreed that it was a good use of their time **Recommendations**
- it is important and beneficial for teachers to know what to look for and when to intervene
- Additional research does need to be conducted
  - Although our participants strongly agreed or agreed to meeting our learning objectives, it is hard to know whether or not they would be able to do so in a real-life sexual abuse situation
- One idea that may be helpful would be to conduct a simulation





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