## MODULE NAME: INCLUSIVE EDUCATION A

**MODULE CODE: ETH302S** 



## Learning materials

#### E-reserves

- Education White Paper 6 document (Department of Education, 2001)
- The Screening, Identification, Assessment, and Support (SIAS) book (Department of Education, 2008)
- Resource for teachers: Understanding and responding to children's needs in Inclusive Classrooms: A guide for Teachers (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2001)
- Power points: Uploaded on MyUnisa under announcements

## **OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION**

Child abuse

# CHILD ABUSE ONE OF THE EXTRINSIC CAUSE OF LEARNING BARRIERS

## CHILD ABUSE

# Child abuse affects everyone in South Africa

- Government
- Schools
- Teachers
- Parents
  - Children

## Child abuse

#### What is child abuse?

Child abuse consists of any act that endangers or impairs a child's physical or emotional health and development.

Child abuse includes any damage done to a child which cannot be reasonably explained and which is often represented by an injury or series of injuries appearing to be non-accidental in nature

## Types of child abuse

## Types of child abuse

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse

## 1. PHYSICAL ABUSE

Any non-accidental or injury to a child.

This includes hitting, kicking, slapping, shaking, burning, pinching, hair pulling, biting, choking, throwing, whipping, etc.

## Physical abuse (continue)

## This implies that:

Adult or someone in power position harms child's body Examples of actions of abuse: hitting, kicking, pushing, hitting with an object (belt or shoe), burning child with cigarette, purposefully putting child in situation where they are likely to be hurt

- It also involves severe discipline or physical punishment
- Some physical abuse do not leave a mark or visible scars

## 2. EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- Inside hurting in a child by an adult
- In other words, and adult says hurtful things that make child feel bad about him/herself

#### **SHORT ACTIVITY**

THINK OF FIVE WORDS AN ADULT CAN UTTER THAT CAN SERIOUSLY HURT THE CHILD

## 3. NEGLECT

Failure to provide for a child's physical needs. This includes lack of supervision, inappropriate housing or shelter, inadequate provision of food and water, inappropriate clothing for season or weather, abandonment, denial of medical care and inadequate hygiene

## **Physical Neglect**

### Majority of neglect cases

- Parent or care giver not providing for the child's basic needs:
- Example: food, clothing and shelter
- Includes chaotic living conditions
- Includes abandonment
- Inadequate supervision
- Expulsion from home

#### Physical neglect can result in the following:

- Malnutrition
- Serious illness
- Physical harm
- Low self esteem

## Impact of neglect in a child

- Physical damage to growing of child's brain, medical issues
- Psychological cognitive delays, emotional difficulties, isolation, fear, inability to trust, low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, psychological disorders
- Behavioral juvenile delinquency, substance use and dependency, anti-social, violent towards others
- Social poor peer relationships

## 4. SEXUAL ABUSE

Any sexual act between an adult and child. This includes penetration, intercourse, pornography, child prostitution, or forced observation of sexual acts.

### Sexual abuse

 In such cases, a child is purposefully touched in places on his body that are private, with the intention to suggest sexual actions such as sex, oral sex and masturbation, genitals, buttocks or breasts

#### OR

 When an adult purposefully exposes the child to any inappropriate sexual actions (physical), pictures, videos and/or any inappropriate sexual talk, with the intention to suggest sexual reaction

# GENERAL SIGNS OF CHILD ABUSE IN CHILDREN

- Not wanting to play with other children, not wanting to go home
- Physical abuse bruises/scars and child dressing inappropriately according to weather
- Inappropriate behavior indicating fear hiding in closets, under chairs and tables
- Inappropriate sexual behavior touching other children's private parts or masturbating
- Enuresis (inability to control urination) and encopresis (inability to control the elimination of stool)
- Clothes dirty/torn, repeated crying
- Child is absent from school on a regular basis
- Child acts violently towards peers/teachers

## Other signs of child abuse: in small children

## Physical:

- poor hygiene
- dirty clothes, body, dental,
- untreated health condition

### **Development:**

- some may display delayed speech, language development,
- poor relationships with peers and others
- Behaviour:
- attention seeking or withdrawn
- rely heavily in classroom on the teacher for support and nurturance

## **CAUSES OF CHILD ABUSE**

## CAUSES OF CHILD ABUSE

Various factors were found to be the main causes of child abuse. These factors include the following:

- Child factors
- Stress factor, and
- Parent factors

## CHILD FACTOR

- The child who is unwanted
- Some children are chronically ill or emotionally demanding are in some cases vulnerable to be abused
- The child who is not the gender that the parent expected
- Children who are orphans and street children who have no protection

## STREES FACTORS

- Job insecurity in some families
- Some large families where the child finds himself in
- Sudden and radical changes in life pattern or dislocation of some families
- Some single parenthood
- Alcohol and drug abuse in some families

## PARENT FACTOR

Parents factors that may cause child abuse is when parents experience the following:

- Live under difficult financial or job circumstances
- receives inadequate social support
- Unsuccessful relationships
- Had poor relationships with their parents
- Have psychological disorders
- Were abused or neglected

# What can/should the school and the teachers do?

#### Specialized services to collaborate with:

According to the Section 110 of the Children's Act 38 of 2005, if you have reasonable grounds for a child being abused or neglect, you must report it.

- Familiarize yourself with designated child protection organizations in the areas where your children is staying
- Report abuse/neglect to designated child protection organization or provincial department of social development or police official
- Follow-up on the case

## What can and should I do?

#### The child's behavior and circumstances:

- Contextualize the child's acting-out behavior and his/her family background and current circumstances
- Avoid to label the child for negative behavior a child's behavior is usually a manifestation of what he feels in his heart
- Talk to sibling's teacher to find confirmation for your suspicion of abuse/neglect

## Thank you

