
Child sexual abuse in U.S. costs up to \$1.5 million per child death. March 28, 2018. Georgia State University News Hub.

Adapted summary: Child sexual abuse in the United States is costly, with an average lifetime cost of \$1.1 million per death of female victims and \$1.5 million per death of male victims, according to a new study. Researchers measured the economic costs of child sexual abuse by calculating health care costs, productivity losses, child welfare costs, violence/crime costs, special education costs and suicide death costs. They estimated the total lifetime economic burden of child sexual abuse in the United States to be \$9.3 billion, based on child sexual abuse data from 2015. For nonfatal cases of child sexual abuse, the estimated lifetime cost is \$282,734 per female victim. There was insufficient information on productivity losses for male victims, which contributed to a lower estimated lifetime cost of \$74,691. The [findings](#) are published in the journal *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

Trump signs 'FOSTA' bill targeting online sex trafficking, enables states and victims to pursue websites. April 11, 2018. The Washington Post.

Adapted summary: President Trump recently signed a [bill](#) that gives federal and state prosecutors greater power to pursue websites that host sex-trafficking ads and enables victims and state attorneys general to file lawsuits against those sites. The bill, nicknamed "FOSTA" for its title, "Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act," goes into effect immediately, but its impact was already being seen around the Internet as sites shut down sex-related areas and stopped accepting sex-related advertising. The signing comes just days after seven [executives for Backpage.com were arrested](#) on a 93-count indictment that alleges the website facilitated prostitution and laundered tens of millions of dollars in profits, and that teenage girls were sold for sex on the site. The government also [shut down Backpage's classified ad websites](#) around the world, and moved to seize houses and bank accounts around the United States.



National Missing Children's Day is May 25.

Adapted summary: Join the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, May 21 - May 25 in their week long "Rock One

Sock for Missing Kids" social media campaign to help build awareness about missing children, and raise critical funding for recovery and prevention programming. All you have to do is WEAR-SHARE-CARE. Wear one sock and take a picture or video, post it on social media using #RockOneSock, and donate or start an online fundraiser to support our work in bring missing children home. Visit RockOneSock.org to learn more and get started today!

[Supporting policy to prevent harm: Identifying gaps to support children with sexual behavior problems.](#) April 13, 2018. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment* blog.

Adapted summary: Recently, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA) published [Children with Sexual Behavior Problems: Improving Minnesota's ability to provide early identification and intervention services through policy and practice recommendations \(June 2017\)](#), a comprehensive report outlining the data collection, literature review, and formation of recommendations for implementation. MNCASA looked at what's working and not working in Minnesota's current systems for identifying children (12 and under) with SBPs through funding from [Raliance](#), a national partnership among leaders in the prevention of sexual harassment, misconduct, and abuse. This is the first in-depth look at how one state can create change to improve intervention, prevention and response to children with sexual behavior problems. The specific key recommendations are a model for how the system could improve for all children and families.

[Chosen – The true story of America's trafficked teens.](#)

Adapted summary: As traffickers target younger and younger victims, American youth are engaged in a battle they never prepared for. Be equipped with Shared Hope International's youth sex trafficking prevention film and resource pack. Each package includes the true story of teens who faced real-life encounters with trafficking and practical resources to spread awareness and take action. The film and its supporting materials are designed for grandparents, moms and dads, friends and neighbors, to learn, powerfully and practically, exactly what signs to look for and how to protect our children.

[Dear Jeff: A former sex worker's letter to the clients she once knew.](#) March 25, 2018. *CBC News*.

Adapted summary: A woman involved in the sex trade has written a letter to the clients who used to pay her for sex, letting them know what it was really like for her. This powerful piece reveals the pain of a young woman who was exploited as a child and the trauma she suffered then and throughout her years in the sex trade as an adult.



Save the date for the third national conference to prevent child sexual abuse from MassKids and Enough Abuse, Framingham, MA, October 16, 2018.

Adapted summary: MassKids and its Enough Abuse Campaign announce their third national conference to prevent child sexual abuse. "***Creating a Culture of Safety: Building Skills to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Misconduct in Schools and Youth Organizations***" will

feature a series of trainer-led sessions to build the competence of administrators to respond to the range of concerning behaviors on the continuum of misconduct. Among the areas of focus will include: assessing current safe child policies to address identified gaps; training staff using the latest effective tools; engaging key players in developing a strong code of conduct; responding to boundary-violating behaviors early to prevent their escalation to sexual abuse; and using new screening tools to discourage applicants who might pose a sexual risk to children. The Save the Date announcement will be followed soon with additional information about registration, program, and trainers. Check masskids.org for details as they are posted.

[Dignity issue 1, volume 3 available online.](#)

Adapted summary: Articles in this issue of the journal *Dignity* include [The Imprint of Childhood Abuse on Trauma-Related Shame in Adulthood](#), a study explored whether specific characteristics of CSA (familial CSA, CSA with penetration, force used by CSA perpetrator), repeat sexual victimization in adolescence, childhood physical abuse, childhood neglect, and childhood commercial sexual exploitation contribute to the level of trauma-related psychosexual shame reported during adulthood. For treatment providers, the findings highlight the critical need to address and treat trauma-related shame with clients who have experienced maltreatment or sexual exploitation during childhood. Also included is the article [Sexual Violence on Campus: No Evidence that Studies Are Biased Due to Self-Selection](#), a study examining bias in sexual violence prevalence on campus using methodology permitting students to self-select into the study based on interest in the topic.

Save the date for the 2018 International Youth Protection Symposium, Atlanta, GA, October 8-10.

Adapted summary: Make plans now to join the nation's leading experts in the field of child abuse and maltreatment prevention, along with leaders from the country's foremost youth serving organizations for this landmark event.



Speakers include: William Kellibrew, international advocate for human rights after surviving multiple forms of violence and maltreatment; James A. Mercy, PhD, Director of the Division of Violence Prevention for the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention; Elaine Pasqua, one of the premier speakers addressing the impact of high-risk behaviors of youth and young adults at campuses across the United States. Website, registration, and agenda coming soon. For questions, please contact MichaelV.Johnson@scouting.org.

[Review of Child Sexual Abuse Primary Prevention Strategies](#). April 2018, Volume 19, Issue 3. Children's Bureau Express.

Adapted summary: A recent report, [Child Sexual Abuse Primary Prevention Strategies: A Literature Review](#), from Prevent Child Abuse Iowa reviews child sexual abuse (CSA) primary prevention strategies based on three target audiences: children, parents and caregivers, and communities. The use of evidence-based practices, continuous quality improvement strategies, and program evaluation can help to build on the strengths of these strategies to educate children, parents, and communities about preventing CSA.

New [webinar](#) from Stop It Now! on Thursday, April 26 from 3-4pm ET.

Adapted summary: This April, as part of child abuse prevention and sexual assault awareness month, Stop It Now! is sharing questions and concerns from adults worried about their own sexual thoughts and feelings about children in our webinar series, [Dear Stop It Now! Helpline... I'm attracted to children](#). Adults who are at-risk can and do reach out for help before a child is harmed, and they are a key voice in prevention. Understanding the questions they have about getting help for themselves - before they act on the concerning thoughts and feelings they may have - helps us understand more about what kinds of support and resources need to be offered to plan for safety for all and in all environments. Please join Stop It Now! and guest experts, Dr. Jill Levenson, Professor of Social Work at Barry University in Miami, FL. and a licensed clinical social worker and Wayne Bowers, Executive Director of Cure-Sort and author of "[Wayne's Story](#)," a Stop It Now! story of hope.



[Activist, actress and author Ashley Judd encourages families to have a Hot Chocolate Talk. April 3, 2018.](#)

PRNewswire.com.

Adapted summary: In an effort to educate parents on their role in child sexual abuse prevention, [Committee for Children](#), the global leader in research-based social-emotional learning education, launched the Hot Chocolate Talk campaign in conjunction with National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. The campaign is designed to get families talking about child sexual abuse, which research shows can protect children against future harm.

Families who visit the [Hot Chocolate Talk website](#) will find a host of resources, including advice for initiating the talk, talking points

based on the child's age, and a downloadable guide with conversation starters and tips. These include framing the conversation as a safety talk ("We have rules for all parts of the body, and that includes your private parts.") and using everyday moments as opportunities to review and remind. The Hot Chocolate Talk website and conversation guide also feature the section, "What to Do If Your Child Tells You," which offers advice for handling the conversation if a child discloses sexual abuse. Additional resources from Committee for Children include the [Hot Chocolate Talk Social Media Toolkit](#) to inform family, friends, and colleagues of all the resources offered in this campaign.

[APSAC Forensic Interview Clinics.](#)

Adapted summary: These comprehensive clinics offer a unique opportunity to participate in an intensive training experience and have personal interaction with leading experts in the field of child forensic interviewing. Developed by top experts, APSAC's curriculum teaches a structured narrative interview approach that emphasizes best practices based on research and is guided by best interests of the child. Attendees will receive a balanced review of several protocols and will develop their own customized narrative interview approach based on the principles taught during the Clinic and contained in the [2012 APSAC Practice Guidelines on Forensic Interviewing in Cases of Suspected Child Abuse](#). Clinics available include: June 4-8, 2018, New Orleans, LA; July 9-13, 2018, Seattle, WA; and October 22-26, 2018, Norfolk, VA.

[National Sexual Violence Resource Center Recognizes Leaders in Sexual Violence Prevention With 2018 Visionary Voice Awards. April 11, 2018.](#)

Adapted summary: The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) announced today 35 recipients of its 2018 Visionary Voice Awards – a multidisciplinary group of honorees from across the nation. NSVRC offers the Visionary Voice Awards, in conjunction with [Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#) (SAAM) each April, to recognize the creativity and hard work of individuals around the country who have demonstrated outstanding work to end sexual violence. Each year, state, territory, and tribal coalitions select an outstanding individual to nominate for the awards. Nominees may be partners from a local community or other outstanding individuals that have worked to end sexual violence. To learn more about the 2018 Visionary Voice Award recipients, visit: <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam/visionary-voice-awards>.



Registration opening soon for the [National Sexual Assault Conference](#) in Anaheim, CA, August 29-31, 2018.

Adapted summary: The theme of this year's National Sexual Assault Conference is "Bold Moves: Ending Sexual Violence in One Generation," and there will be 119 workshops held over the course of three days. The National Sexual Assault

Conference (NSAC) brings together over 1,700 people who are invested in the response to and prevention of sexual violence. The conference facilitates opportunities to share information and resources, advance learning, develop skills, and increase professional capacity to support survivors of sexual assault, to raise the profile of sexual assault as an important community health and justice issue, and to prevent sexual assault from happening. The tentative agenda is available now: [click here](#) to view.

NEARI Press and Training Center [Feb-March 2018 Newsletter](#).

Adapted summary: This month's article, "Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Opportunities: Parenting, Programs, and the Reduction of Risk" examines how prevention opportunities can include parents all adults including those of us who work with children in a professional capacity. The authors suggest that it may be crucial to broaden CSA prevention beyond its current focus on discussion with children about prevention strategies to one that improves parents' overall protective capabilities and decreases parental risk factors. They suggest strengthening positive parenting practices and building supportive home environments to reduce the effects of various risk factors, including parental absence, drug and alcohol use, mental illness, marital conflict, compromised supervision, and weak parent-child attachment. The authors conclude that the over-reliance on child education needs to shift to the development of parenting programs that enhance parenting practices protective against CSA and mitigate the risk factors for the sexual abuse of children. They also recommend that CSA protective behaviors not be taught to parents in isolation, but that they be integrated into existing evidence-based parenting programs. These programs should teach not just CSA prevention topics such as offender behaviors, CSA warning signs, and healthy boundaries, but parenting skills such as developing a warm relationship, engaging well with children, monitoring, setting appropriate limits, providing a sense of security, and communicating effectively and lovingly.

May Social Media Engagement and Events Calendar:

- May: [Mental Health Awareness Month](#)
- May 17: [International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia](#)
- May 25: National Missing Children's Day - [Rock One Sock](#)

Submit your events or awareness campaigns for inclusion into next month's Social Media Engagement Calendar to drive awareness of your organization!

Please email information to the Co-Chairs of the Communications Committee:

Adrienne Hoffman-Lewis: ALewis@ncmec.org

Julie Patrick: JPatrick@nsvrc.org