

DEFINITIONS OF ABUSE

The types of abuse that the Father Ray Foundation protects those under its care against are:

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse may be defined as any act which results in a non-accidental trauma or physical injury. Inflicted physical injury most often represents unreasonable, severe corporal punishment or unjustifiable punishment. Physical abuse injuries result from punching, beating, kicking, biting, burning or otherwise harming a child. While any of these injuries can occur accidentally when a child is at play, physical abuse should be suspected if the explanations do not fit the injury or if a pattern of frequency is apparent.

Sexual Abuse

Child sexual abuse refers to any sexual act that occurs between an adult and a child, and any nonconsensual sexual contact between a child and a peer. Sexual abuse includes fondling a child's genitals, intercourse, incest, rape, sodomy, exhibitionism, and commercial exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.

Neglect

Child neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment reported to child protective services. It is defined as a "type of maltreatment that refers to the failure to provide needed age-appropriate care," such as shelter, food, clothing, education, supervision, medical care and other basic necessities needed for development of physical, intellectual and emotional capacities.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse refers to a pattern of behavior that attacks a child's emotional development and sense of self worth, i.e. name-calling, put-downs, terrorization, isolation, humiliation, rejection, corruption, ignoring.

