

CSA Education for Event Partners

THE STATS: 1 in every 10 children in the US will become victims of child sexual abuse before their 18th birthday.

This includes sexual contact ranging from inappropriate touching and kissing--to rape, pornography and sex trafficking--plus everything in between. (*according to new 2012 statistics from Darkness to Light*)

**Good News:* These statistics reflect a downward change from older CDC statistics of 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys.

THE EFFECTS: Child Sexual Abuse carries heavy, sometimes lifelong effects for its victims, including:

- Depression,
- Self-harming (cutting, risky behavior)
- Inability to focus
- Sleep disturbance
- Inability to retain a job
- Suicidal thoughts
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Over-sexualization at a young age
- Risky sexual behavior as a teen and into adulthood
- Intimacy issues
- Relationship problems (including abusive relationships)
- Largely increased risk for chronic physical illnesses
- Many more...

THE COST: \$9.3 billion USD in 2015 including health care, child welfare, special education, violence and crime, suicide and survivor productivity losses.

PREVENTION: 95% of child sexual abuse can be prevented through education.

Teaching prevention is easy! Talk to your children in casual, easy conversation from the time they learn to talk. Be consistent and persistent in these conversations, including teaching:

- Proper body part names: **vagina and penis**
- Recognition of the “uh-oh” feeling
- BOUNDARIES: **It’s OK to say NO** to an adult who makes them **nervous, scared or uncomfortable**. Practice: “Stop! I’m going to tell on you.”
- BOUNDARIES: **No one should see, touch, or take pictures** of their private parts, or ask the child to see, touch or look at photos of someone else’s private parts (where a bathing suit would cover).
- DISCLOSURE: **Have them choose 2 safe adults they can tell** if someone is asking them to do things that make them uncomfortable (or for little kids the “uh-oh” feeling).

DISCLOSURE: Predators are hidden and safe only because 9 out of 10 children don’t tell.

Some common factors that prevent children from telling are:

- The predator tells them no one will believe them.
- The predator tells them they’ve done something wrong and they’ll get in trouble.
- The predator threatens to harm them or a loved one if they tell.
- The child/teen is afraid of harming their non-offending family members.
- The child is too small to tell in a way that adults can understand.
**This is why teaching proper body part names is so important.*

About the Fiona Project:

The Fiona Project is a music and arts movement for Child Sexual Abuse prevention and healing. We partner with musicians, filmmakers and artists to bring child sexual abuse awareness and prevention tips to music and arts audiences.

Our Mission: **#UndoTheTaboo**

We believe: Conversation => Awareness => Prevention

We must get comfortable talking about child sexual abuse so that we can teach our children simple, non-threatening prevention from the time they begin to talk --just like we teach them to cross the street.

Let's bring CSA into the light and address it
BEFORE the dark sets in.

HOW TO HELP:

1. Learn about Child Sexual Abuse prevention (D2L.org/socapp.org)
2. Share about CSA openly and casually as appropriate
3. JOIN THE MOVEMENT! **Musicians & Event Partners Needed!*
 - Request a concert
 - Host a concert

TheFionaProject.org

RESOURCES FOR CSA PREVENTION & HEALING:

- CONCERT KITS HAND-OUT: Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Starts at Home (Qtr page flyer)
- HELPLINE for suspected abuse: 1-800-4-A-CHILD
- PREVENTION TOOLKIT APP (or online training): Darkness to Light ([D2L.org](https://www.d2l.org/)) / Stewards of Children training (QR Poster)
- MORE TOOLS, STATS and INFO: [TheFionaProject.org](https://www.thefiona.org/) (QR Poster)
- ARTICLES AND TOOLS FOR SURVIVORS: Legal help, articles for wellbeing, books, music, support groups, podcasts, other - [HelpforSurvivors.org](https://www.helpforsurvivors.org/)