

# **Preventing Child Abuse: What every parent must know...**

*Child abuse is something that every parent must be aware of. In Utah, every child is protected by law. If all parents understand and follow basic child protection laws, together, we can provide a safe place for our children to learn and grow. No child is safe until every child is safe.*

- A parent/guardian has the responsibility of providing for their child's basic needs. These basic needs include: Food, water, clothes, love and attention, good hygiene, medical care and an education.
- Children have a right to their own privacy. No one should touch a child on the private parts of their body in a way that makes them feel scared or uncomfortable.
- Emotional abuse is a pattern of behavior that affects the way a child thinks and feels. Emotional abuse includes name-calling, belittling, ignoring, threats, and profanity. Some indicators of emotional abuse are: ulcers, habit disorders, and poor self-esteem.
- If a child witnesses or is aware of verbal or physical violence between his/her mother and father it is considered abuse and is against the law.
- If parents discipline their children by spanking and the result leaves a bruise or a mark, it is considered child abuse and is against the law.



2955 Harrison Blvd., Suite 104  
Ogden, UT 84403  
801-393-3366  
[www.preventchildabuseutah.org](http://www.preventchildabuseutah.org)