

## I BELIEVE A CHILD IS 'AT RISK' OF HARM ...

"Who can I tell?"

"What should I do?"



### WANT MORE INFORMATION?

#### Safe Place Services (Adventist Church)

Australia 1800 220 468 or New Zealand 0800 442 458 or website  
[www.safeplaceservices.org.au](http://www.safeplaceservices.org.au)

**ACT—Office for Children, Youth & Family Support** 1300 556 729

**NSW—Community Services** 132 111

**NT—Department of Health & Families** 1800 700 250

**NZ—Child, Youth & Families (CYFs New Zealand)** 0508 326 459

**QLD—Department of Child Safety** 1800 811 810 (for details of nearest Local Office) or 1800 177 135 (after hours)

**SA—Families SA Child Abuse Report Line** 131 478

**TAS—Department of Health & Human Services Child Protection Intake** 1300 737 639

**VIC—Department of Human Services** 1300 650 172 or 131 278 after hours

**WA—Department of Child Protection** 08 9222 2555 during office hours; Perth after hours 08 9325 1111; Regional after hours 1800 199 008



Local Conference Safe-Place Coordinator:



## Responding to Kids 'At Risk'



Seventh-day Adventist Churches  
of Australia and New Zealand

## WHO CAN I TELL?

If you reasonably suspect that a child (any person under 18 years) is at risk of abuse or harm please tell the local church *Safe Place Coordinator*, or *someone* in leadership that you trust and is available, such as the *pastor*.

If a child is in danger, or where a crime — on face value — has been alleged, the matter should be report to local Police and to the State/Territory/Country *Child Protection Service* in your region (see list on back page).

## DISCLOSURE

If someone tells you that they have been abused remember:

**Listen** ... and do not add anything to what the child says

**Reassure** ... the child that they have done the right thing in speaking to you

**Inform** ... the child that you need to tell people who can help

**Ensure** ... that the child is not in immediate danger

**Act** ... by reporting the matter to authorities

**Don't** ... start an investigation into the information

**Don't** ... promise the child that the abuse will stop

**Don't** ... tell anyone who does not need to know

**Don't** ... appear shocked to the child



## REMEMBER

**You don't have to prove that a child is being abused, only report your concern of risk or possible harm.**

**The Church requires concerns to be reported since this is in the 'best interests' of the child.**

## REPORTING & SEEKING ADVICE

### When to report?

You should report as soon as possible if you believe or suspect that a child has been (or is at risk of) abuse, harm or neglect

### Who reports?

Anyone can make a report by calling the Government Helplines that are listed on the back page.

It is the local Church *Safe Place Coordinator's* role to ensure that reports are made on matters within the local Church. If you make a report direct to the Government Help line, advise the local Church *Safe Place Coordinator* so that they can keep a log of the local Church's response.

If you are unsure if a situation should be reported, call *Safe Place Services* or the Conference *Safe Place Coordinator* to discuss if a report should be made (see list on back page).

### How to report

Each State/Territory/Country Helpline has trained workers to help you make a report.

### Note about emergencies ...

You should contact Police in an emergency by phoning 000 in Australia or 111 in New Zealand.