



NEGLECT and PHYSICAL ABUSE

NEGLECT (about 60% of the abuse reported)

- results from acts or omissions that harm or threaten to harm the child's health or welfare by the person responsible for the child's welfare
- includes intentional or negligent failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care or supervision
- may result in severe malnutrition or medically diagnosed non-organic failure to thrive
- is not failure to provide the necessities of life because of poverty or cultural norms

PHYSICAL ABUSE (about 19% of reports)

- is any willfully inflicted physical injury (even if the abuser did not intend to harm the child)
- includes corporal punishment resulting in a traumatic condition (i.e., injury from spanking that requires medical or psychological treatment is considered outside the realm of normal disciplinary measures).
- does not include spanking that is reasonable and age-appropriate and does not expose the child to risk of injury
- may result from over-discipline or physical punishment that is inappropriate to the child's age or condition
- may be a single episode or repeated episodes and range in severity