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**A Better Way**  
Education & Support

We are a Christian organization that equips trusted adults in children's lives with the tools to recognize and respond to potential and actual child sexual abuse.

### Contact Us

[www.abetterway.org](http://www.abetterway.org)  
[info@abetterway.org](mailto:info@abetterway.org)

740-847-1001

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# Terms Used When Reporting Abuse

## Mandatory Reporting

A mandated reporter is a person who, because of his or her job or role in the community, is legally required to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect to the relevant authorities.

This means that a police officer, teacher, doctor, or any other professional in a place where they encounter children as part of their job, has to try to help you if they think you are being hurt or need help from another adult.

### **Examples of mandated reporters:**

Bishops, ministers, deacons, pastors, social workers, teachers, healthcare workers (doctors, nurses), childcare providers, law-enforcement (police), mental health professionals (therapists), educators (teachers), spiritual counselors and other medical professionals.

## Moral Reporting

**Anyone can report a crime to the police if they think something bad is happening.**

## Sworn statement

**A document that has important facts for legal proceedings.**

## Perpetrator

**Person who does a harmful, illegal, or wrong act.**

## Survivor

**A person who has experienced harm, or a bad thing happening to them, and is healing from it.**

## Victim

**A person hurt, harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other bad thing.**

## Rape

**Sex (intercourse) with no consent.**

## Incest

**Sex (intercourse) between persons who are closely related.**

### **Examples:**

*A parent and their son or daughter*

*A step-parent and their stepson or stepdaughter*

*Siblings*

*Grandparents and their grandchildren*

*Uncles/aunts and their nephews/nieces*

## Molestation

**Harming, hurting, or making unwanted or unwelcome sexual touching, talking or any other sexual acts.**

### **Examples:**

Touching the "ausch or hinnaent" (ass, butt or hind end) of a person without consent.

Touching the "brust" (chest) of a child or adult without consent.

## Sexual Assault

**is sex (intercourse), sexual touching, or any kind of sexual behavior that happens without the consent of the victim.**

### **Examples:**

Trying to rape someone.

Fondling, groping, grabbing, or any unwanted or unsafe sexual touching.

Forcing or making someone do sex (intercourse) or any sexual acts, such as oral sex (blow job in the mouth) sodomy, anal (rectal) sex, etc, or making you penetrate the perpetrator's body in any way.

## Penetration

Penetration (putting something inside someone's body, no matter where, how long, or how slight) of the victim's body. This is also rape.

## Victim Blaming and Shaming:

Thinking that the person who was hurt (the **victim**), instead of the person who hurt them (the perpetrator), is the reason for the incident/crime. **Victim-blaming** happens when a person is held responsible for the harm that happened to them.

Blaming and **shaming** happens when someone says that the victim must have done something, said something, or even dressed in a way that made something bad happen.

### **Examples:**

Saying the clothes someone was wearing invited someone to have sex (intercourse) with them.

Claiming that someone was "flirting" and that caused someone to have sex (intercourse) with them.

Making a victim think that these things would not have happen if they had truly believed or prayed.

Stating that someone was "net chite" (Not modest or proper enough) "zu laut" (is too loud) "lacht zu" (laughs too much) "schwetz zu fiel mit die Buvwe" (talks too much to the boys).