

Guide to the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

Paicabi, Chile

THE TOOL

Paicabi's Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Initiative works to shed light on the often hidden issues related to child sexual abuse and the violation of children's rights. Their Guide to Child Sexual Abuse Prevention is aimed at social actors working with children and young people between the ages of 6 and 11, be they teachers, supervisors, or parents themselves.

The first section of the Guide explores five key concepts:

- i) What is child sexual abuse?
- ii) Risk factors leading to the occurrence of child sexual abuse.
- iii) What happens to a child who is a victim of sexual abuse?
- iv) Who sexually abuses children?
- v) What are some common misconceptions with regards to child sexual abuse?

The second section describes the methodological foundations for a child sexual abuse prevention programme, covering the following three axes:

- i) Child sexual abuse.
- ii) Child sexual education.
- iii) Self-care among children.

The final section outlines the work of Paicabi's educational unit in prevention of child sexual abuse. This involves workshops on the following topics (each of which is accompanied by workshop materials):

- i) Learning about child sexual abuse (a workshop aimed at parents and/or guardians).
- ii) That's the way I am... child sexual education (aimed at children aged between 7 and 10).
- iii) Child self-care (aimed at parents and/or guardians).

IMPLEMENTATION

Facilitators (often school teachers) implement the teachings of the Guide within their schools, by delivering workshops. Paicabi has traditionally trained teachers to implement the work, but over time the delivery of that training support to schools has moved over to private consultants.

Through workshops aimed respectively at children and their parents or guardians, Paicabi generates a conversation about child sexual abuse within schools and the wider community. This conversation is cross-generational.

“ Paicabi generates a conversation about child sexual abuse within schools and the wider community, across generations.”

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OUTCOMES

- 1 The Guide has been influential in creating a conversation in public schools regarding prevention of child sexual abuse.
- 2 Schools now have access to materials aimed at children, teachers and parents.
- 3 The Guide has drawn interest from across regions. For example, organisations in Mexico, Colombia and Ecuador have adapted the materials to their own contexts. Paicabi welcomes interest from other organisations in adapting the Guide.

CHALLENGES

For the educational work in schools to be effective, training of facilitators (e.g. school teachers) is essential. They need a strong understanding of the subject.

When considering adaptation, it is important to build a deep understanding of the context, the target audience, and their interests and motivations.

THE LOCAL CONTEXT

According to UNICEF's 2017 Survey on Violence and Abuse, 71% of children in Chile report having been victims of violence and 8.7% report having been victims of domestic sexual abuse. The rate of conviction of sexual crimes in Chile is only 11%.

ABOUT PAICABI

The NGO Paicabi has been working across Chile since 1996 to address the most serious rights violations that affect children, and sexual abuse is at the forefront of these violations.

Paicabi has developed models for working with children who have suffered abuse, including sexual abuse, social exclusion and commercial sexual exploitation. They run 25 programmes in three regions reaching 2,000 children a month with a staff of 400. They are part of a government committee on child rights and child protection and several national and international networks. They also work with schools, family courts and communities.

Find out more about Paicabi: www.paicabi.cl

Or contact Valeria Arredondo, Directora Área Gestión Técnica: valeria.arredondo@paicabi.cl

FURTHER INFORMATION

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