

TALKING WITH A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING?

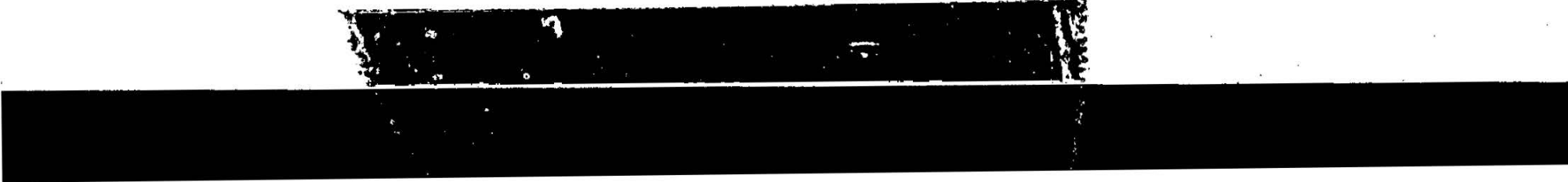
IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE

But the child or the young person has not told anyone, be aware of the emotional distress that the child may be experiencing. Approach the child or young person in a caring and sensitive manner and assure him or her that you are willing to listen and to help if there is a problem he or she needs your help with.

WHEN A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON TELLS YOU HE OR SHE HAS BEEN ABUSED.....

Remain calm and in control of your feelings so as to reassure the child or young person that something will be done to keep him or her safe.

Use: Get It Right.



YOU CAN SHOW YOU CARE AND CONCERN BY:

- . Listening carefully to what he or she is saying;
- . ✓ Telling the child or young person you believe him or her;
- . ✓ Telling him or her it is not his or her fault and he or she is not responsible for the abuse
- . ✓ Telling the child or young person you are pleased he or she told you
- . ✓ Listening patiently. Do not press for information or ask leading questions
- . ✓ Letting the child or young person know you are prepared to help - Don't promise not to tell.

Do not criticize the perpetrator.

YOU MAY CHOOSE TO TELL THE CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON THAT YOU ^{what} ~~WILL MAKE A REPORT TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES SO THAT~~ ^{intend to do} ~~THEY CAN HELP STOP THE ABUSE.~~)