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PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS - HOW TO TAKE ACTION IN THE EVENT OF ABUSE



B&B Hotel Ljubljana Park

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS - HOW TO TAKE ACTION IN THE EVENT OF ABUSE

At the B&B Hotel Ljubljana Park, we are committed to respecting children's rights. Therefore, we raise awareness among employees on how to identify and prevent various forms of violence against children.

RECOGNIZING ABUSE

What is psychological violence against children?

- Deliberately belittling, insulting and other forms of abusive behaviour towards a child that affect their self-respect and self-esteem.
- Neglecting a child's emotional needs, emotional warmth, not responding to a child's emotional distress, refusing support in circumstances that a child cannot cope with alone.
- Setting work and behavioural requirements that exceed a child's abilities.
- Conditioning love, for example, parents love a child when the child behaves the way they want, otherwise they do not like or reject the child.
- Depriving a child of developing into an independent, unique personality and developing his or her potential.
- Rejection and unfair behaviour in comparison to siblings.
- Not responding to a child's needs and withholding attention when a child is in trouble or in distress.
- Ridicule, slander of a child, use of degrading terms, public humiliation, attribution of negative traits.
- Causing fear, disciplining by bullying, threatening with physical assault.
- Leaving a small child alone.
- Isolation of a child, solitary confinement, locking in rooms, ban on contact with adults or peers.
- Forcing a child to observe violence or engage in violent situations. Use of a child as a means of blackmail among adults.

What is physical violence or child abuse?

Physical violence is any form of corporal punishment, even one that leaves no visible consequences on the body. Any violence has consequences on the child's psyche and is unjustifiable.

When can we suspect that a child experienced physical violence?

- when a child repeatedly has wounds, bruises and burns on the body,
- when a child refuses to talk about injuries or makes up strange stories about how they got them,
- when an adult explains a child's injuries with stories that seem strange or too frequent,
- when a child is afraid that someone would talk to their parents about the injuries,
- when they have bruises on soft parts of the body that could be caused by biting, pinching,
- when a child is afraid to go home,
- when a child shows self-destructive tendencies,
- when a child uses violence against other children and has other behavioural problems,
- when a child runs away from home.

What is child sexual abuse?

Sexual abuse or sexual assault on a child is the exploitation of a child in sexual activities with an adult or a person older than the child. In doing so, a child is abused as a sexual object to satisfy the sexual needs or desires of these persons. Due to the unequal power in the relationship between the child and the other person, the child does not have the possibility to refuse sexual activity directed at them.

It is the responsibility of all adults to respect and protect the sexual integrity of children.

We talk about child sexual abuse when an adult or an elderly person directs his/her activities towards the child in such a way that:

- contact between the genitals of the adult and the genitals of the child occurs;
- touching of child's breasts or genitals in any socially unacceptable circumstances occurs;
- the child is forced or otherwise manipulated to touch the intimate parts of the older person's body;
- an adult intentionally exposes their intimate parts of the body in circumstances that are unusual for such behaviour (e.g. not when washing, dressing, ...);
- an adult intentionally encourages a child to reveal his or her genitals in inappropriate circumstances or when it is unusual;
- there is any other form of physical contact or forcing a child into other activities.

Every child can be a victim of sexual abuse. Adults need to create a safe place for children to be able to speak about things, they are afraid to talk about. Ignoring the possibility of sexual abuse of a child creates opportunities for new abuse of the same child and other children.

Children, especially small ones, do not lie about abuse. It is more important to help them immediately than to find out if they are lying.

HOW TO ACT

- It is important that you respond calmly and thus strengthen the child's self-confidence and trust in you.
- It is important to trust the child. Do not interrogate, do not ask questions that express doubt. Express interest.
- Emphasize that the child is not to blame for the violence.
- Praise the child for talking about the experience of violence. It takes a lot of courage to do that.
- Tell the child how you will take action and explain to the child why it is important that you take action. In doing so, don't promise the child things you won't be able to do.

Take action! Inform your superior about the violence as soon as possible or go immediately to the reception, where they will take appropriate action and inform the competent authorities immediately.

Do not try to solve the situation yourself (by talking to the parents or otherwise).

CONTACT NUMBERS

- Police: Intervention telephone number 113
- Anonymous phone 080 - 1200



Duchini

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