

What to do

WHEN A CHILD TELLS YOU HE/SHE IS RAPED?

LISTEN

Give the children time and space to speak. Do not interrupt them. Do not use phrases such as “You should not say things like that” because it will stop them from opening up. Support them and give them your full attention – it’s not easy for them to speak up as the abuser may have threatened them.

BELIEVE THE CHILD

Children rarely invent stories of abuse. If they hesitate to tell, it is because of fear that they will not be believed. Believing the child is a major step in helping him or her overcome the trauma from abuse.

BE CALM

Children are generally sensitive to your reactions. The child might interpret your anger or disgust over the incident as anger or disgust towards him or her. Remaining calm will help minimize the child’s tendency to feel “different” as a result of the abuse.

NEVER BLAME

Never blame, punish or embarrass the child.

BE AFFIRMING

Abused children are often worried, confused, or may deny their feelings as result of manipulation by the abusers.

BE SUPPORTIVE

Often, a sexually abused child feels all alone, thinking no one else has gone through what he/she did or nobody will believe her/him. Talking about the abuse can be as traumatic as the abuse itself. Reassure them by saying “I’m here to help you” or “I’ll get through this with you.”

Source: Center for the Prevention & Treatment of Child Sexual Abuse

WHAT IS CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE?



The sexual abuse of children is any act of any person using the child for sexual gratification



Child is any person under the age of 18





Sex with any child under the age of 12 is considered statutory rape



Sexual abuse is referred to as incest when the offender is within the same family as his or her victim

WHERE TO ASK FOR HELP

 **CAMELEON Association Inc.**
Brgy. Sablogon, 5037, Passi City,
Iloilo, Philippines

 (033) 311-5575
(033) 329-2309

 www.cameleon-association.org

 www.facebook.com/cameleonphilis/

 www.instagram.com/cameleonphilippines/

Report the crime to the following
agencies in your town/city:

 Philippine National Police (Women
and Children Protection Desk)

 City/Municipal Social Welfare and
Development Office

 Barangay Officials



ANYBODY CAN BE A VICTIM OF RAPE.

According to the

ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997

Rape is committed under the following circumstances:

1

A man has sexual intercourse with a woman:

Through force, threat or intimidation

When the victim is deprived of reason or is unconscious

Through fraudulent machination or grave abuse of authority; and

When the victim is under 12 years of age or is demented, even if none of the above conditions are present.

2

Any person who, under any of the above conditions, commits an act of sexual assault through oral or anal sex or by inserting an instrument or object into the anal or genital orifice of another person.

Characteristics of a

SEXUAL OFFENDER

Offenders can be acquaintances of the victims or those whom children trust. They can be a relative, a helper or a neighbor.

A sexual offender can be an older person or a child, man or a woman.

Victims may be at risk of becoming offenders if not given proper intervention.

You can never tell by looking at someone if he or she is a sexual offender.

PENALTIES FOR OFFENDERS

Reclusion perpetua

(imprisonment from 20 to 40 years) is imposed on the offender if rape is committed through sexual intercourse.

Prision mayor

(imprisonment from 6 to 12 years) is imposed on the offender if rape was committed through oral or anal sex or through the use of any object or instrument that was inserted into another person's mouth or anal orifice. This may also be elevated to reclusion temporal (imprisonment from 12 to 20 years) or reclusion perpetua depending on the circumstances surrounding the crime.

