

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Spokane County

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Hitting, kicking, punching, beating, pushing, shoving, throwing, pulling, dragging, dropping, shaking, strangling, smothering, burning, etc.

SEXUAL ABUSE

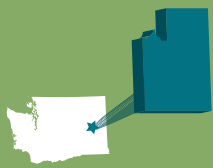
Any completed or attempted sexual act with, sexual contact with, or exploitation of, a child by a caregiver.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Any blaming, belittling, degrading, intimidating, terrorizing, isolating, corrupting, exploiting, etc., that is harmful to child's developmental needs.

NEGLECT

Fails to provide adequate nutrition, hygiene, or shelter; fails to ensure appropriate supervision by an adequate substitute caregiver, etc.



IN SPOKANE COUNTY

5,431

victims of child abuse, Spokane County 2015. This is significantly higher than Washington's rate and similar counties'.



Students with abuse history were **2.4** times more likely to be failing in school and **4.3** times more likely to report a low quality of life.

CALL TO ACTION



It is critical that Spokane's **RISK FACTORS** that trigger violence against children are attended to through prevention, with an emphasis on **PROTECTIVE FACTORS**, ultimately helping to mitigate negative impacts to health and well-being.



RISK FACTORS are circumstances that significantly increase the likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors or experiencing negative outcomes. Specific risk factors for child maltreatment include: alcohol and drug use, beliefs that justify violence, history of experiencing poor parenting or abuse, poverty, non-biological caregivers (i.e. mother's boyfriend), lack of employment opportunities, poor social connections and many more.



PROTECTIVE FACTORS Conversely, "protective factors" are any factors or circumstances that promote healthy behaviors and significantly decrease the likelihood of an individual engaging in risky behaviors or experiencing negative outcomes. Protective factors provide a buffer against becoming violent or perpetuating violence.

HEART EMOJI EMPHASIS ON PROTECTIVE FACTORS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN HEART EMOJI

PROTECTIVE FACTORS IN RELATIONSHIPS

- ▶ Strong social support (numerous, strong relationships with people of diverse social/economic backgrounds)
- ▶ Good parenting skills (positivity, having fun together, responding to children's needs consistently)
- ▶ Family support (stable relationships, connectedness)
- ▶ Parental employment, adequate housing

PROTECTIVE FACTORS IN THE COMMUNITY

- ▶ Community functionality (greater collective efficacy, support for parents and parents taking responsibility)
- ▶ Easy access to effective health services (social services; care for mental, physical, and substance abuse)