

Agenda - Objectives

- Understand the primary objectives of the Safe Sport Act
- Recognize the opportunities to take prevention steps
- Understand adults' roles in prevention
- Build your knowledge about sexual abuse
- Increase understanding of the mandatory reporting process
- Identify key policies and practices
- **❖** Practice self-care

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Ground Rules

- Take care of yourself
- Full participation to the extent you feel able and comfortable
- Use "I" statements
- No such thing as a stupid question
- Stay afterwards if you want to talk privately
- Respect privacy

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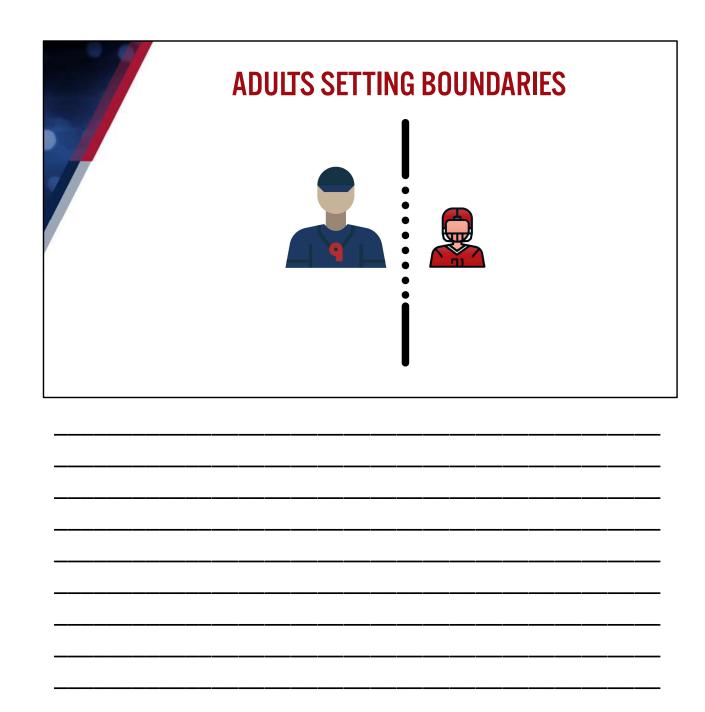
AGENDA - OBJECTIVES • Understand the primary objectives of the Safe Sport Act • Recognize the opportunities to take prevention steps • Understand adults' roles in prevention • Build your knowledge about sexual abuse • Increase understanding of the mandatory reporting process • Identify key policies and practices **❖ Practice self-care**

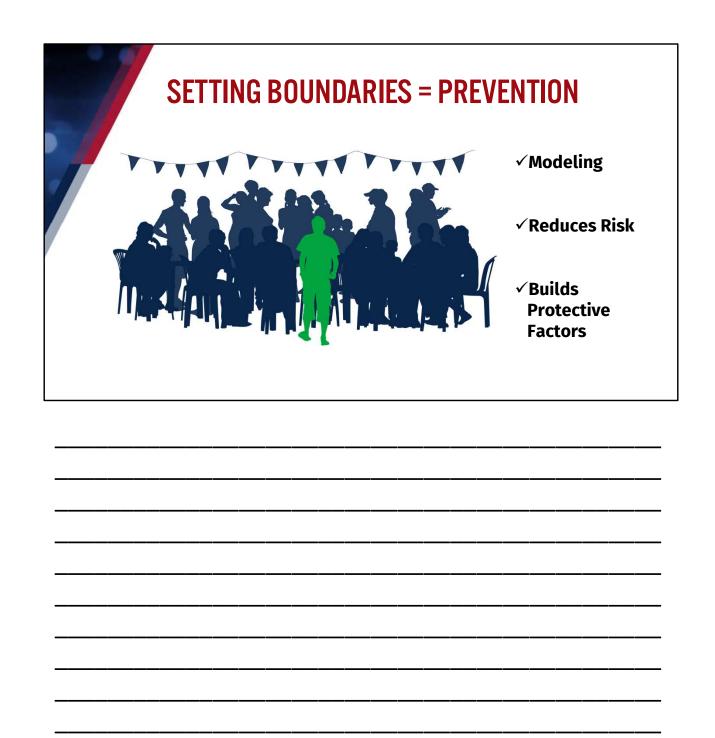
KEY CONCEPTS FOR PREVENTION

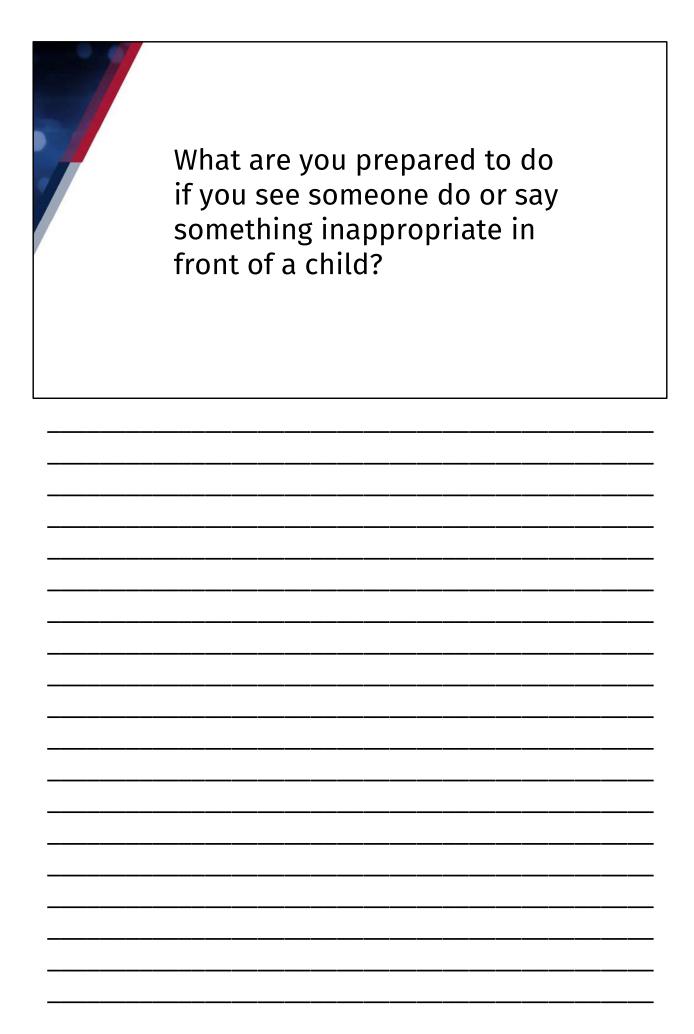
- HOPE
- ADULTS ARE RESPONSIBLE
- Learn about sex abuse
- Plan for safety
- Promote healthy sexuality development

- Recognize and respond
- Develop confidence
- Take action speak up
- Implement prevention focused, effective policies and procedures

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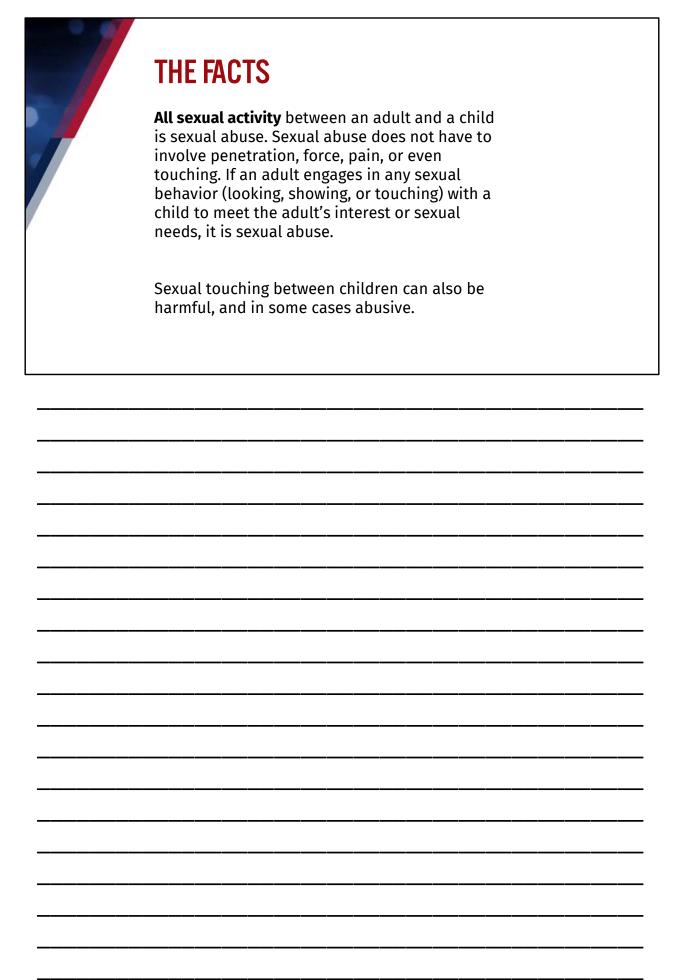


PREVENTION TASK

- Provide a safe environment
- Recognize developmentally appropriate practice and exploration
- Be a safe person
- Provide accurate information
- Teach and model consent
- Identify and model boundaries



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THE SCOPE OF SEXUAL ABUSE



1 in 10 adults report having been sexually abused as a child.



Up to 90% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child knows. More than 50% is by a parent or another relative.



70-77% of sexual abuse or assault is at the hands of other juveniles.

of children who are sexually abused do not disclose.

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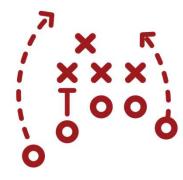
SAFE SPORT POLICIES

- Limit one-on-one interactions between minor athletes and adults at facilities/events that are not observable and interruptible
- All adult members in regular contact with youth athletes complete abuse awareness training and go through background checks
- All adults who interact with youth athletes are required to act as a mandated reporter, and youth sport organizations must provide a mechanism for communication without retaliation

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KEY POLICIES

- Responding to Abuse
- USA Football Sexual Misconduct
- 1:1 Policy



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RESPONDING TO DISCLOSURES

- •Stay calm
- Let the child know you believe them
- Do not investigate
- Report



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REPORTING

- Why, When, Who
 - Childwelfare.gov
 - Childhelp (800.422.4453)
- The process
- Proof is not needed!
- What happens next?
 - abuse@usafootball.com



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BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

- Not sure what to do
- "I could be wrong"
- "Not my job"
- Cultural norms
- Fear of retaliation
- Lack of information



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SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

Types of sexual misconduct include:

- 1. Sexual assault
- 2. Sexual harassment
- 3. Sexual abuse
- 4. Any other sexual intimacies that exploit an athlete

Minors cannot consent to sexual activity with an adult, and all sexual interaction between an adult and a minor is strictly prohibited.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT EXAMPLES

- Touching an athlete's breasts, buttocks, or genitals, or having an athlete touch a coach's breasts, buttocks or genitals
- Sexual relations or intimacies between persons in a position of trust, authority and/or evaluative and supervisory control over athletes or other sport participants
- Asking or making an athlete touch another athlete sexually
- A coach discussing their sex life with an athlete, or asking about an athlete's sex life
- A coach requesting or sending a nude or partially dressed photo to athlete
- Exposing athletes to pornographic material

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SEXUAL MISCONDUCT EXAMPLES

- Sending athletes sexually explicit or suggestive electronic or written messages or photos (e.g. "sexting")
- Deliberately exposing an athlete to sexual acts
- Deliberately exposing an athlete to nudity
 - Except in situations where athletes need to change together, i.e. locker rooms, and coaches should never change while with youth
- Sexual harassment; specifically, the sexual solicitation, physical advances, or verbal or nonverbal conduct that is sexual in nature, and
 - (i) is unwelcome, offensive or creates a hostile environment, and the offending individual knows or is told this or
 - (ii) is sufficiently severe or intense to be harassing to a reasonable person in the context

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SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY VIOLATIONS: ON THE FIELD

Coach A said to an athlete, "You looked great on the field today – and I bet your girlfriend is going to get 'lucky' tonight too. How far have you gotten with her? I bet she's an easy win, if you know what I mean!"

Coach B slapped an athlete's buttocks "in jest" after telling them to hurry up and get onto the field.

Coach C huddles the team around their phone, showing athletes "who they're playing for today" – and what they share with the athletes is a pornographic picture of a naked adult.

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1:1 POLICY

All coaches and volunteers are to observe the following guidelines when meeting with an athlete:

- Any individual meeting should occur when others are present and where interactions can be easily observed
- 2. Where possible, an individual meeting should take place in a publicly visible and open area
- 3. If an individual meeting is to take place in an office, the door should remain unlocked and open
- 4. If a closed-door meeting is necessary, staff must inform another staff member and ensure the door remains unlocked

Individual Training
Sessions: An individual
training session(s) with
an athlete or participant
may also be desired
or necessary. Under
these circumstances,
USA Football encourages
parents or guardians of a
minor athlete to attend
the training session.

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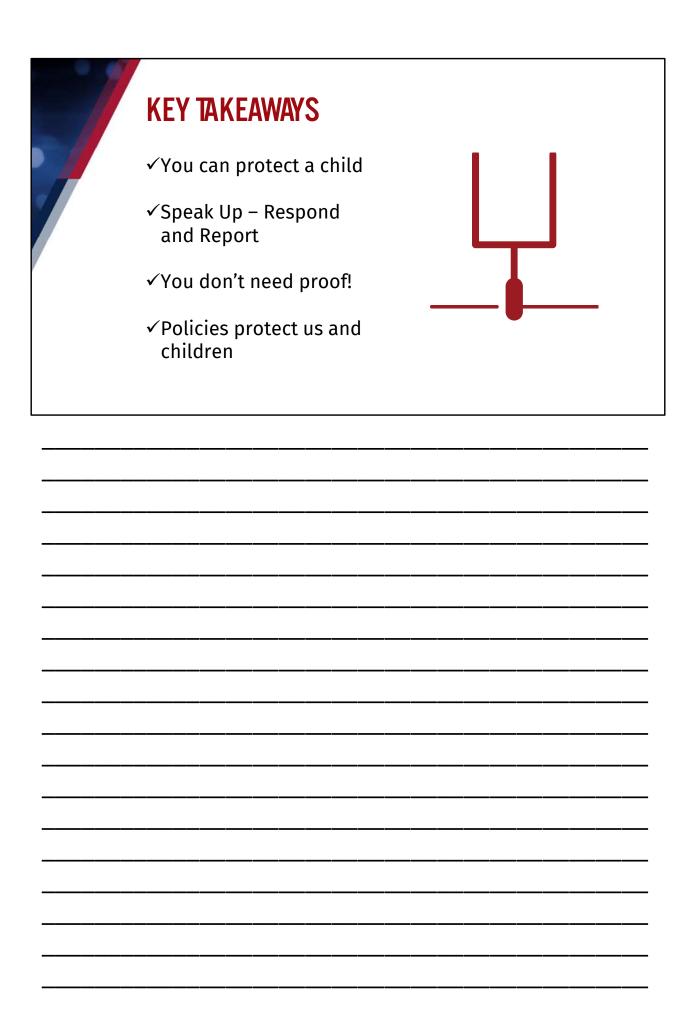
VIOLATING THE 1:1 POLICY. ON THE FIELD

Coach A invited an athlete to talk about training exercises that may help them improve. They brought the athlete to their office alone and closed the door without telling another staff they're doing this.

Coach B needed to leave early and told the quarterback to take over and run drills for the team for the remainder of practice that day.

Coach C told another staff that they needed to talk privately with an athlete, but then locked the door behind the athlete so that the athlete understood that they can both "talk freely" without worry of being overheard.

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THANK YOU!

usaf@stopitnow.org stopitnow.org/usaf Helpline: **1.888.PREVENT**





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