



## Teaching Children about Unsafe Touch

One in four girls and one in six boys are sexually abused.

We have responsibility to teach children how to stay safe around farm machinery or a hot stove. Similarly, we must also teach them how to stay safe from sexual harm. This includes harm by an adult, or someone near the same age who is in a position of power over a child, such as an older sibling or cousin.

### **Here are some tips for talking with your children about unsafe touch:**

“The parts of our bodies covered by a bathing suit are private. If someone touches you there, it is NOT safe touch. No one should ever:

- Touch or ask to look at your private parts.
- Ask you to touch or look at their private parts.
- Show you a picture of anyone’s private parts.
- Ask you to play a secret game about touching or looking at private parts.
- Ask you to promise not to tell about anything to do with private parts

Tell an older person you trust if any of these things happen, or you feel worried, scared or not sure about someone breaking these safety rules. If they do not help you and keep you safe, find another older person to tell. **It is NOT YOUR FAULT if someone else breaks the rules.**”

**Ask a parent, teacher or other older person you trust to call Childline at 1-800-932-0313.**

This message is brought to you by the Plain Communities Task Force. If you have questions or would like to receive material for teaching children, contact Linda or Andrea at 717-560-9989 or Mary at 717-627-1611.

