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**Protecting God’s Children®**

**A Time to Protect God’s Children™**

**What were your reactions to the video?**

**How did the abuse affect the victims?**

**What are some of the reasons that children don’t tell anyone about being abused?**

**How common is child sexual abuse?**

**What did you learn about the molesters?**

**What are some of the safety concerns regarding young people, electronic devices, and the Internet?**

**A Plan to Protect God’s Children™**

**Step 1 – KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS of a potential molester’s behavior.**

What are some of the possible behavioral warning signs of an individual exhibiting inappropriate behavior?

**Step 2 – CONTROL ACCESS THROUGH SCREENING so predators are not with our children.**

What are some of the ways we can control access to our children?

**Step 3 – MONITOR ALL MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS.**

What procedures and safety measures should be in place to keep children safe in our ministries and programs?

**Step 4 – BE AWARE OF CHILD AND YOUTH BEHAVIOR.**

What are some of the ways we can stay aware of what is happening with the children and youth in our care?

**Step 5 – COMMUNICATE YOUR CONCERNS about situations that can potentially place children or youth in harm’s way.**

What are some of the ways to communicate our concerns?

**My Personal Commitment to Protecting God’s Children**

*Please take a moment to consider the following:*

**How could my parish, school, or community become safer for children, youth, and vulnerable adults?**

**Is there anything in my own behavior that I might modify for the greater protection of children?**

**What’s Next?**

**1. How do I receive credit for my attendance?**

Two items are needed to receive credit for this training: (1) your online registration and (2) your signature on the attendance sheet. If you did not pre-register online for this session, please go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). Select “Registration” on the left side and then follow the prompts. Please do this as soon as possible after this workshop.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph reviews attendance sheets and compares them to the online registrations. Once this process is completed, each person’s online registration account will be activated and approved for credit. You will receive an email with a link to print your certificate.

**2. Continue your training.**

Depending on your specific role with children and vulnerable adults, you may be required to read monthly training bulletins and recertification modules in your VIRTUS® account. This information helps you continue your training and is intended to increase your awareness about issues related to providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults.

**To learn more, you may also refer to the following resources:**

Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP) [www.kcsjocyp.org](http://www.kcsjocyp.org)

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA) [www.mocsa.org](http://www.mocsa.org)

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children [www.missingkids.com/Safety](http://www.missingkids.com/Safety)

NetSmartz [www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org)

Prevent Child Abuse America [www.preventchildabuse.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.org)

VIRTUS® *Online* (Click on the “Resources” link at the top) [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)

**Thank you for your participation in this workshop. We appreciate your commitment to keeping our parishes and schools safe for children, youth, and vulnerable adults.**

**Together we can make a difference!**

**May, 2018**