

# SAFETY OF CHILDREN — THE ADULTS' RESPONSIBILITY

Strategy and action plan against violence, abuse and sexual misconduct towards children and young people





## About the strategy plan

This strategy plan is BCC's policy document to protect children and adolescents against sexual misconduct and abuse in connection with the activities in BCC.

Additional to this policy document an action plan has also been worked out with procedures and routines to prevent and follow-up any neglect, sexual harassment and abuse.

These two booklets, "Safety of Children – the Adults' Responsibility" and "Instruction Booklet", are translations of the policy documents of Brunstad Christian Church with regard to the protection of children and adolescents in the church. They are written in accordance with Norwegian legislation as well as ethical considerations according to the teachings in the Bible concerning care and upbringing of children.

Although the latter will be consistent throughout the churches in the world affiliated to Brunstad Christian Church, every church is urged to familiarize themselves with the laws of their own country concerning child protection and exploitation of vulnerable people, including any legislation relating to equality, diversity and inclusion. Any questions arising from this can be addressed to the central resource team. Mail: [ressursteam@bcc.no](mailto:ressursteam@bcc.no)

When it concerns the issues covered in this instruction booklet, it is important to understand that the treatment of information about people and situations relating to inappropriate behaviour is extremely sensitive.

Information must therefore be handled in strict confidentiality, in accordance with the Data Protection Act, and in line with the appropriate guidance issued by BCC.

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# BCC POLICY FOR THE WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Introduction

Brunstad Christian Church (BCC) offers a rich variety of activities for children and young people. We desire at all times to meet all children with an upright and qualified care in all the work we do. Our moral objective with each activity we offer is that all children and young people should be able to realize their personal potential for growth and development. We take our responsibility for protecting and maintaining their well-being seriously and are obliged to:

- Respect the individuality of children and adolescents, value them and listen to them, and ensure a safe environment for their physical and psychological wellbeing whilst participating in the activities of the church.
- Ensure that those who work with children and adolescents receive instruction in responsible care and inclusion and also on-going guidance.

The number of children and young people in BCC is steadily growing, making it necessary to have a clear policy which emphasizes our zero tolerance for abuse and unacceptable behaviour in any form. Abuse against children is illegal and punishable, but first and foremost a breach of Christian ethical principles and all that we as a church stand for. It would be abuse of confidence in a relationship to people who have a right to individual care if responsible activity leaders violate the integrity of children and adolescents. BCC will in no way tolerate, hide or cover such behaviour. On the contrary – we will follow up and be prepared to prevent and disclose any abuse. Even if we both hope and take precautions so our children should never be exposed to abuse, we cannot be naïve and think that such things could not happen in our church.

Furthermore, in Norway we are clearly obligated to adhere to Norwegian legislation, and will cooperate with public authorities in their search/investigation should there be suspicion of abuse and we are asked for assistance. BCC can neither tolerate, belittle, tone down nor silence abuse and harassment within its own ranks.



In this booklet we have gathered up-to-date knowledge in order to be aware of, and guide church members about, how to behave and relate to children and adolescents. It is fundamentally vital that we are in a position to prevent, identify and stop any activity which can be potentially damaging to children or young people, and avoid situations where abuse and misconduct could happen. The booklet should be used both as a knowledge-base in considering risk factors in the work with children and adolescents in church-related activities, and as a help when incidents arise in such eventualities.

Neglect and abuse within the family are not within the mandate of this strategy plan. BCC places great emphasis on the development of a happy family life and optimal conditions for the healthy formative development of children and adolescents. Even if the minimum criteria for a healthy family life, which the laws of the country require all citizens to fulfil, are also values BCC requires to be fulfilled by everyone associated with the church, BCC has no authority or responsibility within the private sphere of family life. All parents are personally responsible, as Norwegian citizens, according to Norwegian legislation and to the authorities.

# SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ABUSE

## Definitions, terminology and legal clarifications

Sexual violations and abuse is defined in professional literature and placed in the right setting in the Norwegian Criminal Law Chapter 19 (1902 – Sexual Crimes), and in Chapter 26 (2005 - Sexual Violations) and the Children's Act. (See references on the penultimate page).

In addition, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 'The Children Act' and 'The Child Welfare Act' make the framework for and define behavioural concepts and the child's need for protection. With reference to professional and legal principles, BCC has zero-tolerance to inappropriate sexual behaviour and abuse, both in physical and verbal forms.

In addition to this, the professional description of the term 'Sexual abuse' is based on the supplement to the knowledge formulated by Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies: nkvt.no.

The term 'children' below includes both children and adolescents.

## Legal definition

The legal definition of sexual abuse against children in Norway is expressed in the Criminal Law/ Penal code, Chapter 19 (The Criminal Law – 2005 edition) about sexual crimes.

There are a number of specific regulations regarding abuse against children.

The law prohibits:

- Sexually abusive or other indecent behaviour
- Sexual activity or intercourse with children

Sexually abusive or other indecent behaviour could be, for example, exposing oneself, making a child show its genitals, or making suggestions about sex. By sexual activity is meant, for example, touching of breasts or genitals, while sexual intercourse is concerned with penetrative sex or similar acts.

The punishment connected to sexual intercourse is greater than for sexual activity, which in turn is greater than for sexual indecency. The so-called 'Rape paragraph' (Criminal law pg. 192) will, in many cases, not be relevant in cases of sexual abuse against children because most often it is not 'necessary' for the perpetrator to use violence or threats to obtain sexual intercourse.

As earlier mentioned: every church is urged to familiarize themselves with the laws of their own country concerning child protection and exploitation of vulnerable people, including any legislation relating to equality, diversity and inclusion.

### **Age of consent**

The age of consent to sexual relations is 16 years. The penalty increases if the child is under 14 years. Concerning sexual intercourse it is even more serious if the child is under 10 years and if the abuse has been repeated.

Concerning images (e.g. photos or videos) of sexual abuse against children or images that sexualise children, it is punishable to be involved with this, if the child is or appears to be under 18 years old. Sexual intercourse or acts for profit with a person under 18 years is also punishable.

### **The perpetrator's relationship to the victim**

The law also makes distinctions if the abuse is carried out by someone related to the child, if the child is under the abuser's authority (e.g. foster-child, step-child or a child in institutional care) or if the abuser is a stranger.

Regardless of age, incest is illegal – that is to have sexual intercourse with someone in a lineal relationship. Relatives in linear line downwards includes biological and adopted descendants. Sexual intercourse with brother or sister is punishable if the persons are over 18 years. (Norwegian penal code §198)

According to many judicial decisions, punishment may be rescinded or reduced if those concerned are approximately of the same age and development.



# Social-psychological definition

Basic elements in many of the definitions put forth in social-professional, psychological and sociological professional literature about sexual abuse towards children have been:

- It is an act that the child cannot understand, for which it is not yet mature, and cannot give informed consent to
- The act violates the child's integrity
- The adult takes advantage of the child's dependence and/or his own position of power
- The act is based primarily on the need of the adult
- The activity breaks with social taboos within the family, or the relevant culture, or is illegal

It has also been emphasised that the abuse situation contains aspects of violence, force or threats, or that the child is seduced. Many of the most used social-psychological definitions say nothing concrete about what the sexual act comprises, so they are not accompanied by exhaustive lists of examples of abuse. The definitions will, therefore, more easily embrace the enormous variety of abuses carried out towards children, which can be difficult to imagine beforehand. The definitions may thus more easily include 'new types' of abuse that have been made possible through modern information technology – such as abuse via, or communicated via, internet or social media. In practice, this can be an advantage.

## Children abusing children

In recent years, we have become increasingly aware of undesirable sexual contacts between children of the same age and teenagers, older children abusing younger ones, and – now and then – younger ones abusing older ones. Research shows also that a not insignificant number of adult abusers committed their first abuse as a child or at a young age. Therefore, it is important to include sexual activity between children, which is not based on play or mutual agreement, but which involves an element of seduction, pressure, force, threat or violence in the definitions.

## Incest

Incest is included in the definitions above. A narrow incest definition contains sexual intercourse between children and their biological parents or grandparents or great grandparents. People also speak about 'sibling incest'. From a social-psychological point of view, one will often use an extended concept of incest that includes all who have a parental role or similar carer's role for the child.

## About definitions

In Scandinavia the debate about what would be defined as 'sexual abuse', primarily revolved around the physical character of the violence. Based mainly on the physical act, some have differentiated between 'crude' or 'serious' abuse on the one side, and 'milder' or 'trivial' abuse on the other (Sætre, 1997).



For example, an 'intercourse-like' activity is regarded as more serious than touching, which in turn is regarded as more serious than exposing oneself, harassment or posing. Implied in this has often been an understanding that the damage caused is greater than that caused by what is classified as gross abuse. The legal framework for punishment and the actual punishments given reflect a similar way of thinking. Some researchers claim that one cannot separate between serious and less serious abuse just by the nature of the act committed, but what needs to be considered is the relationship between the abuser and victim, the number of incidents of abuse and number of abusers, age, etc.

**Research reveals a complex picture** where the damage caused is dependent on far more circumstances than the actual act the child was exposed to. Some forms of abuse have also been regarded as less serious because they occur relatively often in society. Examples of these are harassment, being reprimanded, exposing, touching. To belittle the seriousness of these kinds of abuse is to exchange statistics for ethics. The fact that one type of abuse is a common occurrence cannot justify the act.

**The victim, the one violated or who has been abused**, is a term used about people who have experienced sexual abuse and/or inappropriate sexual conduct. It is of the greatest importance that the person who experienced being abused is heard and taken seriously. This means recognizing the abused person's own experience. All reports and accusations must always lead to investigation and action according to appropriate procedures and with professional insight. Consideration must always be shown to the victim by allowing him/her adequate time to process the experience of the abuse. BCC will also give confidential on-going support over time – to the victim, to the victim's family, and to those close to the victim. When something punishable according to Norwegian law has taken place, the immediate follow-up should take place in collaboration with professional bodies who may not have finalized the investigation of the case.

**The accused** is the one who is suspected of committing abuse. The term 'abuser' – or now more often used "perpetrator" - is a description used for all persons who, in their position of power, violate a fellow human being through sexual abuse or improper sexual conduct. The abuse may be directed towards children, adolescents or adults who are either in a subordinate position –or a dependent relationship towards the perpetrator. This underlines that the person in authority always carries the responsibility. The term abuser or perpetrator is also used in those cases where the other party has invited or taken the initiative for being together. It is important to stress that the accused should in no way be judged in advance before the whole picture is known and guilt is proven. The accused should always be given the opportunity to present his version; the judicial process must be conducted justly when a complaint is presented, and the rights of the accused should be maintained throughout the entire court proceedings. It is important to remember that the accused is also a fellow human being and that incidents must always be assessed in the light of the situation in which it occurred, without this reducing the seriousness of the actual incident. BCC will therefore also contribute to give the offender the help required to move on with his/her life. The family of the accused should also experience support and help from BCC.

# PREVENTION

The following points can contribute to the prevention of abuse:

## **Give and interpret the signals**

A person's integrity is his experience of wholeness, self-esteem, independence and inviolability. To respect another person's integrity is about being sensitive to and expressing caution when approaching their boundaries and need for self-protection. One thing is that ideally everybody would give clear signals about where their personal boundaries lie, but more important is to consciously respect the boundaries and personal space of one's fellow man. Inappropriate conduct abuses one's fellow man and should not be tolerated in any form. Sexual abuse has grave consequences for the one affected, even if the traumatising effect for the victim may vary. This is the case both within a family and others in one's social setting.

Experiencing abuse must be taken seriously and must be followed up with respect for the subjective experience. The one who discovers such conduct must sense a clear obligation to report what is abnormal or unhealthy.

## **Knowledge and competency**

BCC is responsible for setting ethical and moral standards for activities run by the church, and will give targeted information, instruction and draw attention to this theme, including the procedures for handling such cases, to the leaders of activities and areas of work. The same information shall be available for parents and young people. Knowing how to respond regarding abuse issues ought to be updated and maintained through contact with professional bodies within this field.

## **Police Record Check**

Everybody who in one way or other is given tasks or ministries which involve responsibility for activities among children and adolescents in BCC's church-work must have a Police Record Check.

## **Professional distance**

All co-workers in BCC's activities should perform their work and service in openness and active transparency/translucency. Close connections or isolated proximity to co-workers or participants will weaken the exercise of responsibility required to prevent unacceptable behaviour. A co-worker who is alert towards risks and protects himself against situations which are potentially unhealthy, will give himself the best protection against false accusations. Therefore, open collaboration between responsible persons in the preparation and performance of social activities is the standard in the operations of BCC.

# Confidentiality and right to inform / duty to prevent

BCC requires its employees and other dedicated co-workers to follow a duty of confidentiality and a duty of giving information in line with the Norwegian Criminal law's rules in paragraphs 144 and 139



## **a) The Norwegian Criminal law paragraph 144**

imposes that "priests or pastors (leaders) in registered denominations who illegally reveal secrets given to them or their superiors during the course of their duties, are punished with a fine or imprisonment of up to 6 months." That means that when an employee is informed that sexual abuse has taken place, he/she is bound by the duty of confidentiality as long as the victim asks for it. If the victim is under the age of sexual consent, the parents or guardian would administer the right to confidentiality.

## **b) The Norwegian Criminal law paragraph 139**

imposes the duty to inform to the same groups of employees in certain cases. This duty to prevent is without regard to confidentiality if there are reasons to believe that future abuse against children may be prevented, or by knowing of circumstances which are significant for the protection of one's fellow man or colleagues. (See the law for Health Practitioners paragraph 33). The duty to inform is not meant for acts already committed, but only to prevent future punishable acts, and this is especially relevant if children are in the danger zone. (Compare the same law's paragraphs 192 and 195). One should be certain about the facts of the situation before giving information despite the duty of confidentiality. The duty to prevent is just like the duty to inform that an independent individual has to act on his own accord, and this duty has been sharpened by a change in the law 24th May 2013. Each individual must make a concrete and informed assessment about the danger of abuse.

# RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CHURCH – UNDERSTANDING ROLES IN RELATION TO CASES OF NEGLECT AND ABUSE IN BCC

‘Sexual abuse against children’ is a very serious and complex problem in society. This action plan is a point by point presentation, according to the knowledge we have today, about how a person responsible for a church should act in order to uphold Norwegian law and to further progress in such extremely difficult cases of sexual abuse against children. The understanding that underpins this action plan is described in a separate report (dated 2nd February 1997) – the ‘FaKo-report’, and can be summarised in the following bullet points:

- BCC shall provide a safe environment for all children and everybody who sincerely seeks refuge in a time of need
- BCC will bear a special care for and defend the weakest ones
- BCC will not exclude the possibility that abuse may happen in families with some connection to BCC
- BCC takes the matter of abuse and neglect of care very seriously
- Sexual abuse of children is punishable according to Norwegian law
- It is punishable to avoid preventing sexual abuse of children
- Neglect and abuse are punishable according to Norwegian and international legislation, and must be reported, investigated and followed up by official authorities
- BCC will contribute to the best possible handling of such cases of abuse from the first instance
- BCC will collaborate with official authorities for the benefit of the case where this is required
- Neither professional nor official authorities can claim to have sufficient knowledge about these complex areas, but they have a legally binding obligation to deal with each case according to the best of their professional and judicial understanding

**Recommendations below deal with the different phases of a case of abuse:**

- a) ‘Worries / vague suspicion’
- b) ‘Suspicion’
- c) ‘Disclosure’
- d) ‘Further work with the child and the family’



# WORRIES / VAGUE SUSPICION

If the person responsible for a local church receives information that somebody is worried or has a vague suspicion that abuse is taking place, this information must be investigated more closely. But whoever receives a hint or is told in confidence about abuse must not contact the offender, regardless of his intentions. It can cause great harm to the victim and affect the further handling of the case.

In this situation it is very important to proceed with caution. Either the most important sources of information can be cut off in the further enquiry, or the concern may prove to be completely unfounded. The responsible person ought to seek advice without alluding in any way to whom the suspicion is directed. One ought not to start investigating on one's own.

One may seek advice from the 'Guidance Group for Family Conflicts' – BCC's resource team - which has knowledge about these problems and has knowledge about the laws and case management of such cases. They can give advice about further action.





There are also officially established 'Consultation Groups' or 'Resource Teams' for cases of abuse in each county in Norway. Here anyone may anonymously approach a team of professionals within the areas of child protection, the police, child and youth psychiatry, educational/psychological services and health services. In large councils such teams have been established at community level. Information about addresses can be obtained from the health/social service authorities in the community or the county.

As discretely as possible, it ought to be ensured that the child one is concerned about has a contact person who has the confidence of the child. This person ought to have natural access, but should not discuss the problem directly with the child. It is important that the contact person himself/herself has knowledge about the situation or can receive guidance about how the child can be followed up and observed. This it to grasp signals about the child's condition and needs, but the contact person should not initiate any investigations! It is important that as few as possible know whom the concern is about. Information about individual or family circumstances that various responsible persons are privy to during their work should not to be passed on unless it is required to facilitate a solution to such a very difficult situation. In most cases further disclosure of information must be done with consent.

**Remember:** It is the responsibility of the official authorities to undertake investigations and it is the Court's responsibility to determine guilt.

# SUSPICION

When information gives more concrete suspicion about sexual abuse, the duty to report comes in. This obligation applies first and foremost to persons in public service and certain occupations.

The duty to report and inform is activated 'when there is reason to believe' that a child has been mistreated at home. Official authorities don't need to know for certain that a child is in such a situation. It is enough that the suspicion is so well founded that 'there is reason to believe'.

Church leaders are reckoned as private persons and are legally not defined as persons with an obligation to report and inform.

'Priests (in the Norwegian State church) are public servants with a special occupational duty of confidentiality according to the Norwegian Criminal Law paragraph 144, and they do not have a duty to inform to the Child Protection authorities (as other public servants have). But all duty of confidentiality may be annulled by consent from the person concerned (victim), or from the child's parents if the child is under 16 years old (as long as one of the parents is not the offender).

**However, priests have, as everyone else, the same duty to report according to the Norwegian Criminal Law paragraph 139, if future crime can be prevented in this way.**

This tells us that those responsible for the churches, for the sake of the victim and for the sake of the church, have a moral responsibility to contribute so the management of the case can be as good as possible. A balanced involvement by those responsible in the church will naturally have great significance for the future normalising of the situation for all involved and will assist both the victim and the rest of the family.

# DISCLOSURE

This is the phase where the abuse must be stopped. The child must be protected against further abuse. The responsibility for the abuse is to be placed on the abuser. In this phase it is important that all resources in fellowship around the child work together to find good solutions for this very difficult situation in which the child and the family find themselves.

At this stage it may be appropriate that others take over the care of the child if the abuse has taken place within the child's household. It will be important that BCC also have some selected 'Crisis Relief Homes' – meaning couples with or without their own children who have the capacity to receive a child in such a difficult situation, people that the authorities can approve for this purpose. Such a resource will take care of the child's basic needs for feelings of affiliation and belonging – a social network – where the child feels accepted, preserved and valued as a participant.





# FURTHER WORK WITH THE FAMILY

The work with the family after disclosure is complex and demanding. In addition, once the abuse is proven, documented and justice carried out, life has to go on for all involved. One has to consider the effects of trauma, grief, guilt, punishment, serving the sentence, even reconciliation – matters such as making restitution for damage caused, not taking it lightly and belittling it. The family often suffers a great loss in social status, and those involved need time and help to come through to a meaningful life.

In this phase the church leader can provide valuable care and follow up to an extra degree. According to his insight and understanding, he can contribute with the care and the contact his confidence allows, and lay a foundation for the future life both for victim, other family members, and maybe even the offender after serving his sentence. This must be to the degree this can be justifiable and possible (being able to cooperate in ways to facilitate normal behaviour, and the circumstances of the one who has been abused).

Unresolved cases are especially demanding – this is where it is uncertain whether or not sexual abuse has taken place. In cases where the evidence of sexual abuse is too weak to lead to punishable consequences, the Child Protection Authorities will carry out a total evaluation of the situation and initiate actions of care accordingly

In this process, if the conduct of the church inspires confidence, the authorities may be inspired to cooperate with the church and recommend using the resources of the church in providing further care.

It is important to know that the authorities regard the risk of re-offending as great, even after disclosure. This is to an even greater degree for sexual abuse than for maltreatment and neglect – even when therapeutic actions have been put in place. Therefore, the authorities want to be assured that the child is safe.

# UNDERSTANDING ROLES

## Principles, concepts and guidelines

The church realizes that many children and adolescents today are victims of neglect and physical, sexual and emotional abuse. Consequently, church leaders have use for the strategy contained in this document. It gives guidelines that have been agreed upon, and they ought to be applied:

- If allegations of abuse arise, including allegations against leaders and members of the church;
- When appointing workers with children and young people;
- Planning and arranging activities;
- One is facing cases of abuse;

## Abuse and neglect

One becomes guilty of abuse or neglect either by injuring a child or by neglecting to act in order to prevent injury occurring. Children may be exposed to abuse in a family, in an institution or public place, by someone known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger.

## Physical abuse

Physical abuse may include beating, caning, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, choking or in any other way harming a child physically. Physical injury can also be caused by a parent or guardian's neglect or by purposely causing poor health in the child they look after. This situation is usually described in terms like 'factitious illness by proxy' or 'Munchausen Syndrome by proxy'.

## Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is continuous emotional mistreatment of a child to such an extent that it causes serious and lasting harm to the child's emotional development. This may include letting children understand that they are worthless or unloved, that they are inadequate, or are only valued to the degree they fulfil the needs of another person. It may include having too high expectations relative to the age and development of the child. It may include continuously making the child feel scared or in danger, or to exploit or violate the child. All types of child mistreatment involve emotional abuse to a greater or lesser degree, but it could also occur on its own.

## Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse includes forcing or enticing a child or young person to partake in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may include physical contact, either in the form of acts which cause penetration (e.g. rape or sodomy) or non-penetrating acts. They may include activities without physical contact, such as involving children in viewing or producing pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually indecent ways.

## Neglect

Neglect is to fail to provide for a child's physical and/or psychological needs over a long period of time with the probable result that the child's health or development is seriously impaired. It can be a parent or guardian who fails to provide adequate food, clothing or shelter, fails to protect a child from physical harm or danger, or fails to ensure access to the necessary medical care or treatment. It can also include neglecting or ignoring a child's emotional needs [or education].

## Organized abuse

Organized or multiple abuse can be defined as abuse involving one or more perpetrators and a number of children and young people who can be related, or unrelated. The abuse may take place by cooperation between the relevant perpetrators; sometimes they act individually or they may recruit children to abuse from an institutional network or with the assistance of a person in a position of authority. Organised or multiple abuse occur both as part of a network of abuse in a family or community, and within institutions like children's homes and schools.

NB! A child may suffer from more than one type of abuse.

# DISCOVERY AND REACTION TO ABUSE

The following signs may, but not always or necessarily, indicate that abuse has taken place.

## Physical signs of abuse

- Injuries that the child is not able to explain the cause for
- Injuries on the body appearing in places not usually exposed to falls, rough play, etc.
- Injuries not examined by a doctor
- Neglect – malnourishment, failure to thrive and grow, constant hunger, stealing or gorging, untreated sicknesses, inadequate care, etc.
- Resistance to changing clothes or partaking in active play or swimming
- Repeated urinary tract infections or stomach ache without plausible explanation
- Blue marks, bite marks, burns, grazing, etc. which cannot be explained as a result of an accident
- Self-inflicted cuts / scratches / substance abuse

## Indications of possible sexual abuse

- Claims by a child of sexual abuse
- Child with excessive preoccupation with sexual matters and detailed knowledge of adult sexual behaviour or terminology, or who regularly engages in age-inappropriate sexual play
- Sexual activity through words, play or drawing
- Child who is sexually provocative, promiscuous or flirtatious with adults
- Improper sharing of beds at home
- Severe sleep disturbance with fears, phobias, vivid dreams or nightmares, sometimes with overt or veiled sexual connotations
- Eating disorders – anorexia, bulimia





## Emotional signs of abuse

- Changes or regression in mood or behaviour, especially where a child withdraws and becomes clingy. Also, depression / aggression, extreme anxiety
- Nervousness, silent watchfulness
- Obsessions or phobias
- Sudden underachievement or problems concentrating
- Indecent conduct towards people of the same age and / or adults
- Attention-seeking behaviour
- Continuous tiredness
- Children running away / stealing / lying

# CONCLUDING COMMENTS

The paragraphs above are meant to create awareness and convey knowledge about an important area to maintain the wellbeing of children in society and therefore also within the work (OR activities) of BCC.

It is important that BCC's co-workers are not acting independently as professionals with self-appointed responsibility for investigating and following up situations that (can) fall under the jurisdiction of the Criminal Law.

*Brunstad, June 2018*

*BCC's Resource Team for neglect and abuse*

## References

The professional basis for this action plan is in addition to NKVTS:

- 1) Rundskriv Q-9/95: Veiledende rundskriv om tverretatlig samarbeid i saker som gjelder seksuelle overgrep mot barn. Dep. 1995
- 2) A. Poulsson (1992): Seksuelle overgrep mot barn – veileder. Sosial og helsedep.
- 3) Bispedømmet (1996): Retningslinjer og prosedyre for behandling av saker der det rettes anklage mot vigslet kirkelig medarbeider om seksuelt misbruk og/eller grenseoverskridende seksuell adferd.
- 4) Norsk legeforening: Generell veiledning i pediatri: 12.7. Serious neglect
- 5) Bufdir. 2009 Rutiner for forebygging og håndtering av mistanke om fysiske og seksuelle overgrep og grenseoverskridende atferd mot barn
- 6) Kari Kilen, 2003 Tilknytning hos barn
- 7) Trygg Base-modellen Å fremme tilknytning og resiliens

#2) above refers to a pamphlet of 100 pages that gives a clear and easy to grasp introduction to the different aspects of the problem of sexual abuse against children. It is written for all who work with children or come into contact with children who have experienced sexual abuse, and it can be ordered via a normal bookshop. This action plan is only a brief introduction to a very basic understanding of how professional and government entities function.

## Tillegg til litteraturliste i Strategiplanen:



1. BARNE- LIKESTILLINGS- OG INKLUDERINGSDEPARTEMENTET:  
Strategi mot vold og seksuelle overgrep  
Link: [goo.gl/ejsNrC](https://goo.gl/ejsNrC)



2. LITTERATUROVERSIKT OM KRENKELSER, VOLD OG SEKSUELLE OVERGREP  
Deichmanns bibliotek  
Link: [goo.gl/owciST](https://goo.gl/owciST)



3. SEKSUELLE OVERGREP – SAMLET INFORMASJON  
Kirkens Arbeidsgiverorganisasjon  
Link: [goo.gl/jZX7QJ](https://goo.gl/jZX7QJ)

4. SEKSUELLE OVERGREP MOT BARN  
Traumebevist tilnærming  
Søftestad, Siri  
Andersen, Inger Lise

Oslo: Universitetsforlaget, 2014.  
ISBN 978-82-15-02385-4

Boka gir deg grunnleggende kunnskap om seksuelle overgrep mot barn. Den presenterer også en traumebevist forståelse som fungerer gjennom mistanke, avdekking, beskyttelse og behandling. Eksemplene er fra skole, barnevern, politi og behandling. Den tar mål av seg til å kunne leses av foreldre, privatpersoner og fagfolk.



5. FOREBYGGING OG HÅNDBTERING AV SEKSUELLE OVERGREP  
Kirkerådet 2013  
Link: [goo.gl/tmxzBz](https://goo.gl/tmxzBz)



6. SEKSUELLE OVERGREP MOT BARN  
En veileder for hjelpeapparatet  
Sosial- og helsedirektoratet/ Barne- og familiedepartementet  
Link: [goo.gl/RXknBa](https://goo.gl/RXknBa)

# Kontaktinfo

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