

Child Abuse Can Be Divided Into Many Areas

BY: DR. J. ALLEN QUEEN

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Public Law 93-247 defines child abuse and neglect as: "Physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child under the age of 18 by a person who is responsible for the child's welfare under circumstances which indicate that the child's health or welfare is harmed or threatened." From this definition, child abuse and neglect can be divided into the areas of physical abuse, physical neglect, emotional abuse, emotional neglect and sexual abuse. Physical abuse and physical neglect are more noticeable and easier to detect; however, emotional abuse and neglect are difficult to define and identify since the damages is internal. Sexual abuse incidents are difficult to determine in the United States, although a study in New York City conservatively estimated 3,000 cases occur per year in that city alone. Individuals are especially reluctant to report this type of abuse and have labeled sexual abuse as the "last frontier in child abuse."

All types of child abuse occur in every segment of society; however, most of the reported cases are from the lower socioeconomic groups. This may be related to the additional stress in the daily life of this group or the fact that this group is more vulnerable to the reporting system. Of great interest is the fact that, in 1960, mothers were indicated as the abuser in most cases; due to the changes in child caretaking responsibilities, sex roles and a higher divorce rate, fathers are now as likely to be the abusing parent as the mother.

Effects of child abuse and neglect on the individual child and society are short and long term. From physical abuse or neglect, it is believed 20-30% of the children are left with some form of permanent injury. Emotional harm may lead to crime or violence later in life, and a 1972 study of youths in a

Colorado detention center revealed 80% of the delinquents had been abused. Because abused children are less likely to become productive members of society, they have a greater potential to become dependent on the welfare, social service or criminal justice systems in the future.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Historically, the abuse of children has been noted in civilized as well as uncivilized societies; however, the first suspected case of child abuse was not reported in the United States until 1874 when a social worker detected the abuse of a child named Mary Ellen. In an effort to obtain assistance, the social worker reported the abuse to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (there was no organization designed for child protection). This incident brought about the formation of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in New York in 1875; but the problem of child abuse did not receive national attention until 1962 when Dr. C. Henry Kempe published an article entitled "The Battered Child Syndrome" in the Journal of the American Medical Association. The impact of this document led to the passage of legislation in all 50 states mandating that suspected child abuse be reported by professionals, public school teachers, social service workers and law enforcement officials.

Although it is difficult to assess the scope of the problem, it is estimated that for every reported case of child abuse or child neglect four others go unreported. During the period 1974-1977, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in the State of North Carolina identified 50 children whose autopsies indicated that death was caused by non-accidental injury. It is estimated that over 2,000 children die every year in the United States as a result of child abuse. Estimates of abuse incidence rate in the school-age population are as high as one for every one hundred school children. It is possible that at least 50% of all reported child abuse cases involve children

six years of age or older. The past decade has witnessed an increase in the number of child abuse cases. Theoretically, this may be due to either better identification measures or an absolute increase in societal factors. These factors include: higher divorce rate, working mother, decline of the extended family or the increase in unwed pregnancies.

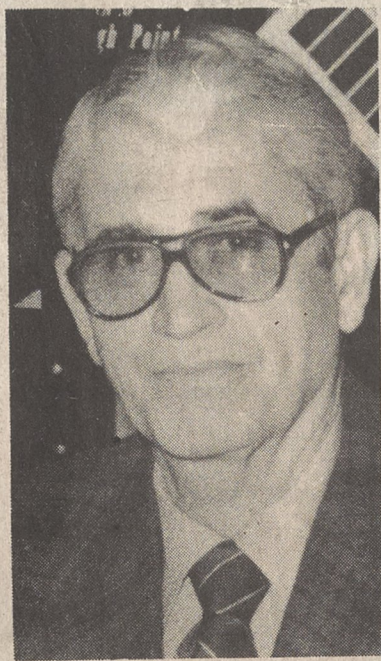
THE VICIOUS CYCLE

It has been estimated that 30-60% of abusive parents were abused as children, and a vicious cycle of the abused becoming the abuser in the future appears evident if the cycle is not broken. Morris, Gould and Matthews summarized the effects of child abuse by stating: "Preventing neglect and battering depends in the long run on preventing transmission of the kind of social deprivation which takes children's lives, damages their health and retards their minds, and which contributes through those that survive to a rising population of next generation parents who will not be able to nurture children."

The Child Abuse and Neglect Act of 1974 (PL 93-247) requires professionals to report suspected child abuse, and most provide immunity as long as the reporting is done "in good faith." If the suspected abuse is not reported, the abuse will continue until the child is injured or murdered and the family is broken by court action. Due to the emotional makeup of the abuser, self-reporting of child abuse is unlikely; therefore, another person must get the process started. There are many reasons why professionals do not report child abuse. Hefler has listed eight reasons why physicians do not get involved in child abuse reporting:

1. not trained to detect child abuse or neglect
2. may not be trained in interpersonal skills
3. difficulty in working with a multidisciplinary team

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RICHARD BARNETTE

Cooper's Purchases Furniture

Richard Barnette, President of Cooper's, Inc., announced this week the purchase of the complete stock of furniture from Discount Furniture Company of West Jefferson.

Mr. Barnette said Cooper's is in the process of moving the stock, including a complete line of Broyhill furniture, bedroom, dining room, and living room suites, chairs, recliners, and many other items to the downtown furniture store on Railroad Avenue.

In conjunction with the purchase, Cooper's Sales Manager Robert (Dougle) Davis has announced that Cooper's will sell the discount items at Cooper's, Inc. the week of July 4th during the regular business hours, 9 until 5 p.m. except July 4th, Thursday, when the firm will be closed for the Independence Day holiday.

"We are offering this beautiful furniture to the public at discount prices and invite local people to take advantage of these exceptional items at bargain prices", said Davis.

T-Ball Tourney Scheduled

Attention: T Ball Coaches and Players.

Grover Dixie Youth Baseball is sponsoring a T-Ball tourney for 6-7 and 8 year olds beginning July 30th.

For information contact Larry Crocker, 937-7093 or Tony Stewart, 739-8458.



According to a recent survey, the top selling soup in American restaurants is vegetable soup.

Belk Stevens

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Shelby, North Carolina

4th of JULY

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STOREWIDE SUMMER CLEARANCE
20% To 50% OFF
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Plus Much, Much More - OPEN 10 AM TO 9 PM THURSDAY, JULY 4TH

<p style="text-align: center;">GIRLS KNIT TOPS Sizes 7 To 14 In Stripes & Solids</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$9.00 ... Sale \$6⁹⁹</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$12.00 ... Sale \$9⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENTIRE STOCK JUNIOR SUMMER DRESSES Many National Brands</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$12.00 To \$82.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$9⁹⁹ To \$54⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GIRLS 4 TO 6X KNIT TOPS & SHORTS Assorted Styles & Colors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$8.00 To \$10.88</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$6⁴⁴ To \$7⁴⁴</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Great Selection JUNIOR SWIMWEAR Jantzen • OP • Sassafra • Dippers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$22.00 To \$35.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$16⁹⁹ To \$26⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JUNIOR STIRRUP PANTS Black • White • Blue Acrylic Knit Fabric</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$18.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$12⁹⁹</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GIRLS SWIMWEAR 4 To 6X • 7 To 14 • Preteen One & Two Pc. Styles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$10.00 To \$28.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$7⁹⁹ To \$21⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JUNIOR SPORTSWEAR BY YOU BABES Big Top • Shorts • Jumpers Slacks • Shirts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$9.00 To \$26.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$7⁴⁴ To \$17⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENTIRE STOCK FINE JEWELRY 14 Kt. Gold Chains & Bracelets</p> <p style="text-align: center;">40% To 60% Off</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LADIES POLY COTTON GOWNS AND ROBES Long And Short Soft Pastel Colors Miss Elaine, Heiress</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$15.00 To \$49.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$12⁹⁹ To \$37⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Good Selection Of LADIES SPRING AND SUMMER DRESSES Dressy And Casual Lots Of Styles And Colors Brel, Leslie Fay, Sally III</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. \$30.00 To \$138.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$25⁹⁹ To \$110⁹⁹</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MISSY SYNE BY UNION BAY Crinkle Cloths Fabric - White And Pink - Reg. \$20.00 To \$48.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$14⁹⁹ To \$41⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Tremendous Selection WOMEN'S HANDBAG CLEARANCE By Aigner, Liz Claiborn, Lou Taylor, Contessa, Many Colors And Styles - Reg. \$8.00 To \$110.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$5⁹⁹ To \$79⁹⁹</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Entire Stock Mens TOURNAMENT KNIT SHIRTS Solids And Fancies - S-M-L-XL - Reg. \$15.00 & \$16.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$13⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Select Group MEN'S BETTER SLACKS By Thomson - Jaymar Solids And Plaids Reg. \$30.00 To \$42.50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$24⁹⁹</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">MEN'S ANDHURST SWIM TRUNKS Assorted Solids And Fancies - Reg. \$10.00 And \$11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$7⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">LADIES KNIT TOPS Solids And Prints - Cathy's Place, Sweetbriar, Empire Reg. \$12.00 To \$32.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$8⁹⁹ To \$20⁹⁹</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">MEN'S ANDHURST WOVEN SPORT SHIRTS Assorted Plaids, B.D. And Reg. Collars, S-M-L-XL, Reg. \$14.00 And \$16.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$10⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">GOOD SELECTION OF LADIES BLOUSES Solids And Prints - Judy Bond, Ship 'N Shore, Lee Mar, Pastels And Brights - Reg. \$16.00 To \$40.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$12⁹⁹ To \$31⁹⁹</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Select Group BOYS HOBIE AND O.P. SWIM TRUNKS Reg. \$20.00 To \$24.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$15⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Entire Stock MEN'S SUMMER SUITS AND SPORT COATS By Andhurst, Cricketeer, Haggard Reg. \$75.00 To \$250.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$52⁹⁹ To \$187⁹⁹</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Select Group MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS By Andhurst And Custom Design Short Sleeve - 14 1/2 To 17 Reg. \$13.00 To \$16.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$8⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Select Group BOYS KNIT SHIRTS Cap Sleeve - Solids & Fancies Reg. \$10.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$7⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Select Group WO'S DRESS AND CASUAL HATS Assorted Styles And Colors Reg. \$15.00 To \$84.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$11⁹⁹ To \$47⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MISSY SWEATERS BY SWEETBRIAR Gotham, British Vogue, Cardigan And Pullover Pastels And Brights - Reg. \$22.00 To \$35.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$18⁹⁹ To \$25⁹⁹</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">MISSES PETITE SPORTSWEAR Koret And Liz Claiborne - Solids And Prints - Reg. \$27.00 To \$65.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$21⁹⁹ To \$52⁹⁹</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">CHILDRENS BUGOFF SANDALS Thong And Buckle Styles Tan - Sizes 8 1/2 To 3 Reg. \$18.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$6⁹⁹</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LADIES SUMMER SHOE CLEARANCE Dress And Casual Styles Reg. \$16.00 To \$64.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sale \$9⁹⁹ To \$39⁹⁹</p>	