

CSW Guidelines for Non Offending Parents

Issues	Therapeutic Goals	Process
<p>Grief and loss issues Loss of the partner, loss of self-image, loss of role as a wife or husband</p>	<p>NOP will accept changes and adapt to new circumstances</p>	<p>Expect denial, anger, bargaining, and sadness, prior to acceptance of changes</p>
<p>Acknowledging the Sexual Abuse Developing the capacity for support of victim disclosure Helping the siblings understand what happened</p>	<p>NOP will believe and support the victim's disclosure and help the victim's siblings understand what happened in the sexual abuse. Conjoint work with victims and a denying nop is not appropriate and may further traumatize the victim.</p>	<p>Denial and minimization are common at first. A nop who still denies the abuse occurred, three months or more since the disclosure, would likely benefit from individual treatment, in addition to group and conjoint.</p>
<p>Responsibility The adults in the family are responsible for the perpetration of the sexual abuse and the resulting changes that the family experiences</p>	<p>NOP will hold the adults in the situation responsible for the sexual abuse. The NOP will be responsible for unambiguous victim support; patience as the victim works through trauma symptoms; correction of unsafe family boundaries</p>	<p>A nop can help resolve the abuse by insisting on hearing a full account from the perpetrator. The child victim should not be pressured regarding confronting the perpetrator, or accepting the perpetrator's apology.</p>
<p>Minimization and denial NOPs, siblings and victims frequently collude to deny the extent, severity or impact of the abuse, leaving the victim to solve the family's problem.</p>	<p>NOP will accurately report the sexual abuse event, duration and trauma outcome, in appropriate settings</p>	<p>Victims feel diminished if a non-offending parent minimizes the report of what occurred.</p>
<p>Family role realignment Incest family roles are almost invariably dysfunctional. One or both parents may relate to the child as an adult peer or the parents may act as peers of the children. The victim is expected to meet an adult's needs, including keeping the secret of the abuse.</p>	<p>NOP will assume the role of parent and authority in child protection within the home. NOP will allow children to resume appropriate childhood roles</p>	<p>Incest offenders usually use seduction and manipulation rather than force to manage the victim, and some spend months or years grooming and training all the family members. Dysfunctional family roles often persist after the initial intervention and can only be corrected in counseling.</p>
<p>Re-building relationship with child victim Offenders pursue victims in stressed family relationships, or create rifts within the family. The victim has often contended with betrayal, a damaged self-image, feelings of loss of control and premature sexualization.</p>	<p>The NOP will develop a nurturing and supportive relationship with the victim.</p>	<p>Unresolved guilt and shame over the nop's failure to protect interferes with the nop's ability to focus on the child. The NOP often benefits from education, direction and support in assisting the victim in processing these feelings.</p>
<p>Safety Plan Safety plans involve assisting all the family members to develop appropriate child safety rules within the family</p>	<p>NOP will develop and maintain a Safety Plan that addresses the prevention of child sexual abuse in the family.</p>	<p>Safety concerns observed by the CSW are valid issues to communicate to the treating therapist to incorporate into the safety plan.</p>