



2005 Advertising Campaign Key Facts and Statistics on Child Sexual Abuse

85% of the time children are abused by someone they know.¹

83% of child sexual abuse cases in the seven county Twin Cities metropolitan area involved family and/or extended family members.²

One in five girls and one in 10 to 20 boys will be sexually abused at some point in their childhood.³

Nearly 88% of sexual abuse is never reported.⁴

In a random digit dial telephone survey of 500 Twin Cities residents, 105 had the experience of being sexually abused as a child. Of these, only 32 told an adult about the incident while still a child. Of the 32 who did tell an adult, only seven recalled that the incident was reported to authorities.⁵

Sex offender treatment reduces the likelihood of sexual recidivism. Those who were treated show a recidivism rate of only 10 percent, while those who do not go through treatment have a recidivism rate of 17%.⁶

Of people known to sexually abuse children, men outnumber women 8:1. Most often the person who sexually abuses children is a heterosexual male ranging in age from adolescence to middle age.⁷

People who sexually abuse children represent all social classes, races and vocations.⁸

It is estimated that there are 60 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in America today.⁹

¹ Oesterreich, L. & Shirer, K. (2001) Sexual Abuse of Children.

² 2001 Minnesota Child Welfare Report, Department of Human Services.

³ Finkelhor D (1994). Current information on the scope and nature of child sexual abuse. *Sexual Abuse of Children The Future of Children* 4 (2), 31-69

⁴ Hanson, R.F., Resnick, H.S., Saunders, B.E., Kilpatrick, D.G., and Best, C. (1999) *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

⁵ Attitudes, Beliefs, and Actions Taken Relating to Child Sexual Abuse in the Seven-County Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area of Minnesota, Stop It Now! Minnesota/Market Street Research Report (2003).

⁶ Hanson, R.K. (2000) Risk Assessment.

⁷ Hanson, R.K., Steffy, R.A., & Gauthier, R. (1993) *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, Vol. 61, pp. 646-652.

⁸ Hanson, R.K., Steffy, R.A., & Gauthier, R. (1993). *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, Vol. 61, pp. 646-652.

⁹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2000.