



Consequences of Child Neglect

- Physical health problems such as health complications or physical injuries. Mental health problems such as poor self-esteem and depression.
- Cognitive development problems academic achievement.
- Social development problems such as increased risk of juvenile delinquency, and adult criminal behavior.
- Societal impacts such as economic, health, safety and social justice costs

Please share this brochure with a friend, family member, neighbor, or co-worker. Thank you for helping to raise awareness and helping to prevent child abuse and neglect in America.

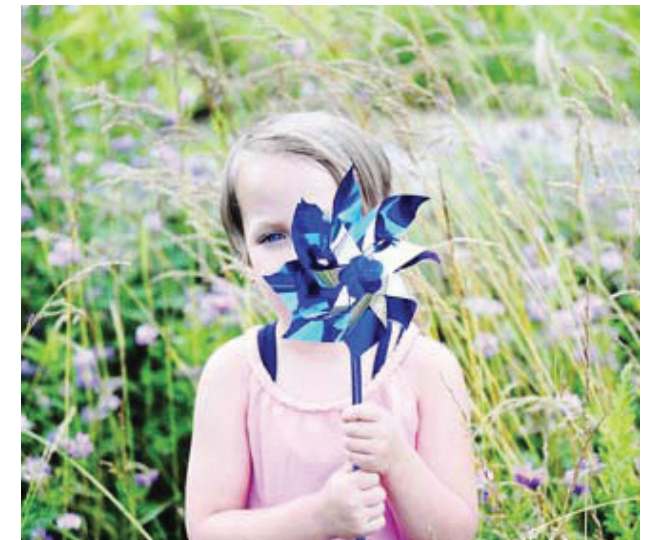
Prevent Child Abuse America Advocates to:

1. Increase support services to families such as home visits, early childhood education, and parent education.
2. Provide mental health services *when they are needed* to everyone affected by child neglect.
3. Ensure all children have access to affordable and quality healthcare.
4. Increase efforts to address social problems related to poverty, housing, employment, and nutrition that contribute to neglect.
5. Increase awareness that we all play a role in preventing child neglect.
6. Increase funding for research to improve our understanding of child neglect.

Prevent Child Abuse America, founded in 1972 and based in Chicago, works to ensure the healthy development of children nationwide. Prevent Child Abuse America educates parents, the public, and policymakers that prevention is possible, that services and policies exist to prevent child abuse and neglect, and that together we can enhance not only the lives of children and their families, but the nation as a whole.

www.preventchildabuse.org

Preventing Child Neglect



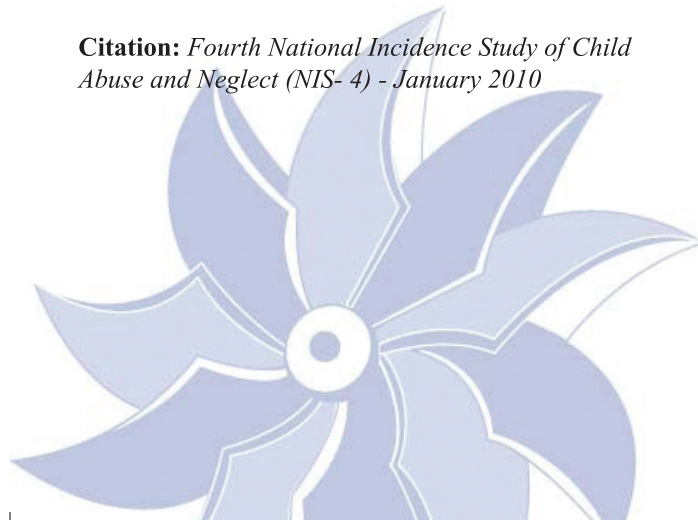
**Prevent Child Abuse
America**

Nature and Scope of Child Neglect

There are multiple and interrelated factors that lead to child neglect. Examples include, but are not limited to, a child with a disability, a parent struggling with depression or substance abuse, intimate partner violence, fathers who do not play an active role in their children's lives, a lack of community supports such as home visiting, and poverty. Further:

- An estimated 771,700 children experienced neglect the NIS-4 study year (2005–2006).
- This corresponds to 10.5 children per 1000 in the general 2005–2006 child population.
- Neglected children represent 61% of all children counted in the NIS-4 abuse total.
- The number of children who experienced neglect decreased from an estimated 879,000 at the time of the NIS-3 to the estimated 771,700 in the NIS-4.

Citation: *Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4) - January 2010*



Definition of Child Neglect

Child neglect occurs when any recent act or failure to act on the part of parent or caretaker results in a child's basic needs, such as adequate food, water, protection, safety or affection not being met, resulting in actual or potential harm. There are four types of child neglect: physical, emotional, medical, and educational neglect. While there are correlations between neglect and poverty, community supports such as mentoring can help children born into poverty grow up to be healthy, contributing adults.



Actions You Can Take to Prevent Child Neglect

If you are parent, caretaker, or member of the community you can:

Learn the signs of child neglect.

Get to know your neighbors and let them know they have your support.

Lend a helping hand to a family under stress, offer to babysit, help with chores and errands, or suggest resources in the community that can help.

Reach out to children in your community; a smile or a word of encouragement can mean a lot, whether it comes from a parent or a passing stranger.

Be an active community member. Volunteer at local schools, community or faith based organizations, children's hospitals, food pantries, social service agencies, or other places where families and children are supported.

Share your voice and join the National Movement for America's Children (movementforchildren.org)

Trust your instincts and report neglect if you believe a child has been or may be neglected.

Source: *from tips available on the Child Welfare Information Gateway.*