

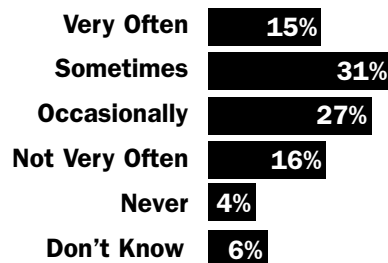
Current National Statistics: Abusive Impulses in U.S. Parents

According to a new survey commissioned by Prevent Child Abuse America, nearly one-half of Americans with children believe parents find themselves in situations where they are afraid they might abuse or neglect their child more than just occasionally. Fifteen percent of surveyed parents believe these situations occur “very often.”

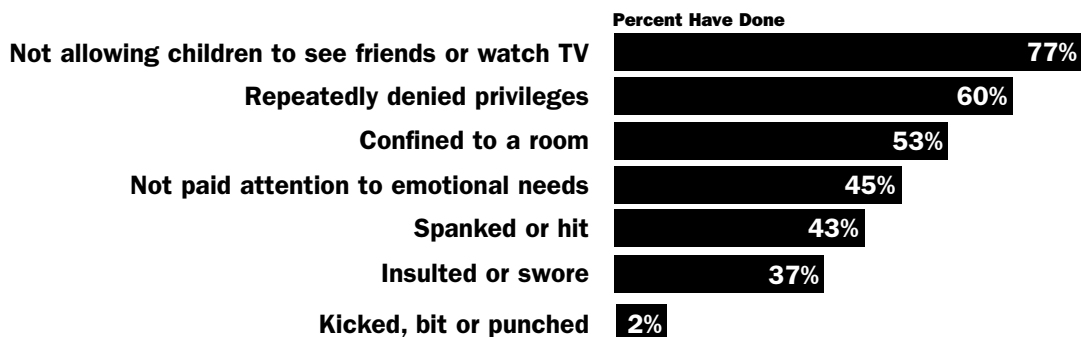
In terms of their own personal behavior, 43 percent of parents reported spanking or hitting their child within the last 12 months, 37 percent reported insulting or swearing at their child, and two percent reported having kicked, bit or punched their child. More than 3 million children were reported to child protective service agencies as alleged victims of child abuse or neglect in 1998, and approximately 1 million of these reports were confirmed. In addition, approximately three children died each day in the United States from abuse or neglect in 1997.

Perceptions of Child Abuse

How often do you think parents find themselves in situations where they are afraid they might abuse or neglect a child?



Personal Behavior - Action Taken



Source: Kirkpatrick, Kevin (2000, March). 2000 Public Awareness Survey. Chicago: Prevent Child Abuse America.



www.preventchildabuse.org

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