Abuse: What to do if it happens to you or someone you know

National Resource Websites

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center
  www.nsvrc.org
- Stop It Now
  www.stopitnow.org
- Rape Abuse, Incest National Network
  www.rain.org
- National Sex offender Resources
  www.sexoffenderresource.com
- Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers
  www.atsa.com
- Center for Sex Offender Management
  www.csom.org
- FaithTrust Institute
  www.faithtrustinstitute.org

Wiccan Resources

Covenant of the Goddess- aac@coh.org
If You or Someone you know is a Victim of Abuse

If You are a Victim of Abuse
- Get yourself to safety
- Seek Medical attention and professional support if needed.
- Pay attention to your feelings and trust yourself.
- Share your confusion, fear or anxiety with someone you trust. Remember that you are not to blame.
- Find out if your coven or community has a specific policy and procedure for dealing with concerns about clergy misconduct. Use that process to be heard and raise awareness to stop the behavior.
- Find an advocate who understands your community; rely on him or her for guidance and support.
- Remember that you might not be the only person to whom this has happened and that your action can help both yourself and others.

If the abuse occurred to someone you know
- If a child has been sexually abused by someone, make an immediate report to a law enforcement agency in your community.
- Believe the victim and assist them in seeking professional support.
- If someone discloses abuse to you, your role is to listen and support them, not to investigate or determine truth. Asking questions can interfere with investigations.

Be Aware Of Mandating Reporting Laws
- All 50 States require Medical Personal, Mental Health Professional, Teachers, Law Enforcement and Ministers are required to report any and all suspected abuse of a child or vulnerable adult to the police or child protective services.

Introduction

Facts
Abuse happens in every religious community and among all levels of socioeconomic statuses. Identifying when it happens and knowing what to do when you see it is the best way to keep ourselves and our community safe. This brochure will introduce you to what to do if you are affected.

Types of Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Neglect

You Are Not Alone
Seek Help