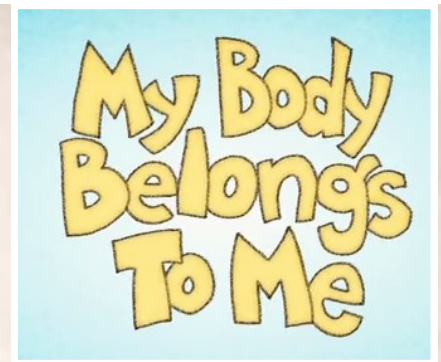
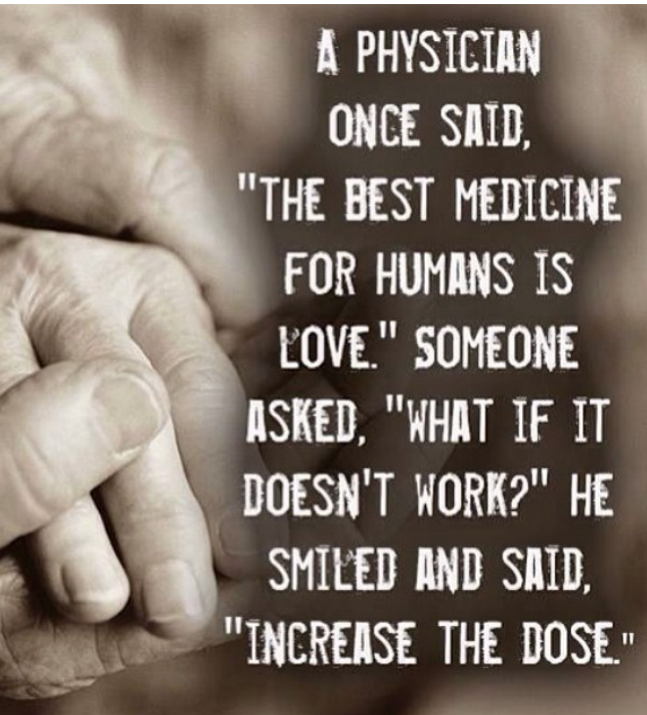


MAY 7, 2019



An animated four minute film aimed to educate children about sexual abuse and empower them to speak up.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## Kids Who Are Bullied

Are More Likely To Have:

- Depressive symptoms
- Harmed themselves
- High levels of suicidal thoughts
- Attempted suicide

[VIEW THE IMPACT OF BULLYING](#)



## Do No Harm

Trauma-focused courts address the roots of family problems—and the traumatic impact of court itself.

Interview by SONIA DIAZ

*I grew up hurt and scared. The trauma I went through affected me when I became a mother. Sometimes I would shut myself in my room so that I didn't scare my kids, and I smoked weed to stay calm.*

*When I went to court facing neglect charges years ago, no one knew my story and I was afraid to speak up. My lawyer made me plead guilty to neglecting my kids. Even though my kids were not removed, I felt worthless as a mother for years.*

*So when I learned that some family courts are starting to help people with trauma, I felt good. Finally, someone is listening to people who sometimes can't even understand what is going on in court.*

[CONTINUE READING](#)

## To Have and to Hold:

### Developing and Sustaining the Parent-Child Attachment When Children Have Experienced Changes in Caregivers and/or Trauma

Children who have experienced parental loss, neglect and/or abuse need to experience connections, security, warmth and belonging to build and enhance their attachments. Instead, as a by-product of their irritating and sometimes frightening behaviors, they frequently experience rejection, anger and the unavailability of their parents. Therapeutic responses to these behaviors must meet the child's unmet needs, teach new skills and enhance the child's connections to his/her parents. Many of the behavioral problems that plague parents of children with "special needs" are normal behaviors at earlier ages/stages of child development. These persistent negative behaviors disrupt family life and, tragically, distance parents and children. Identifying the age and/or stage of development that a behavior normally occurs, can help identify the child's unmet developmental needs and the skills that the child lacks to function in age appropriate ways. Often, children's behaviors are stuck at an age of development that they experienced a loss or trauma. It is very important to view persistent behaviors as symptomatic of earlier unmet needs. Perhaps more important and practical, the age that the troubling behavior normally occurs, serves as a guideline for developing effective, proactive responses.

### WHAT IS A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS AND WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN ONE OCCURS

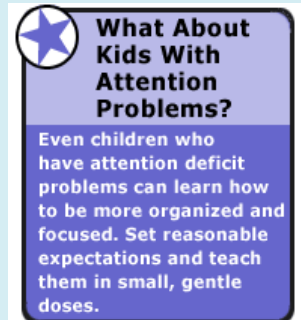
Lacking adequate crisis planning or access to emergency services, families frequently must resort to calling for police assistance when their child's behavior is out of control, threatening and potentially dangerous. Too frequently, these calls for help result in additional trauma from police officers untrained, inexperienced or ill prepared to respond to their calls for assistance.

The guide, *How to Work Effectively with Police When Youth are in Mental Health Crisis*, is about how interventions can best occur when law enforcement officers (e.g. police, truancy officers, sheriffs, school resource officers) respond to children or youth experiencing a mental health crisis. This guide is aimed at helping you, the parent or caretaker, prepare for your role in any such encounter so that you may assist in achieving the best possible outcome. Understanding how law enforcement officers work will help you know what to expect. Your ability to effectively inform the responding officer will greatly enhance his or her ability to de-escalate and resolve the crisis. [VIEW GUIDE](#)

## Help Your Child Get Organized

Most kids generate a little chaos and disorganization. Yours might forget books at school, leave towels on the floor, or fail to finish projects once started. You'd like them to be more organized and to stay focused on tasks, such as homework. Is it possible?

Yes! A few kids seem naturally organized, but for the rest, organization is a skill learned over time. With help and some practice, kids can develop an effective approach to getting stuff done. And you're the perfect person to teach them, even if you don't feel all that organized yourself! For kids, all tasks can be broken down into a 1-2-3 process. To learn about this simple process, visit [KidsHealth.org](http://KidsHealth.org).



[kidshealth.org/parent/positive/learning/child\\_organized.html#cat169](http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/learning/child_organized.html#cat169)

## National Foster Care Month

During May, the child welfare community pauses to recognize foster parents and thank them for their service to vulnerable children, youth, and families. Preparing for successful transitions

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/>

THANKS  
TO ALL YOU  
FOSTER PARENTS!