

Critical issue module 1

Abuse and exploitation

Topic 1 The issue for children

Exercise 1



What is child abuse?

Purpose

By the end of this exercise, participants will be able to:

- define child abuse, neglect and exploitation
- understand the child rights perspective on the issue
- use relevant terminology appropriately.

Timeframe

40 minutes

Resources

- flipchart paper and pens

Method

- 1 Give a 10-minute presentation on child abuse, neglect and exploitation using the information in the study material for this topic, with passing reference to the other topics in the module.
- 2 Divide the participants into groups of six to eight people and assign one of the following discussion topics to each group:
 - What constitutes physical abuse against children? What would be emotional abuse?
 - What actions constitute sexual abuse? What actions would be neglectful?
 - What is considered physically exploitative? What would be sexually exploitative?

Ask them to spend 15 minutes recording an example for each and a possible impact on flipchart paper.

- 3 In plenary, ask each group to present their examples (be sure to keep each presentation to five minutes) and then facilitate a short discussion.





Points to include in the plenary

- Stress that whether and how people react may vary according to the situation, but all violence against and exploitation of children is a violation of their rights
- The participants need to understand the relevant terminology and be able to use it appropriately.

