

Child Welfare Services.



Child Custody: assist high Court on Issues of child custody in divorce cases.

Material Support and Maintenance.

Adoption and foster care: help in placement of children in need of care in Institutions of safety (SOS, Mpule) or process adoptions and foster care of needy children.

Psychosocial support (PSS) - Assist children going through traumatic experiences with counseling and therapeutic services.



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Council

**Social Welfare
& Community
Development**



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DEFILEMENT AND INCEST (defined).



DEFILEMENT: According to the Oxford dictionary, to defile means to make dirty, impure or pollute.

According to Botswana statutes, defilement is an act where a man sexually uses a girl child who is under the age of 16.

INCEST: The same Oxford dictionary defines incest as, “sexual intercourse between very closely related people”. Botswana marriage statutes prohibits people within the third degree to marry, this therefore also implies that any sexual interactions between the same people may be deemed to be incest.

Defilement:

Between January and June 2012, a total of 16 cases of defilement were registered in Tutume Sub District. Out of the 16 cases 2 were tried and perpetrators convicted, 2 were dropped due to lack of evidence to prosecute, while 12 are still under investigation and awaiting trial.

Incest:

Two cases were registered, investigations on both cases have been concluded and we are waiting for trial of the perpetrators.

CAUSES OF DEFILEMENT/ INCEST:

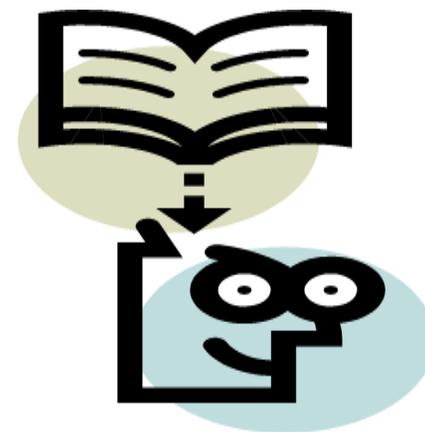
- Economic— perpetrators financially sustaining the family of the child.
- Protecting a family member who sexually abused a child.
- Abusers are often survivors of abuse themselves.
- Cultural reasons— “ setlogolo ntsha ditlhogo” kgomo di boela sakeng etc.

HOW CAN U IDENTIFY A SEXUALLY ABUSED CHILD:

- Child is always withdrawn from her peers.
- Extreme knowledge of sexual activities/intercourse. (Talks a lot about it).
- Difficulties in walking or bruises on her limbs.
- Crying but would never give reasons.
- Aggression towards the opposite sex (boys).

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE:

- Report the incidence(even when you only suspect) to a social worker, police, teachers or Kgosi.
- Child should be taken for medical examinations.
- Removal of child from the abusive environment.
- Make sure any other girl children in the same environment are protected too.



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