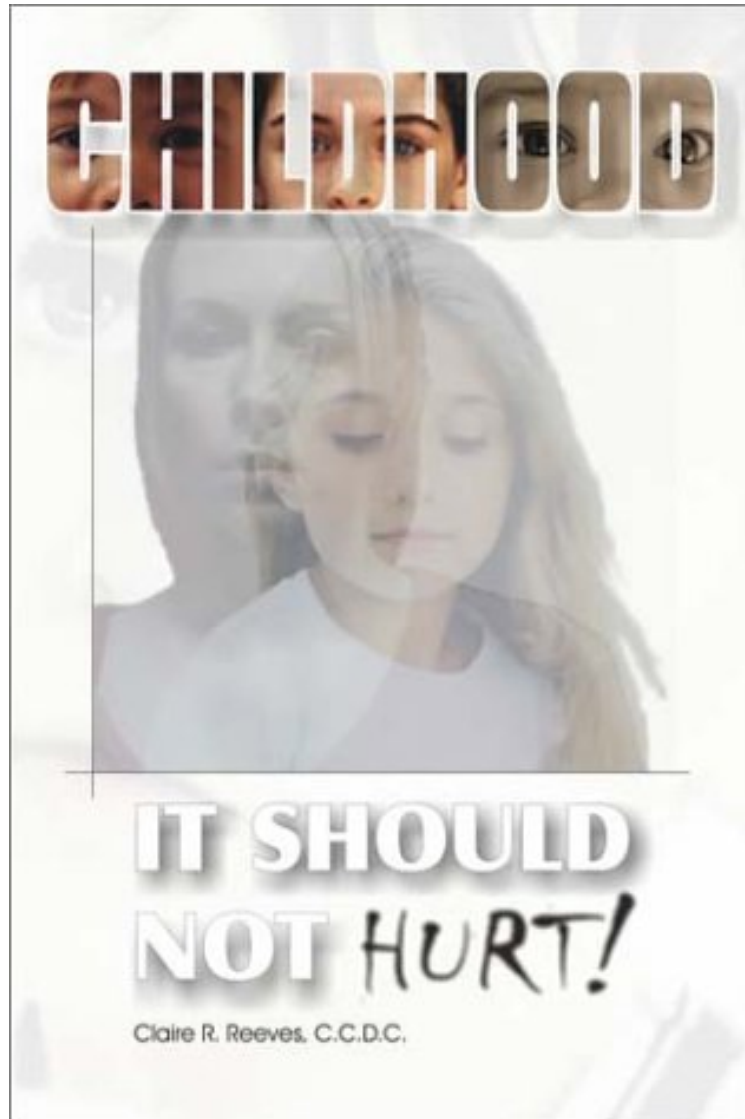


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## ChildHood: It Should Not Hurt

*Claire R. Reeves*

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**Claire R. Reeves : ChildHood: It Should Not Hurt** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised ChildHood: It Should Not Hurt:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. System is trying to give my kids to abuserBy Coloring AddictMy daughter has made allegations of sexual abuse against her father and I am currently fighting for custody the girls are in a foster home. The DSCYF closed the case against her father when she didn't disclose to the right person five weeks after the original disclosure and said they can only charge him if she disclosed in counseling, yet they have had my

kids 3 months and made them visit with him weekly, my daughter is 4. She also disclosed to a court appointed special advocate and DFS said that they already had that information. This book has been a god send assuring me that I am not crazy. My daughter has her first counseling session this week and I pray she tells the counselor enough to charge him and end this nightmare. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A must-read for anyone who regularly interacts with children. By Kathleen A. Sullivan Ms. Reeves has taken very difficult issues within the complex world of child sexual abuse and has made them much easier to understand. She helps us to be more aware of what signs of child abuse we should look for; more important, she explains how one should respond to such indications. This information is extremely valuable, given the current negative atmosphere in many law enforcement and court systems towards caregivers who claim that their children have been sexually abused (especially if the complainants are also in the process of divorcing accused partners.) Ms. Reeves also helps the reader to avoid common errors of judgment when attempting to size up those who interact with, or appear interested in, children. She provides valuable tips on what signs to look for, that make it easier for us to recognize and analyze certain behaviors in potential child molesters or pedophiles. I especially appreciate the way she clarifies that women are child molesters and pedophiles too. Precious little information is available to the public about female child sexual molesters; too many people still believe women don't hurt children the way some men do. Unfortunately, this kind of continued ignorance and denial enables too many female perpetrators to continue their equally grievous crimes against children, undetected and unpunished. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Honey of Honey's Life Bought this as my Godson was being molested and was looking to support him and his mom.

The book covers the disturbing issues of incest and child sexual abuse, the greatest hidden epidemic in America. Readers will get information on recognizing the signs and symptoms and what to do if you learn your child has been sexually abused. Understanding the quagmire of the judicial system is covered with solid step-by-step advice. The book explains the difference in family, juvenile and criminal courts; social service agencies, and the guardian-ad-litem, and it prepares families that may find themselves in this complicated and often confusing arena. The sections about child molesters arms parents with knowledge to protect their children. The book offers advice for adult survivors of sexual abuse to help them reclaim their lives and move forward is valuable information. This book is a tremendous resource for parents, legal and psychological professionals, and all adults who are concerned about the health and safety of our children.

"A Bible for anyone who works with or even cares about our children, our future" -- Candice Rosing Delong, Special Agent and author of *My Life on the Front Lines as a Woman in the FBI* In the short span of a few hours, readers can understand child abuse better than it was understood before. -- Midwest Book Ms. Reeves provides good and practical advice for those who have to deal with such a horrifying and irrational situation -- Robyn Morris, MA (Forensic Psychology), Biblio .com This book should be required reading for every lawyer, judge, all parents, social service workers, doctors, and therapists. -- BookLoons.com ed by Mary Ann Smyth About the Author Claire R. Reeves is a nationally recognized expert in incest and child sexual abuse. Reeves has testified as an expert witness in both civil and criminal court cases. In 1992 Reeves founded MOTHERS AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE (MASA), a national non-profit organization dedicated to protecting children against sexual abuse. As she spearheaded MASA Reeves also set up programs to assist non-offending parents and guardians of children who had been sexually abused. These parents had no idea how to maneuver through the quagmire of the family and juvenile courts. Reeves was there with emotional support, knowledge and compassion to the families who were so devastated. Claire Reeves has appeared as a guest on numerous television and radio shows. The organization has been profiled in newspapers and magazines across the country. Reeves has been a sought after speaker for conferences nationwide and she has lectured at many universities, hospitals, social service organizations and other organizations dedicated to preventing child sexual abuse. Claire Reeves has received many honors for her important work. Reeves was honored by the mayor of Los Angeles for her work with children. The California Assembly and Senate have both bestowed honors on Reeves. The county of Los Angeles awarded Reeves for her dedicated service to the people of Los Angeles. Governor Pete Wilson honored Reeves with a special tribute in 1996. In 1997 Reeves was honored as a Woman of the Year for Los Angeles County. Many new laws to support victims were designed and supported in the state of California. One of the most important was to eliminate the statute of limitations for criminal prosecution in cases of incest and child sexual abuse. Reeves, through MASA, worked tirelessly to allow redress for victims in the courts in California. Reeves worked closely with then Governor Pete Wilson for the chemical castration law to be passed. Reeves also worked closely with Attorney General Dan Lungren to pass legislation for a 900 hundred telephone number that would identify registered sex offenders in the state of California. While Claire Reeves is deeply grateful for the honors that she has received, her passion is for the child victims and adult survivors of sexual abuse. Reeves would like to see national educational and prevention programs. Training needs to be provided for those who decide the fate of abused children. Education is an enormous part of the answer and that is the goal of CHILDHOOD, IT SHOULD NOT HURT! Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. chpt 1 A SOCIETAL ISSUE In our society, as in many cultures, "family" has always

been considered sacrosanct whatever happens in the family is private. However, when dysfunctional family members spill over into an innocent society and cause harm, it seems to me it is everyones affair. We live in a country where almost anyone can earn a living and lifestyles are the highest in the world, yet crime rates are soaring and our jails are full, to overflowing. Where are all these criminals coming from? We have all heard the "Abuse Excuse": he robbed the liquor store because his mother used to beat him; she murdered her kids because her father raped her when she was five. This defense is used so routinely that it has become standard fodder for media talking heads, who jeer and vilify it. Nevertheless, studies bear it out: over 90% of all inmates in this country were abused children. They are what I call "non-survivors." They never learned how to overcome the dysfunction of their childhood and reclaim their lives. Many people over the years have asked me how I can work with such an issue as child sexual abuse it is so depressing and upsetting. My answer has always been, "If it is depressing and upsetting for me as an adult, what must it be for the little child who is experiencing the abuse?" But the truth goes much deeper than that.