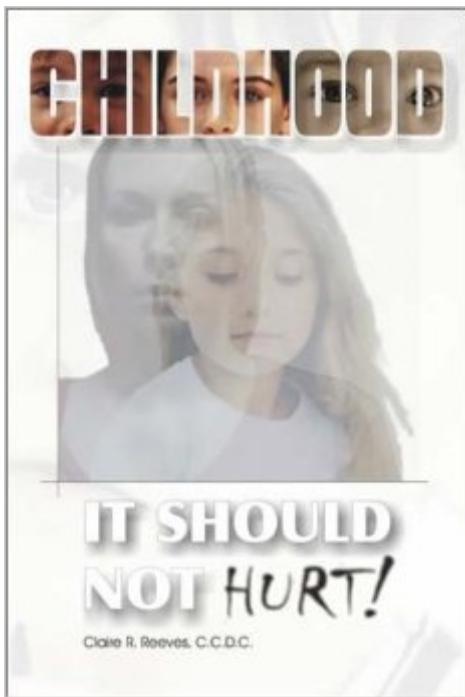


The book was found

# ChildHood: It Should Not Hurt



## **Synopsis**

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.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Throughout my 20 years as a Special Agent with the FBI, I worked on numerous cases in which children were victimized, or I worked on cases in which an adult (male or female) was abused as a child, and now victimizes others. Though I am now retired, I still read a great deal on matters related to various types of violent crime, victims, and the justice system. Without question this book is the most comprehensive I've ever seen, and it's a quick read. It's very straightforward and written in a down-to-earth manner. Most important, it looks at every conceivable aspect of child sex abuse, (and some things of which even I was unaware). For example, though I knew that the concept of "reunification" of an abused or neglected child with the offending parent was a common goal in

social service as well as judicial circles, I had no idea that it was a federal mandate. I am also painfully aware that it rarely works. Sadly, many children die every year in this country because they were reunited with the wrong parent. Reeves discusses in her book why reunification must be stopped, and how to go about doing it. What I liked most about the book is that private citizens as well as professionals can benefit from the vast information contained in the pages. Reeves doesn't simply identify the problems and leave the reader feeling overwhelmed and helpless, she offers step-by-step advice on exactly what (and what not) to do from the moment abuse is suspected. Lastly, she offers adult survivors of child sex abuse the hope and encouragement they need to start healing and "reclaim" the life their abuser stole. I highly recommend this book to not only professionals who have chosen to work with children, but to anyone who cares about our children, our future.

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.

Claire Reeves really knows how to hit the nail on the head when it comes to child predators! As the mother of two children who were assaulted by a neighbor that turned out to be a serial rapist, I truly wish I'd had this book in my hands when I went to court. This book needs to be in the hands of every pediatrician, counselor, day care worker, victims' advocate and juvenile court official in the country!

My 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.

While no single book can encompass EVERYTHING one needs to know about the critical issues of child sexual abuse, Claire Reeves does a fantastic job in her book, "Childhood, It Should Not Hurt!" Being a non-offending mother myself, six years ago I went searching the bookstores for books like these to no avail. I wish I had found this book then. Although difficult in retrospect to read some of the accounts with which I can so readily identify, I find this book to be an excellent guide for non-offending parents and survivors. The reader will most definitely find Chapter 10: Parental Alienation Syndrome, and Chapter 17: Pedophilia: An Alternative Lifestyle? both shocking and eye-opening. I had no knowledge that such opinions exist and are even finding their way into our children's sex-education curriculum. I can't fathom a society that condones and even encourages pedophilia - we can not let our societal values become that lax!!! Also exceptional are the comprehensive Recommended Reading List and Resources sections at the end of the book. I am honored to have recently met Claire via email and telephone. She is a woman of amazing strength and integrity. I appreciate and applaud her continuous efforts in keeping all children safe from predators.

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