Press Release

For Immediate Release

When horrendous cases of child maltreatment make headlines, it makes all of us consider how we can do better

February 2, 2018: The Turpin case in California is a tragedy for all involved. Thankfully, such horrific cases are quite rare – and while unusual, even one is unacceptable. At the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) and the California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC), we believe that the public wants to do everything possible to prevent any child from experiencing abuse and neglect.

APSAC and CAPSAC members represent the myriad of professionals working to prevent child maltreatment and ensure the best possible intervention for children when it occurs. While facing the horrific circumstances of this case will be difficult for all involved, we know the child maltreatment professionals involved will work diligently to provide the survivors with as many resources as needed to set them on a path of recovery; every profession represented by APSAC membership will have a role to play in seeking both justice and recovery.

What can you do to help? Encourage all sectors of your community not to be silent when there are suspicions that a child is being abused or neglected. In the United States, there is both federal and state legislation mandating that certain members of the community report suspected child maltreatment. Remind the members of your community that they do not need to be a “mandated reporter” to make a report of suspected abuse or neglect. Reasonable suspicion is justification enough to make a report to the state or federal child abuse hotline in good faith. The report to either law enforcement or child protective services would initiate a response if the information provided reaches the criteria of abuse or neglect within the respective state.

Our hearts go out to the victims impacted by this case, and we offer our support and encouragement to the professionals charged with helping the survivors more forward.

The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)
The California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC)

Expert commentary available.