

STOP...

Adult Abuse

is wrong

Proof version only - covers and partnership branding to be decided



DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL
SOCIAL SERVICES

What are my rights?

People with learning disabilities have the same rights as everybody else.



Respect

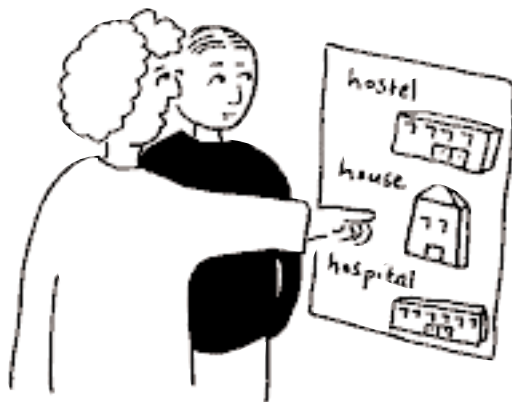
we have the right to the same respect as other people.



Choices

this does not mean we can have everything we want.

It means we have a right to make our own choices in our lives and to choose how we spend our money



Safety

we have the right to live safely like other people to live with friends or in our own homes.

Abuse - what is it?

What is it?

Abuse is when someone does or says things to you that makes you upset or frightened. You may be scared to speak out or stop them.



What can I do about it?

What if it happens to me or someone I know?

It is important to speak out and tell someone who you trust. Do this as soon as you can.




There are different kinds of abuse

Physical abuse




When someone hurts you - hits you, burns you or kicks you. It may also be when someone holds you down.

Sexual abuse




is when someone touches your body and does things to you that you do not like or understand.




They may touch your private parts, undress you or have sex with you when you don't want them to.

Emotional abuse



is when people say bad things to you. They hurt your feelings, they do not listen to you, they threaten you, say you are stupid or make you feel sad.



Financial abuse



is when someone takes your money or your private things without asking you. It is when you do not have a say in how someone spends your money.



Neglect



is when people say they are going to help you but they do not. They do not help you get food, have a warm house or keep you safe from danger.



Discrimination



is when people say bad things to you because you are different from them.

You may be a different colour, have a different religion, be disabled, speak a different language. They may not let you go to church or temple, or have the care you need.



Who might abuse me?



Anyone could abuse you. It might be someone you know or a stranger.

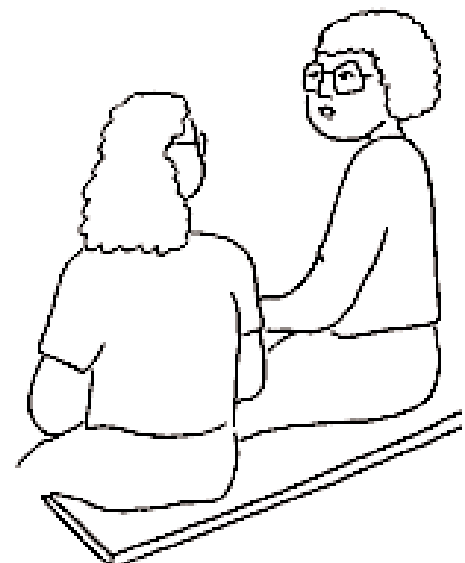
Who will help stop the abuse?



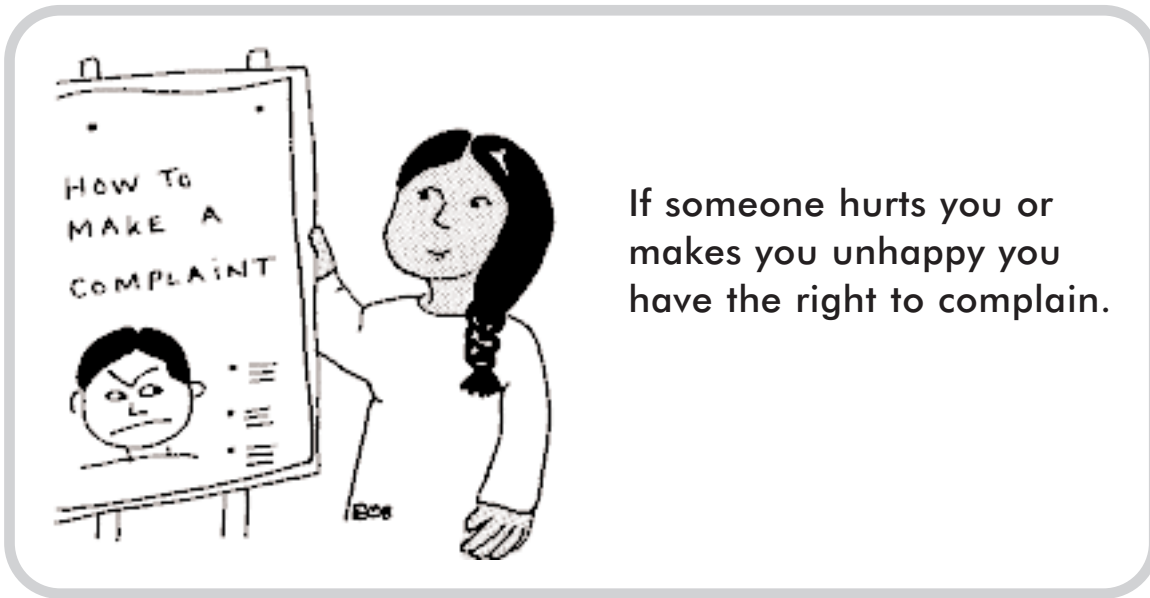
You can tell someone you trust. This could be staff, a friend, a teacher, your advocate, your family, a doctor, a nurse, someone from your church, a police officer, a care manager or social worker.



It is important that you tell a person who you trust.



Do I have the right to complain



If someone hurts you or makes you unhappy you have the right to complain.

How do I complain?

You can tell someone that you are unhappy.

You can ask them for help.

It is a good idea to write down why you are unhappy in a letter or ask someone to do it for you. You can keep a copy.



Who do you contact if you are worried about abuse or you wish to make a complaint?

You may contact your care manager or social worker if you have one. You can visit them at your local Social Services office or phone them. If you do not know who to speak to then you can contact the nearest Learning Disability Community Team to where you live.

Learning Disability Community Teams

Exeter and East Devon

Franklyn House
Franklyn Drive
St Thomas
EXETER EX2 9HS
Tel. 01392 208735

Jerrard Wing
Honiton Hospital
Marlpits Road
HONITON EX14 2DE
Tel. 01404 540523

The Annexe
Exmouth Hospital
Claremont Grove
EXMOUTH EX8 JW
Tel. 01395 226097

Mid and North Devon

Alexandra Lodge
5 Old Road
TIVERTON EX16 4HQ
Tel. 01392 383098

Abbotsham Road
BIDEFORD EX39 3AF
Tel. 01237 475693

South Hams West Devon and Teignbridge

Butterpark
Brook Road
IVYBRIDGE PL21 0AX
Tel. 01752 891007

Ryefields
Avery Hill
KINGSTEIGNTON TQ12 3QG
Tel. 01626 216260

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Further copies from:

Other formats: To get a copy of this leaflet in a format that makes it easier for you to read, or in another language, please contact the Public Information & Communication Section, Social Services, County Hall, Exeter EX2 4QR, Tel. 01392 382332.

Comments on this leaflet: Please contact the Head of Public Information & Communication, Tel. 01392 382566 (address above). Email: paul.giblin@devon.gov.uk



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SOCIAL SERVICES**