

12 Myths about Child Sexual Abuse

- 1. Children lie about being sexually abused.**
- 2. Reports of child sexual abuse are exaggerated in the media.**
- 3. Children invite sexual abuse by provocative behavior.**
- 4. If the child did not want to participate in the sexual abuse, they could stop it.**
- 5. Children recant or take back their story of sexual abuse because it never really happened.**
- 6. If a child has been sexually abused there will be physical/medical evidence to prove it.**
- 7. Children who don't act traumatized must not have been abused.**
- 8. Just because there is a little inappropriate touching doesn't mean that any real damage is done.**
- 9. Most children are sexually abused by a stranger.**
- 10. Men who sexually abuse boys are homosexual**
- 11. Boys are able to handle the emotional impact of being sexually abused better than girls.**
- 12. Children who are sexually abused will sexually abuse others.**