

Myths about male sexual victimisation

- 1) Males cannot be sexually abused or victimised.
- 2) If a male has 'allowed' the abuse, then he is a sissy or weakling.
- 3) Boys/youth can always say no to abuse if violence is not used. If they didn't, then they must have wanted the abuse to occur.
- 4) If a male becomes sexually aroused, then he is an equal participant in the abuse.
- 5) Most sexual abuse of males is perpetrated by homosexual men.
- 6) Sexual abuse turns a boy/youth gay.
- 7) Sexually abused boys/youth inevitably become sexually abusive men.
- 8) Males are less traumatised by sexual victimisation than are females.
- 9) Perpetration by females is rare.
- 10) Perpetration by a female is less harmful than by males. In fact, if the perpetrator is female, then the straight boy/youth got 'lucky'. He is fortunate to have been initiated into heterosexual activity. A gay boy/youth is 'lucky' if he has been initiated into homosexual activity by an older male.