

Facilitator's Guide to the "You Matter" Safe Environment Training Video for Employees, Volunteers, Clergy and Parents

Introduction

The "You Matter" Safe Environment Training Video for Employees, Volunteers, Clergy and Parents was created by the Archdiocese of Atlanta to help educate these groups on matters of sexual abuse. Training adults in our archdiocese is an important part of our commitment to our sacred duty to protect the most vulnerable among us: our children and vulnerable individuals.

Your role as a facilitator for this video is a very important mission. You have been entrusted with the responsibility of imparting this crucial information so that others are able to understand and learn from it.

About the Video

The "You Matter" video for adults is approximately one hour long. The video provides information on the following:

- Policies and procedures of the Archdiocese of Atlanta as they pertain to sexual abuse
- Reporting procedures
- Stories from survivors of abuse. These stories are hard to hear, but they are necessary to help promote understanding of the survivor's perspective.
- Information on creating safe environments
- Information on the nature of sexual abuse
- Possible signs of abuse
- Possible indicators of abusers
- Information on the crisis of abuse in the Church
- Information about the USCCB Office of Child and Youth Protection and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People
- Information on the need for therapy for healing

Before the Video

It is very important to realize that you most likely will have survivors of abuse in your audience. You must assume this is true when facilitating this program and be very conscious of their needs. In addition, there will be many people in your audience who know and love survivors of abuse. This information will sometimes be hard for both of these groups of people to hear.

Because of the sensitive and emotional nature of this information, you need to have people with counseling or good listening skills available for people to talk to.

Preparations Before the Video

Before the video presentation, you must do the following:

- Pray
- Arrange for counselors or other good listeners to be available
- Watch the video yourself so that you are aware of your reaction and are familiar with the material
- Prepare the viewing environment to ensure that it is comfortable and conducive for training
- Be ready to read the video introduction script
- Review the printed materials so that you are familiar with the material and have enough copies for everyone
- Be ready to read the prayer in the opening of the video aloud with the viewers

Announcement Before the Video

The “You Matter” video presentation is for employees, volunteers, clergy, and parents in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. It is an essential part of our effort to try to prevent, recognize and report sexual abuse.

I have given each of you a form to record your name and information. You must turn in this form to receive credit for viewing this video. You may not work with children or vulnerable individuals in the Archdiocese of Atlanta until you have watched this video.

Before watching this video, it is important to understand that this information might be difficult to hear at times, but it is essential to all those who have regular contact with children and/or vulnerable individuals.

This video has strong content and is meant only for adults over 18. There are portions of this video that may make you sad or upset. However, it is not our intent to cause you any pain. If you find yourself unable to watch this video, please excuse yourself. We strongly suggest that you then talk to someone about your pain.

If after watching the video you find that you need to talk to someone, we suggest that you find a trusted friend or counselor. If you need help finding a counselor or a good listener, we are ready to assist you in that process.

After the Video

Ensure that everyone completes and returns the video form and notified them all that it will be placed in their volunteer file.