

Facilitator's Guide to the "You Matter" Video for Teens

Introduction

The "You Matter" Safe Environment Training Video for Teens was created by the Archdiocese of Atlanta to help educate teenagers on matters of sexual abuse. Educating teenagers about sexual abuse 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 teens provides information on the following:

- The nature of sexual abuse
- Reporting procedures
- Information on creating safe environments
- Information on the nature of sexual abuse
- Possible signs of abuse
- Possible indicators of abusers
- Policies and procedures of the Archdiocese of Atlanta as they pertain to sexual abuse
- Stories from victims/survivors
- 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:

- Ensure that parents have been notified in advance of the training. No child should be included in Safe Environment Training (Article 12 of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People) without a signed parental approval form.
- 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 below (or put into your own words).
- Review the Reporting Cards so that you are familiar with them and have enough for everyone

Announcement Before the Video

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

Before watching this video, it is important to understand that this information might be difficult to hear at times, but it is essential that we all understand the nature of sexual abuse, how to help prevent it, and what to do if it happens.

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 talk to your youth leader.

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 here to help you do that.