



Sexual Abuse Awareness Puppet Program

Maximum Number of Students: 50
Program Length: 30 minutes

Program Synopsis

Joanne mentions to Stephen that she once had a “touching problem” happen with her mother’s boyfriend, Len. She tells Stephen that she disclosed her story to Mr. Kontos, a trusted grown up.

Joanne and Stephen then act out her conversation with Mr. Kontos and how she got help. She emphasizes how it is **never** a child’s fault. Joanne takes questions from the audience.

Note: Len is not in the show.

Key Program Points:

- Abuse is **never** the child’s fault!
- The definition of sexual abuse as a “touching problem” is: when someone touches, looks at, takes photos of, or asks to be touched in private parts of the body (the parts that are covered by a bathing suit).
- The importance of knowing and using the correct names for body parts, including genitals.
- Sexual abuse can happen to anyone, of any age or gender.
- Len was “grooming” Joanne over time, asking her to keep small secrets.
- Joanne had a lot of different feelings.
- Abuse often occurs with someone a child knows.
- We discuss disclosure strategies and how to identify helpful adults.
- We help kids understand their right to privacy, and what “consent” is.
- We let them know there is help if this is happening to them.

Resources

[Prevent Child Abuse Vermont](#)

[Hope Works VT](#)

[RAINN](#) (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)

[Vermont Department of Children and Families’ Child Sexual Abuse Prevention page](#)

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Have a good resource you’d like to share? Email Karen at: karen.sharpwolf@vtfn.org