Physical abuse is the non-accidental infliction of physical injury on a child. In most cases, the person causing the abuse is a family member or caregiver. Most often, the person responsible for the abuse may not be able to explain the child’s injuries, have inconsistencies in his or her story, or appear unconcerned about the injury.

- Physical abuse affects children of all racial, economic, and ethnic backgrounds.
- The parent or caregiver had not been intended to harm their child during physical abuse.
- Signs of abuse can be subtle.

Physical abuse can be caused by a parent’s inability to control anger or impulses. This type of abuse is usually caused by the parent’s or caregiver’s own behavioral problems including substance abuse, depression, anxiety, or other mental health problems. Traumatic experiences like abuse or violence during childhood can also contribute to this type of abuse.

These signs can also indicate other serious diseases or conditions that require emergency medical attention.

- Do not shake the baby – ever. Shaking the baby can cause brain damage and death.

Learn how to protect a child here.

Shaken Baby Signs: Inconsolable irritability. No crying or vocalization. Poor sucking or swallowing. Rigidity or rigidity. Intensive or vomiting. Seizures. Head or forehead appears larger than usual or soft or head appears to be bulging. Inability to lift head. Instability of eyes to focus or track movement, or unequal size of pupils.

United States/South America/Canada www.abusewatch.net
Ireland/Uk/Europe www.abusewatch.eu
Africa, Australia and New Zealand www.abusewatch.info

"A child seldom needs a good talking to as a good listening to." - Robert Brault

One Child International
www.1child.net

© Copyright 2010 - 2011 One Child International Inc.