



Let the Children Come

Preparing Faith Communities to End Child Abuse and Neglect

by *Jeanette Harder*

- Are children safe at your church?
- What precautions have you taken to ensure they won't be abused?
- Do you know how to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect?
- What should you do if you suspect a child in your church or neighborhood is being abused or neglected?

If you aren't sure how to answer those questions, you need *Let the Children Come*, a new book from Herald Press that helps churches and church-related ministries learn how to keep children safe and strengthen families.

In the context of the Bible and faith, *Let the Children Come* helps Christians learn about their role in ending child abuse and neglect in all communities: church, home, extended family, neighborhood, school, work. Each chapter contains real-life stories, discussion questions and action items; the appendix includes prayers, readings and exercises for use in adult education.

213 pages. Paper. \$12.99 USD, \$14.99 CAD
www.mpn.net/letthechildrencome

Table of Contents

- Dispelling myths of child abuse and neglect
- Our spheres of influence
- What does the Bible have to say about abuse and neglect?
- Child abuse and neglect 101
- A look at neglect and emotional abuse
- A look at physical abuse
- A look at sexual abuse
- Risk and protective factors for abuse and neglect
- Offenders of abuse and neglect
- Ending child abuse in communities
- Ending child abuse in churches
- Child abuse prevention policies in churches

About the Author

Jeanette Harder is on faculty at the Grace Abbott School of Social Work at the University of Nebraska of Omaha, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate courses. She and her husband, Stan, are members of First Mennonite Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. They have one son, Jonathan, 12.

"Sadly, children are being hurt and killed every day through abuse and neglect. While the church would like to believe that 'it doesn't happen here,' research and experience tell us that it does. Members of our faith communities need training to recognize the signs of abuse and to know how to respond. Faith communities need to be reminded of their role in protecting children, strengthening families, and ending child abuse and neglect."

—**Jeanette Harder**

Order from the author: jharder@unomaha.edu
\$12.99 (plus shipping and handling)
or by credit card: www.DovesNest.net/letthechildrencome