

**DCDD** Showcase Presentation:  
Awareness & Prevention of Abuse/Neglect as  
Experienced by Children w/ Disabilities



Harold Johnson: 1971-2006

Harold A. Johnson  
Michigan State University  
April 26, 2011

CEC National Convention, National Harbor, MD

**Note:** A copy of this presentation can be found at:

<http://deafed-childabuse-neglect-col.wiki.educ.msu.edu/Presentations>

At the conclusion of this presentation I am going to challenge you to do four things.

1. Break the “taboo,” have a conversation with a colleague about the abuse and neglect experienced by children with disabilities.
2. Observe your students for any signs of abuse or neglect and call the Childhelp “Hotline,” i.e., 1-800-4-A-Child, if you suspect one of your students may be experiencing maltreatment.
3. Ask your employer and CEC to provide you with more training and support so that you can protect your students from experiencing abuse and neglect.
4. Join the CEC Division for Communicative Disabilities & Deafness (DCDD) ([www.dcdd.us/](http://www.dcdd.us/)) in a collaborative effort to enhance initial and ongoing professional development to prevent the abuse and neglect of children with disabilities.

# Where can you go to learn how to prevent, recognize, report, and respond to abuse and neglect as experienced by children with disabilities?

- Child Abuse & Neglect Community of Learners for Children with Disabilities

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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**O.U.R Children Coalition**  
**(Observe, Understand, & Respond)**  
**Child Abuse & Neglect Community of Learners for Children with Disabilities**

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**Recognizing the signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect**

- [OUR Children - Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect.pdf](#)

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**Please help by reading, and then passing along this article provided by Harold Johnson and Descriptive & Captioned Media Programs (DCMP)**

Stories of child abuse and neglect (CAN) represent a horrific reality that is difficult to comprehend, much less accept. Unfortunately, such difficulty does not stop people from abusing children, including children with disabilities. In this article, Harold Johnson, a professor of special education at Michigan State University, explains how to detect and prevent CAN and that research indicates CAN is experienced by children with disabilities at a rate that is three times that experienced by their nondisabled peers. CAN destroys lives, devastates families, and damages organizations, but Johnson also outlines how to be proactive and stop that from happening.

["CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT: CAN \(#250\)"](#)

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**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children Helpline: 1-800-222-4453**

[Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline](#)

# Thank You

## Together We CAN Make a Difference

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