

Queensland University of Technology

Brisbane Australia

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Drawing by Julia, aged 8 years. Julia has given us permission to use her drawing on our survey.

Teacher Reporting Questionnaire

Detecting and reporting child sexual abuse is one of the most challenging tasks a teacher may face, but it is also one of the most important.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. By doing so, you are helping us to work out features of the most effective legislative practice for teachers' reporting of child sexual abuse.

We greatly value your participation and appreciate your responses.

Teacher Reporting Questionnaire

for Queensland non-State School staff

Please mark the appropriate box **x** or write your response in the space provided.

What is your gender?			Male Female		
How old are you?			years old		
What is your marital status?			Single Married or cohab	itating	□ ₃ Separated or divorced □ ₄ Widowed
Are you a parent/guardian?		□ ₁	Yes No		
What is your highest qualifica	tion?	□ ₁ □ ₂ □ ₃ □ ₄	Diploma Bachelor Graduate Diploma Masters	□ 6	PhD or Prof. Doctorate Other (please specify)
tion B: Work Information					
Which of the following best describes the main part of your current job?	□ ₂ Tead □ ₃ Tead □ ₄ Assi □ ₅ Prin	cher Ye	ars 5-7 Deputy Principal	0 □8 S □9 S	chool Counsellor/Guidance ifficer chool Chaplain upply/relief teacher ither (please specify)
Which of the following best describes the main part of	☐2 Tead ☐3 Tead ☐4 Assi ☐5 Prin ☐6 Spe	cher Yeacher Y	ars 1-4 ars 5-7 Peputy Principal	00 □8 S □9 S □10 0 	fficer chool Chaplain upply/relief teacher
Which of the following best describes the main part of your current job? On what basis are you	☐2 Tead ☐3 Tead ☐4 Assi ☐5 Prin ☐6 Spe ☐1 Perr ☐2 Perr	cher Yeacher Y	ars 1-4 ars 5-7 Deputy Principal Teacher (Full-time) (Part-time)	0 □8 S □9 S □10 O 	officer chool Chaplain upply/relief teacher ther (please specify) contract

Section C: Education/Training Information Have you had any <u>pre-service</u> 10 If No, please □₁ Yes \square_2 No teacher education related to go directly to If Yes, please Question 11 child sexual abuse? answer a)and b) a) How adequately did your pre-service education prepare you to identify indicators of child sexual abuse? \Box_4 \square_3 \square_1 \square_2 \square_5 Inadequately Most adequately b) How adequately did your pre-service education prepare you to follow reporting processes for child sexual abuse? \square_2 \square_3 \Box_4 \Box_5 Inadequately Most adequately Have you had any formal 11 If No, please □₁ Yes \square_2 No in-service training related to go directly to If Yes, please Question 12 child abuse and neglect in answer a) to d) general? a) Approximately how much training? hours b) Did you attend in-service training in □₁ Yes the past 12 months? \square_2 No c) How adequately did your in-service training prepare you to identify indicators of child sexual abuse? \Box_4 \Box_5 \bigcap_1 \square_2 Inadequately Most adequately d) How adequately did your in-service training prepare you to follow reporting processes for child sexual abuse? \square_5 \Box_1 \square_2 \square_3 Most adequately Inadequately How much confidence do you have in your \square_1 \square_2 \square_3 \Box_4 \square_5 ability to identify indicators of child sexual No confidence A great deal abuse? of confidence How much knowledge do you have about 13 \square_2 \square_3 \square_4 \Box_1 \square_5 the indicators of child sexual abuse? No knowledge A great deal of knowledge **Section D: Reporting Information** → In this section, the term "reporting" refers to formal reports you have made to the school principal, child protection authorities, police etc. Is there an informed or knowledgeable staff member at □₁ Yes your school with whom you can discuss your concerns \square_2 No about cases of child sexual abuse?

L 5	Have you ever reported child sexual abuse?	□₁ Yes ⇔ Ho	w many cases	s?	
		\square_2 No			
6	Have you ever suspected child sexual abuse but decided not to report it?		➤ How many o	cases? ver Questions :	17 to 19
		□ ₂ No —	► Please go di	rectly to Section	on E
8	If legislation at the time required you to report thes would you have reported them? If educational authority policy or formal school policy time required you to report these cases, would you reported them?	cy at the (have	☐1 Yes ☐2 No ☐1 Yes ☐2 No		
	Congrally, how important were the following feature		(s) not to rep	ort these cas	_
9	Generally, how important were the following factors (Please mark one box ☑ per statement)	in your decision			ses?
9	-	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not At All
a) I	-	Very	Important		Not At All
a) l	(Please mark one box ☑ per statement) feared being sued for making an unsubstantiated	Very Important		Important	Not At All Important
a) l re o) l	(Please mark one box 🗷 per statement) feared being sued for making an unsubstantiated eport	Very Important	Пз		Not At All Importan
a) re o)	(Please mark one box 🗷 per statement) feared being sued for making an unsubstantiated eport feared retaliation by parent(s)/community members feared reporting would cause more harm to the child	Very Important 4 4 4 4	□ ₃		Not At All
(E E E E E E E E E E	(Please mark one box per statement) feared being sued for making an unsubstantiated eport feared retaliation by parent(s)/community members feared reporting would cause more harm to the child han good feared the child may be removed from his or her fan was concerned about possible damage to the school elationship with the child/child's parents	Very Important 4 4 4 4 1 4 1 1 4 1 1 1 1	□ ₃ □ ₃	Important 2 2 2	Not At All Important
a) reco) the control of the cont	(Please mark one box per statement) feared being sued for making an unsubstantiated eport feared retaliation by parent(s)/community members feared reporting would cause more harm to the child han good feared the child may be removed from his or her fan was concerned about possible damage to the school	Very Important 4 4 4 4 1 4 1 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4	□3 □3 □3 □3	Important 2 2 2 2 2 2	Not At All Important

g) I thought that child protective services were unlikely to provide effective help	□ 4	Пз	□ 2	\Box_1
h) I did not have enough evidence to be sure abuse actually happened	 4	З	\square_2	
i) I thought it was better to work through the issue with the family first	□ 4	Пз	\square_2	
j) Other reason (please specify)	<u></u> 4	З	\square_2	
k) Other reason (please specify)	<u></u> 4	З		
Other reason (please specify)	<u>_</u> 4	З		

Section E: Attitudes about Reporting Child Sexual Abuse

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In relation to reporting child sexual abuse, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

(Please mark one box **▼** per statement)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a) I plan to report child sexual abuse when I suspect it.	\square_1	\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ ₅
b) I would be apprehensive to report child sexual abuse for fear of family/community retaliation.	\Box_1	\square_2	□з	□ 4	□ ₅
 c) I would be reluctant to report a case of child sexual abuse because of what parents will do to the child if he/she is reported. 		<u></u>	Пз	□ 4	□ 5
d) The procedures for reporting child sexual abuse are familiar to me.		\square_2	□з	□ 4	□5
e) I would like to fulfil my professional responsibility by reporting suspected cases of child sexual abuse.			Пз	□ 4	□5
 Reporting child sexual abuse is necessary for the safety of children. 		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□5
g) I feel emotionally overwhelmed by the thought of reporting child sexual abuse.	\Box_1	\square_2	□з	□ 4	□ 5
h) I would not report child sexual abuse if I knew the child would be removed from their home/family.		□ 2	Пз	□ 4	□ 5
 Reporting child sexual abuse can enable services to be made available to children and families. 		\square_2	Пз	□4	□ ₅
 j) I would consider not reporting child sexual abuse because of the possibility of being sued. 		\square_2	З	□ 4	□ 5
k) There is a lot of sensitivity associated with reporting child sexual abuse.	\Box_1	\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ 5
 Child sexual abuse reporting guidelines are necessary for teachers. 		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ 5
m) It is important for teachers to be involved in reporting child sexual abuse to prevent long-term consequences for children.		\square_2	Пз	□4	□ ₅
 n) I believe that the current system for reporting child sexual abuse is effective in addressing the problem. 		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ 5
o) Teachers who report child sexual abuse that is unsubstantiated can get into trouble.		\square_2	З	□ 4	□ 5
 p) It is a waste of time to report child sexual abuse because no one will follow up on the report. 		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ ₅
 q) I would still report child sexual abuse even if my school administration disagreed with me. 		\square_2	□з	□ ₄	□ ₅
r) I lack confidence in the authorities to respond effectively to reports of child sexual abuse.		\square_2	□з	□ ₄	□ ₅
s) I will consult with an administrator before I report child sexual abuse.		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ ₅
t) I would find it difficult to report child sexual abuse because it is hard to gather enough evidence.		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□5
u) A child sexual abuse report can cause a parent to become more abusive toward the child.		\square_2	Пз	□ 4	□ ₅

Section F: Knowledge of Teachers' Duties to Report Child Sexual Abuse under EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITY POLICY or FORMAL SCHOOL POLICY

21	My educational authority or school has a formal policy unde which teachers must report suspected child sexual abuse:	□ 1 Yes → Please answer question 22 1 □ 2 No → Please go directly to Section G 1 am unsure → Please go directly to Section G
22	Do you think you are familiar enough with your reporting duty under educational authority polior formal school policy to answe questions about it?	cy
	ase answer to the best of your mer ase mark one box 🗷 per question.	mory. Your answers will assist in preparing future training.
23	Under the <i>policy</i> , I must report:	 ☐₁ All reasonable suspicions of child sexual abuse, no matter who the suspected perpetrator is ☐₂ Only reasonable suspicions of child sexual abuse where the suspected perpetrator is an employee of the school ☐₃ I am unsure
24	Under the <i>policy</i> , I must report:	 □₁ Only when I am certain that a child has been or is being sexually abused □₂ Whenever I have a reasonable suspicion that a child has been or is being sexually abused □₃ I am unsure
25	Under the <i>policy</i> , I must report child sexual abuse:	 Only when I think the child is suffering (or is at risk of suffering) a significant detrimental effect to his or her physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing Even when I think the harm to the child is insignificant or there is no apparent harm at all I am unsure
26	Under the <i>policy</i> , I must report child sexual abuse:	 □₁ Only when I think it has already happened □₂ When I think it has already happened, or, when I think it is likely to occur in the future □₃ I am unsure
27	Under the <i>policy</i> , I should generally report to:	 □₁ The school principal or a director of the school's governing body □₂ Department of Child Safety □₃ I am unsure
28	Under the <i>policy</i> , if I make a report in good faith, my identity as the reporter is protected from disclosure:	□ ₁ Yes □ ₂ No □ ₃ I am unsure

29 Under the <i>policy</i> , if a teacher to a student has been sexually all who is <u>not an employee of the</u> forward the report to the relevant	bused by someone school, I must	 □₁ Even if I do not reason child has been sexually □₂ Only if I do reasonable has been sexually abute □₃ I am unsure 	y abused bly suspect the child
Section G: Knowledge of Teachers'	Duties to Report Chil	d Sayual Abusa undar I FG	ISI ATION
Section d. Milowicuge of Teachers	Duties to Report Offi	u Sexual Abuse unider Eld	ISLATION
Do you think you are familiar enough with your reporting dut under <i>legislation</i> to answer questions about it?	ty □₂ No →	Please answer questions 3 Please go directly to Section	
Please answer to the best of your men	nory. Your answers will a	assist in preparing future traini	ng.
Please mark one box 🗷 per question.			
As a teacher or school staff member in a non-State school in Queensland, I am required by <i>legislation</i> to report:	the suspected p \Box_2 Only reasonable	uspicions of child sexual abu erpetrator is suspicions of child sexual ab etrator is an employee of the	ouse where the
32 Under the <i>legislation</i> , I must report:	abused	certain that a child has been e a <u>reasonable suspicion</u> tha abused	
Under the <i>legislation</i> , I must report child sexual abuse:		k the harm to the child is <u>sig</u> n nk the harm to the child is <u>in</u> <u>m at all</u>	
Under the <i>legislation</i> , I must report child sexual abuse:	•	k it has already happened as already happened, or, who uture	en I think it is likely
Under the <i>legislation</i> , I must report child sexual abuse to:	\Box_1 The school princ \Box_2 Department of \Box_3 I am unsure	cipal or a director of the school	ol's governing body
Under the legislation, I must report child sexual abuse:		soon as I have a reasonable of developing a reasonable s	

→ For <u>Principals</u> only:

37	Under the <i>legislation</i> , I must report the relevant details of sexual abuse:	\square_2	In an oral statem In writing (e.g. fa I am unsure		, • ,
38	Under the <i>legislation</i> , if I make a report in good faith, my identity as the reporter is protected from disclosure:		Yes No I am unsure		
39	Under the <i>legislation</i> , if I do not make a report of child sexual abuse when required to, I am liable to a maximum penalty of:	□ ₁ □ ₂ □ ₃	\$1,500 \$22,000 I am unsure		
40	Under the <i>legislation</i> , if I make a report in good faith which is <u>not</u> substantiated:	\Box_1 \Box_2 \Box_3	I can be held liak I cannot be held I am unsure	-	9
→ For	<u>Principals</u> only:				
41	Under the <i>legislation</i> , if a teach suspect a student has been seemployee of the school, I must to the relevant authority:	xuall	y abused by an		Even if I <u>do not</u> reasonably suspect the child has been sexually abused Only if I <u>do</u> reasonably suspect the child has been sexually abused I am unsure

Section H: Scenarios

Next comes 6 scenarios that you might encounter as a teacher or school staff member. Please read them carefully and respond to the best of your knowledge.

- → In this section, the term "reporting" refers to formal reports to the school principal, child protection authorities, police etc.
- An 11 year old boy in your class is usually well behaved, completes homework consistently and performs well academically. However, he has been behaving in an out of character way for several weeks. He has been misbehaving in class, often arrives at school without having done his homework, and his grades have plummeted. During a quiet period, he tells you that for some weeks a neighbourhood acquaintance of his parents has been showing him pornography on the internet after school, and that while they looked at the pornography the man would touch the boy's private parts and his own.

g)	Would you report if you knew that <i>legislation</i> re	quired you to?	□₁ Ye	s □₂ No
f)	Would you report if you knew that your education or formal school policy required you to?	onal authority	□₁ Ye	s \square_2 No
If you	responded that you would not report this case:			
		□ ₂ No →	► Please ans	swer f) and g) below
e)	Would you report this case?	□₁ Yes →	► Please go	to Question 43
d)	Does legislation require you to report this?	□₁ Yes 〔	⊃₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	□₁ Yes 〔	□ ₂ No	□ ₃ I am unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	□₁ Yes 〔	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	□₁ Yes 〔	□ ₂ No	□ ₃ I am unsure

she whice class want	acter for her. At physical education (PE) class has become unwilling to change into her PE cloth had always been above average, has slippeds. On three occasions near the end of the school to go home until 5pm when her Mum gets hor and offers to help you with jobs. You know that	othes, and d and sh ol day, sh me from v	d has d e seen e has d work –	laim ns to cried she	ned to have have had a h	to be side to be to be troubled to be to b	ck. He ble co old yo y at s	er school v oncentration u she does chool until
a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	O ₁ Y	⁄es		No	3	lam	n unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	□ ₁ \	⁄es		No	□3	lam	າ unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	O ₁ Y	⁄es	□ ₂	No	□3	Iam	n unsure
d)	Does legislation require you to report this?	□1 Y	res	□ ₂	No	Ωз	Iam	n unsure
e)	Would you report this case?	_				go to Q u		n 44 d g) below
If you	u responded that you would not report this case Would you report if you knew that your educator or formal school policy required you to?		thority		□ 1	Yes	\square_2	No
	Would you report if you knew that legislation i	required y	you to?			Yes		 No

a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	□ ₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□ ₃ I am unsure
d)	Does <i>legislation</i> require you to report this?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
e)	Would you report this case?	□₁ Yes -	→ Please g	o to Question 45
		□ ₂ No -	→ Please a	nswer f) and g) below
f yo	u responded that you would not report this case	::		
f)	Would you report if you knew that your educat or formal school policy required you to?	ional authorit	by □1 Y	′es □₂ No
g)	Would you report if you knew that <i>legislation</i> r	equired you t	o? □₁ Y	'es □₂ No

A 6 year old girl in your class is picked up from school most days by her mother's live-in boyfriend, who

a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□ ₃ I am unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No	□₃ I am unsure
d)	Does legislation require you to report this?	□₁ Yes	□2 No	□₃ I am unsure
e)	Would you report this case?	□₁ Yes -	→ Please g	o to Question 46
		□ ₂ No −	→ Please a	nswer f) and g) below
f yo	u responded that you would not report this case Would you report if you knew that your educate		y □1 Y	′es □₂ No
	or formal school policy required you to?			
g)	Would you report if you knew that legislation r	equired you to	o? □1 Y	es □₂ No

An 8 year old girl in your class with whom you have a good rapport tells you that her father has been

a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	O ₁	Yes	□ ₂	No	□3	l ar	n unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	\Box_1	Yes	□ ₂	No	□з	l ar	n unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	\square_1	Yes	□ ₂	No	□₃	l ar	n unsure
d)	Does legislation require you to report this?	□ 1	Yes		No	3	l ar	n unsure
e)	Would you report this case?	_				go to Q o answer		on 47 d g) below
lf you	responded that you would not report this case	e:						
f)	Would you report if you knew that your educa or formal school policy required you to?	tional a	uthority	y	\Box_1	Yes	\square_2	No
g)	Would you report if you knew that legislation	required	l you to)?	□ ₁	Yes	□ ₂	No

habi class he c	early in the school year and a boy in your classified and behaves well, and intellectually is with the tries that which have drawn your attention. He tries the second several times has tried to hug you good often will play with his genitals. At play time howing his private parts to a girl from his class.	in normal de to climb all c bye when lea	evelopn over yo aving s	nental u whe	l prog en you While	ress. ı are e sitti	He has ser reading to ng in his o
a)	Do you think you have reasonable grounds for suspecting sexual abuse has occurred?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂	No	Оз	l an	n unsure
b)	Do you think significant harm has been caused, or is likely to be caused, to the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing?	□ ₁ Yes	□ ₂	No	□3	lan	n unsure
c)	Does your educational authority or formal school policy require you to report this?	□₁ Yes	□ ₂	No	Ωз	l an	n unsure
d)	Does legislation require you to report this?	□₁ Yes		No	З	I an	n unsure
e)	Would you report this case? □ ₁ Yes → Please turn the page						
		□ ₂ No	→ Pl	ease a	ınswer	f) and	d g) below
If yo f)	u responded that you would not report this case Would you report if you knew that your educat or formal school policy required you to?		ity	□1 Y	⁄es	\Box_2	No

Thank you for taking the time to complete the TRQ.

Your responses will be very helpful to us and to teachers in the future.

Please enclose the survey in the envelope provided and return it to the contact person at your school.

Place your consent form in the separate envelope and return it to the contact person at your school. The consent form and questionnaire must be kept separated by the research team as part of the ethical approval to conduct the study.

If you would like to volunteer for possible follow up by the research team, please enclose the tear off slip in the reply-paid envelope and return it to us at your convenience.

If you have any comments regarding the questionnaire, please write them here: