

A BABY NEEDS SAFETY AND GOOD CARE

which means a parent or carer, who

SAFE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT

- makes sure that the home is safe for the baby
- takes the baby out in safe environments and places
- does not abuse any substances
- takes the baby into account during arguments and protects the baby from experiences of violence
- only lets familiar/safe people who provide proper care and protection to look after the baby

PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

- touches the baby gently and holds the baby in a way that makes it feel comfortable and safe
- gives the baby suitable food regularly, ensures that the baby gets enough sleep and is properly clothed
- takes care of the baby's hygiene and health
- allows the baby to practice motor skills and supports these efforts
- takes the baby to see a doctor when the baby is ill

MENTAL WELL-BEING

- is gentle with the baby and offers age-appropriate care
- talks to the baby and describes what is happening around them
- is genuinely interested in the baby and responds to the baby's actions
- helps the baby to cope with different feelings by comforting the baby, for example
- holds the baby in their arms
- maintains eye contact with the baby
- understands the baby's boundaries and doesn't intrude
- behaves predictably
- enjoys being with the baby
- accepts the baby as its own person
- is able to separate the baby's feelings from their own feelings
- helps the baby to control its emotions so as to make the baby feel safe and positive about itself
- allows the baby to be needy and to go through different emotions
- understands the baby's perspective when sharing photos of the baby on social media

SEXUAL BOUNDARIES

- protects the baby from sexually-oriented situations and people
- respects and protects the baby's sexual boundaries

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A BABY SUFFERS FROM NEGLIGENCE AND VIOLENCE when a parent or carer

NEGLECT

- does not feed the baby enough or gives the baby an inadequate/unbalanced diet
- does not change the baby's nappies often enough
- does not offer the baby age-appropriate care
- do not dress the baby appropriately for the weather conditions
- does not take care of the baby's hygiene and health
- takes the baby to unsafe places
- spends too much time on smart devices, neglecting the baby
- allows strangers to care for the baby
- does not give the baby medicine when ill
- does not ensure that the baby gets enough sleep
- does not provide a safe daily schedule for the baby
- leaves the baby without any care
- allows the baby to live in a home or environment that is dangerous for the baby

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

- treats the baby heavy-handedly or shakes the baby
- hits, slaps or pokes the baby or pulls the baby's hair
- throws or drops the baby
- gives unnecessary medication or intoxicants to the baby
- forces the baby to eat, sleep or sit still

MENTAL VIOLENCE

- does not talk to the baby or describe what is happening around them
- does not look at the baby or hold the baby in their arms
- is indifferent to the baby
- behaves in an erratic or inconsistent manner
- behaves in an intrusive manner towards the baby
- belittles, disparages or calls the baby names
- screams, swears or snaps at the baby
- threatens the baby
- frightens the baby with facial expressions, gestures or actions
- is not interested in the baby's feelings
- does not understand / accept / respond to the baby's feelings
- expects the baby to be nice and quiet all the time
- projects their negative feelings onto the baby
- leaves the baby by itself
- allows the baby to be present during arguments and violent situations

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- unnecessarily touches the baby's genitals
- otherwise touches the baby in a sexual manner, such as kissing or stroking
- allows the baby to see or hear sexual acts

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