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peaceful hearts
FOUNDATION



Statement to the Press from Peaceful Hearts Foundation

As a national organization that advocates for the rights and protection of all survivors of childhood sexual abuse, we join the urgent call for the formation of a National Commission to address the epidemic of child sexual abuse in the United States.

Recently the federal government has chosen to focus on the important issues of sexual assaults in the military and on college campuses. Why has the sexual victimization of children, the most vulnerable of all our people, not been a priority?

According to a study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human services, some 63,000 cases of child sexual victimization were reported in 2012. Despite the increased awareness in the United States, 1 in 10 children are sexually victimized with 90% of the victimization occurring at the hands of someone the child knows, loves or cares about. It is estimated that there are more than 42 million adult survivors in the United States. We can no longer standby and allow this majorly underreported crime to go unaddressed.

Matthew Sandusky
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www.peacefulheartsfoundation.org