

## National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information National Adoption Information Clearinghouse







Gateways to Information: Protecting Children and Strengthening Families

# 2003 Child Abuse and Neglect State Statute Series Statutes-at-a-Glance **Definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect**

## What You Need to Know

Child abuse and neglect are defined by both Federal and State legislation. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) is the Federal legislation that provides minimum guidelines States must incorporate in their statutory definitions of child abuse and neglect.

Based on CAPTA guidelines, each State and U.S. Territory provides its own definitions of child abuse and neglect. As applied to reporting statutes, these definitions describe the acts and conditions that determine the grounds for State intervention in the protection of a child's well-being.

## **Standards**

The standard for what constitutes abuse varies among States. Many States define abuse in terms of "harm or threatened harm" to a child's health or welfare. A few States define abuse in terms of "serious harm or threat of serious harm."

## **Exemptions**

Most statutes also specify exceptions. The most common exception is a religious exemption for parents who choose not to seek medical care for their children due to religious beliefs. Other exceptions include corporal punishment, cultural practices, and poverty.

## **Categories**

States generally provide separate definitions for physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and emotional maltreatment. Many States and Territories now include abandonment in their definition of neglect. Some definitions are detailed, while others are broad.

States with broader definitions provide child protective services (CPS) with greater discretion in determining what constitutes abuse.

The Statutes-at-a-Glance listings summarize specific sections of each State's code. While every attempt has been made to be as complete as possible, additional information on these topics may be in other sections of a State's code as well as in agency regulations, case law, and informal practices and procedures. Readers interested in interpretation of specific statutory provisions within an individual jurisdiction should consult with professionals within the State familiar with the statutes' implementation.

To obtain additional copies of this product or for more information, contact:

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We welcome your comments and suggestions about this product.



The Clearinghouses are services of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

#### Alabama

Statute: §§ 26-14-1(1)-(3); 26-14-7.2(a)

Standard:

Harm or threatened harm

**Exemption:** 

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Alaska

Statute: §§ 47.17.290; 47.17.020(d)

Standard:

Health or welfare harmed or threatened

**Exemption:** 

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### American Samoa

**Statute:** §§ 45.2001(a)(1); 46.3805; 46.3810

## Standard:

- Knowingly
- Health or welfare seriously threatened

#### **Exemption:**

- Cultural practices
- Corporal punishment

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Arizona

**Statute:** § 8-201(1), (2), (6), (8), (12), (13), (21)

#### Standard:

Inflicting or allowing

#### **Exemption:**

- Christian Science treatment
- Unavailability of reasonable services

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed.

#### **Arkansas**

**Statute:** § 12-12-503

#### Standard:

- Intentionally
- Knowingly
- Negligently and without cause

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Poverty

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### California

Statute: Penal Code §§ 11165.1; 11165.2; 11165.4; 11165.6

#### Standard:

Inflicted by non-accidental means

## Exemption:

- Informed medical decision
- Reasonable force
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## Colorado

Statute: §§ 19-1-103; 19-3-102; 19-3-103

#### Standard:

Threatens child's health or welfare

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Cultural practices
- Reasonable force
- Religious exemption
- Work-related practices of agricultural communities

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

#### Connecticut

Statute: §§ 46b-120(1)-(2), (4), (8)-(9), (10); 17a-104

## Standard:

Inflicted injuries by non-accidental means

#### **Exemption:**

Christian Science treatment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Delaware

Statute: Tit. 16, §§ 902; 913

#### Standard:

Injury by other than accidental means

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## **District of Columbia**

Statute: §§ 4-1301.02; 16-2301

#### Standard:

Inflicts or fails to make reasonable efforts to prevent the infliction of

#### **Exemption:**

- Religious exemption
- Poverty
- Corporal punishment

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Florida

**Statute:** § 39.01

#### Standard:

Willful or threatened act that harms or is likely to cause harm

#### **Exemption:**

- Religious exemption
- Corporal punishment
- Poverty

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Georgia

**Statute:** § 19-7-5(b)

#### Standard:

Inflicted by non-accidental means

#### **Exemption:**

- Religious exemption
- Corporal punishment

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation

- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## Guam

Statute: Tit. 19, § 13201

Standard:

Harm or threatened harm

**Exemption:** 

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Hawaii

**Statute:** § 350-1

#### Standard:

Acts or omissions resulting in the child being harmed or subject to any reasonably foreseeable, substantial risk of being harmed

## **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Idaho

Statute: § 16-1602(a), (b), (k), (q), (s), (t)

Standard:

Conduct or omission

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Illinois

**Statute: 325 ILCS 5/3** 

#### Standard:

- Inflicts, causes to be inflicted, or allows to be inflicted
- Creates a substantial risk
- Commits or allows to be committed

## **Exemption:**

- Plan of care
- Religious exemption
- School attendance

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Indiana

**Statute:** §§ 31-34-1(1)-(11), (12)-(15); 35-46-1(3); 31-9-2-0.5

Standard:

Acts or omissions

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Prescription drugs
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Iowa

Statute: § 232.68(2), (4), (5), (7)

#### Standard:

Acts or omissions

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Kansas

**Statute:** §§ 38-1502; 3516

#### Standard:

Infliction of injury or causing deterioration

## **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Kentucky

**Statute:** § 600.020

#### Standard:

- Harmed or threatened with harm
- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted

## **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Louisiana

**Statute:** Children's Code art. 603(1), (3), (5), (7), (9), (14)

#### Standard:

Seriously endangers

## **Exemption:**

- Poverty
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

#### Maine

**Statute:** Tit. 22, §§ 4002(1), (1-A), (1-B), (6), (9), (9-B), (9-C), (10), (11); 4010(1)

## Standard:

- Threat to child's health or welfare
- Deprivation of essential needs
- Lack of protection

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Maryland

**Statute:** § 5-701

#### Standard:

Harmed or substantial risk of being harmed

## **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Massachusetts

Statute: Ch. 119, § 51A; Ch. 209, § 38

#### Standard:

- Inflicted harm
- Substantial risk of harm

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional/mental injury

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

- Sexual exploitation
- Abandonment

## Michigan

Statute: §§ 722.622; 722.628(3)(c); 722.634

Standard:

Harm or threatened harm

**Exemption:** 

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Minnesota

Statute: §§ 260C.007; 626.556

#### Standard:

- Infliction of harm
- Inadequate ability to provide adequate parental care

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Religious exemption
- Cultural practices
- Reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Mississippi

**Statute:** § 43-21-105(d)-(g), (l)-(n), (v)

#### Standard:

Caused or allowed to be caused

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Missouri

**Statute:** §§ 210.110; 210.115(3)

#### Standard:

Inflicted by non-accidental means

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional/mental injury

- Sexual exploitation
- Abandonment

#### Montana

**Statute**: § 41-3-102

#### Standard:

- Actual harm
- Substantial risk of harm

#### **Exemption:**

- Religious exemption
- Reasonable medical judgment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Nebraska

**Statute:** § 28-710

#### Standard:

- Knowingly
- Intentionally
- Negligently causing or permitting

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Nevada

Statute: §§ 432B.020(1)-(2); 432B.070; 432B.090; 432B.100; 432B.110; 432.130; 432.140; 432.150

## Standard:

- Caused or allowed
- Harmed or threatened with harm
- Intentional acts or omissions

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## New Hampshire

**Statute:** § 169-C:3

#### Standard:

Immediate peril or risk

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## New Jersey

**Statute:** § 9:6-8.9

#### Standard:

- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted
- Creates or allows to be created a substantial or ongoing risk

## **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

Sexual exploitation

#### **New Mexico**

**Statute:** § 32A-4-2

#### Standard:

- Knowingly
- Intentionally
- Negligently

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## New York

Statute: Soc. Serv. § 412; Fam. Crt. § 1012

#### Standard:

- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted
- Creates or allows to be created
- Commits or allows to be committed

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

#### North Carolina

**Statute:** § 7B-101

#### Standard:

- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted
- Creates or allows to be created
- Uses or allows to be used
- Commits, permits, or encourages
- Encourages, directs, or approves

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## North Dakota

**Statute:** §§ 50-25.1-02; 27-20-02

#### Standard:

Serious harm caused by non-accidental means

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

#### Northern Mariana Islands

Statute: Tit. 6, §§ 5312; 1311

## Standard:

- Willfully or intentionally
- Harm or threatened harm

#### **Exemption:**

Corporal punishment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Ohio

Statute: §§ 2151.011; 2151.03; 2151.031; 2151.04; 2151.05; 2907.01

#### Standard:

Harms or threatens to harm

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Oklahoma

Statute: Tit. 10, §§ 7102(B); 7103(E); 7106(A)(3)

#### Standard:

Harms or threatens to harm

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption Corporal punishment

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Oregon

**Statute:** § 419B.005

#### Standard:

- Inflicted harm by non-accidental means
- Threatened harm; substantial risk of harm

## **Exemption:**

Corporal punishment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Pennsylvania

**Statute: 23 PCSA § 6303** 

#### Standard:

Recent act or failure to act

## **Exemption:**

- Poverty
- Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Puerto Rico

Statute: Tit. 8, § 441

#### Standard:

Intentional act or omission

#### **Exemption:**

Failure to provide medical treatment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Rhode Island

**Statute:** § 40-11-2

#### Standard:

- Harmed or threatened with harm
- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted
- Creates or allows to be created
- Commits or allows to be committed

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

#### South Carolina

**Statute:** § 20-7-490

## Standard:

- Harmed or threatened with harm
- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted
- Commits or allows to be inflicted

## **Exemption:**

Corporal punishment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### South Dakota

**Statute:** § 26-8A-2

#### Standard:

Threatens with substantial harm

## **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### **Tennessee**

**Statute:** §§ 37-1-102; 37-1-401; 37-1-602(a)

#### Standard:

Commits or allows to be committed

## **Exemption:**

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

- Neglect
- Abandonment

#### Texas

Statute: Fam. Code § 261.001; Penal Code § 43.01

#### Standard:

- Substantial harm or the genuine threat of substantial harm
- Failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent

#### **Exemption:**

Corporal punishment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Utah

**Statute:** § 62A-4a-402

#### Standard:

Causing harm or threatened harm

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

#### Vermont

Statute: Tit. 33, § 4912

Standard:

Harmed or substantial risk of harm

**Exemption:** 

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Virgin Islands

**Statute:** Tit. 5, § 2502

#### Standard:

- Inflicts injury
- Creates substantial risk of harm

#### **Exemption:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Virginia

**Statute:** § 63.2-100

#### Standard:

- Creates or inflicts, threatens to create or inflict, or allows to be created or inflicted
- Commits or allows to be committed

## **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

## Washington

**Statute:** §§ 26.44.020; 26.44.030(1)(c); 26.44.015(1)-(3)

#### Standard:

Health, welfare, and safety is harmed

#### **Exemption:**

- Corporal punishment
- Physical disability
- Christian Science treatment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation

## **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

## West Virginia

**Statute:** § 49-1-3

#### Standard:

- Harm or threat
- Knowingly or intentionally inflicts, attempts to inflict, or allows to be inflicted

#### **Exemption:**

- Poverty
- Exemption to State compulsory education

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

Not addressed in statutes reviewed

#### Wisconsin

**Statute:** §§ 48.02; 48.9981(1)

Standard:

Injury by non-accidental means

**Exemption:** 

Poverty

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Emotional/mental injury

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Abandonment

## Wyoming

**Statute:** § 14-3-202(a)

#### Standard:

Inflicting or causing physical or mental injury, harm, or imminent danger

#### **Exemption:**

Religious exemption

## **Categories of Maltreatment Defined in Statute:**

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional/mental injury
- Abandonment

#### **Categories of Maltreatment Not Defined in Statute:**

Sexual exploitation