

Every Child Will be Safe, Healthy and Ready to Succeed

Every Child Deserves A Drug-Free Home



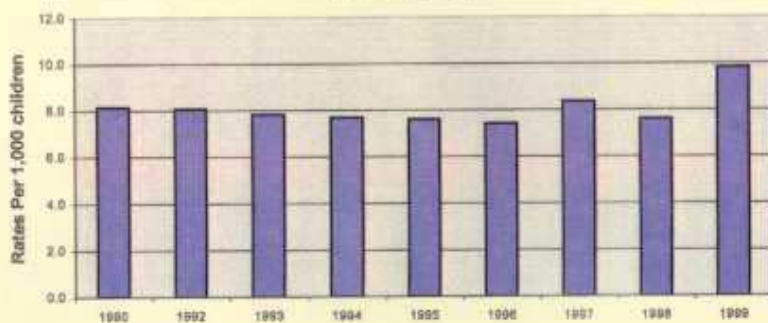
The Connection Between Child Abuse and Neglect & Substance Abuse

There are many causes of child abuse and neglect. Many children who are experiencing violence in their homes are also living with adults who abuse drugs and alcohol. The chances that these children will be maltreated are increased by their parents' dependency on drugs and alcohol and the lifestyle linked to that dependency.

An estimated 13 million Americans are current drug users. A recent national study indicated that substance abuse causes or worsens 7 out of 10 cases of child abuse and neglect. In Hawai'i, an estimated 79,000 people abuse drugs and/or alcohol, many of them are parents and/or caregivers.

- Children of alcoholics suffer more injuries and poisonings than children in the general population.
- Neglect is the major reason that children are removed from a home in which parents have alcohol or other drug problems.
- When families have problems with both child maltreatment and substance abuse behaviors, *both* problems must be treated *at the same time* in order to guarantee a child's safety.

Confirmed Child Abuse & Neglect Rates in Hawai'i
(Ages 0 - 17)



** 1991 - No Data

*Source: Hawai'i Department of Human Services

