

SAFE IS STRONG

TAKING CARE OF ARMY FAMILIES



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What to Know about Problematic Sexual Behavior in Children and Youth (PSB-CY)

What is PSB-CY?

PSB-CY is (1) behavior that is developmentally inappropriate or (2) potentially harmful to the individual(s) impacted. However, many other factors should be considered: ages of those involved, age difference, developmental ages, impact on the child affected, frequency of the behavior, whether force or coercion is used, and is non-mutual. For more details about PSB-CY, see [HERE](#).

How has the Army addressed PSB-CY?

Army PSB-CY efforts began in 2015. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

How does this new change affect what we do?

To effectively address cases of PSB-CY, we need to:

1. change our *thinking*: from the model of incidents meeting/not meeting criteria; to one that describes the behaviors of children and youth.
2. change our *language*: **Exhibitor** is the term for the child who has alleged to have engaged in PSB-CY. **Impacted** is the term for the child or children involved in the alleged incident(s). **Victim** and **abuser** [or **offender**] are not terms used in PSB-CY.
3. change our *assessment*: be aware of the multiple processes in assessment and follow-on actions such as referrals for treatment or other outcomes.

For more information about these shifts in perspective, please click [HERE](#).

How to Implement PSB-CY Guidance

Taking on this new role can be a challenge. Here are some resources that may be helpful in working with affected families.

What is PSB-CY and what is not

While difficult to define, there are guidelines to consider when an incident has been reported. The behavior may be classified as (1) *normative*, (2) *cautionary*, or (3) *problematic*. For more information and a helpful chart, please click [HERE](#).

What steps to take when PSB-CY is reported

FAP must evaluate the incident using the Non-Clinical Referral Tool (NCRT). If *problematic*, FAP activates the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) to review the referral, address safety needs, and determine a course of action. Click [HERE](#) for more information on the process and who should be on the MDT.

What is the NCRT and how to use it

The NCRT helps you evaluate incidents of PSB-CY and determine if the MDT should be engaged. Click [HERE](#) for more information on how to use the NCRT.

Other helpful resources on PSB-CY topics

These resources provide a variety of topics and approaches to engage families of children exhibiting or impacted by PSB-CY. Some resources are about broader childhood behaviors while others are specific to PSB-CY. [HERE](#) are links to DoD-supported platforms.



Helpful Tips for Parents

[HERE](#) is a resource to share with your families on how to talk to your child about healthy sexual behavior.

