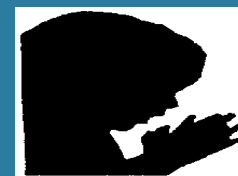


CHILD PROTECTION AND SPORTS: WORKSHOP FOR FOOTBALL COACHES

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Child Protection in Sport: The Convention on the Rights of the Child

Heather Stewart
Child Protection Specialist
UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area



1989 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)

CRC sets minimum standards for the world's children:-

- Survival
- Development
- Protection
- Participation

Developed through a participatory process of 10 years.

Signed and ratified by all countries except Somalia and the USA. Barbados ratified the CRC on 9 October 1990.

Updated through issuance of Optional Protocols on arising issues.

WHAT IS CHILD PROTECTION?

.....acting to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and neglect, exploitation and discrimination of children.

KEY ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION IN RELATION TO CHILDREN AND SPORT

Article 1: Definition of a child (everyone under 18 years)

Article 2: Non-discrimination

Article 3: Best interests of the child

Article 12: Right to express his or her opinion

Article 16: Right to protection of privacy

Article 17: Right to appropriate information

Article 18: Right to have their parents exercise their responsibilities

Article 19: Right to protection from abuse and neglect

Article 23: Right of a child with disabilities to special care

Article 24: Right to health and health services

Article 26: Right to appropriate standard of living

Article 28-29: Right to holistic education

Article 31: Right to leisure, recreation and cultural activities

Article 33: Right to protection from illegal use of drugs

Article 34: Right to protection from sexual exploitation

Article 39: Right to holistic rehabilitative care

SPORT

- Increasingly recognized for its benefits
- Increasingly recognized as contributing to national strategies/objectives
- Are we getting it right?



SPORT

- Used by some to cause harm to children and young people
 - Deliberate/malicious
 - Unintended/poor practice



CARIBBEAN CHILD ABUSE & POOR PRACTICE IN SPORT STUDY

THE CARIBBEAN SPORT AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CSDA)

- **92% had observed Emotional Abuse in their sport**
 - Where **emotional abuse** includes any ill treatment that a child received that caused adverse effects on the child's emotional development. Examples include teasing, bullying, humiliation or being threatened for not wanting to compete.
- **72% had observed Physical Abuse in their sport**
 - Where **physical abuse** includes any instances where children were deliberately physically harmed while participating in sport. Examples include being shaken, pushed, hit or beaten.
- **47% had observed Sexual Harassment in their sport**
 - Where **sexual harassment** includes any instances where children were subjected to unwanted verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Examples include a child being subjected to inappropriate physical contact or having sexual comments made about their appearance.
- **19% had observed/suspected/heard of allegations of Sexual Harm in their sport**
 - Where **sexual harm** includes any instances where a child is abused by adults (female or male) or other young people to meet their own sexual needs. Examples include a child being touched sexually, kissed or being forced to have sexual intercourse.

EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO HAVE FUN, BE SAFE, LEAD HEALTHY LIVES AND BE FREE FROM HARM...

- Participating in Physical Education in school...
- Participating in recreational sport in school/community settings
- Training for team/club/school
- Representing country/regional/international level



YOUR COMMITMENT

Ensuring that children have the opportunity to participate in sport in a safe and enjoyable environment.



INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN PROGRESS

- **UN International Working Group on Sports for Development and Peace** (hosted by the UN Office for Sports for Development and Peace)
 - **2010: Included Child Protection in Sport as one of three Areas of Priority**
- **2012: Safeguarding Working Group convened**
 - **International Standards for Safeguarding and Protection of Children**
 - **Development of Audit Tools**
 - **Development of Action Planning Tools**

PROTECT ALL CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE – DO NO HARM!

“If we are going to see continual, progressive development in the world, then our best investment is in children.”

