

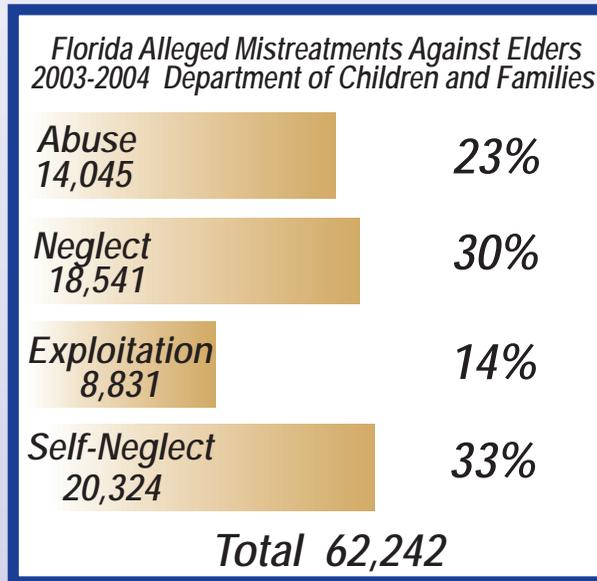
## Signs of Abuse:

Physical signs may include cuts, puncture wounds, burns, bruises, welts, dehydration or malnutrition, poor coloration, sunken eyes or cheeks, soiled clothing or bed, or lack of necessities such as food, water, or utilities.

## Behavioral Signs of Abuse:

Behavioral signs may include fear, anxiety, agitation, anger, isolation, withdrawal, depression, non-responsiveness, resignation, ambivalence, contradictory statements, implausible stories, hesitation to talk openly, confusion or disorientation.

Florida has 3.98 million residents age 60 and older.  
(U.S. Census, 2003)



State of Florida  
Department of Elder Affairs  
4040 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, Florida  
32399-7000  
(850) 414-2000

1-800-96-Abuse  
(1-800-962-2873)

*No one has the right to hit you,  
to treat you like a child or  
to humiliate you.  
No one has the right to  
take your money or to hurt you.  
If they respect or care about you,  
they'll remember that.*



Report Elder Abuse  
1-800-96-Abuse



# The Power to Prevent Elder Abuse



**Is in Your Hands**

Elders have the right not to be yelled at and not to be threatened.



Elders have the right to control their finances and property.

# Contacts

**Elder Abuse Hotline: (24-hour)**  
**1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873)**

**Domestic Violence Hotline: (24-hour)**  
**1-800-500-1119**

**Elder Helpline:**  
**1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337)**

**Fraud Hotline:**  
**1-800-378-0445**

**Statewide Senior Legal Helpline:**  
**1-888-895-7873**

**Long-Term Care Ombudsman:**  
**(for those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities)**  
**1-888-831-0404**

**Consumer Services Division:**  
**1-800-435-7352**

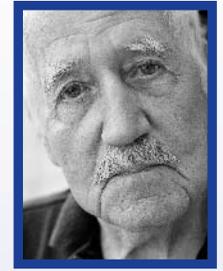
**Financial Services:**  
**1-800-342-2762**

**National Fraud Information Center:**  
**1-800-876-7060**

**TDD**  
**(for hearing impaired)**  
**Elder Abuse Hotline number 1-800-453-5145**  
**Elder Helpline number 1-800-955-8771**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**  
**9-1-1**

# What Is Abuse?



*Physical Abuse:*

Pushing, striking, slapping, kicking, pinching, restraining, shaking, beating, burning, hitting, shoving or other acts that can cause harm to an elder.

*Emotional or Psychological Abuse:*

Verbal berating, harassment, intimidation, threats of punishment or deprivation, criticism, demeaning comments, coercive behavior or isolation from family and friends.

*Financial or Material Exploitation:*

Improper use of an elder's funds, property, or assets; cashing checks without permission; forging signatures; forcing or deceiving an older person into signing a document; using an ATM/debit card without permission.

*Sexual Abuse:*

Nonconsensual sexual contact of any kind including assault or battery, rape, sodomy, coerced nudity or sexually explicit photographing.

*Self-neglect:*

When individuals fail to provide themselves with whatever is necessary to prevent physical or emotional harm or pain.