

"Dear Mr. Jesus"

Dear Mr. Jesus, I just had to write to you

Something really scared me, when I saw it on the news

A story 'bout a little girl beaten black and blue

Jesus, thought I'd take this right to you

Dear Mr. Jesus, I don't understand

Why they took her mom and dad away

I know that they don't mean to hit with wild and angry hands

Tell them just how big they are I pray

Please don't let them hurt your children

We need love and shelter from the storm

Please don't let them hurt your children

Won't you keep us safe and warm

Dear Mr. Jesus, they say that she may die

Oh I hope the doctors stop the pain I know that you could save her and take her up

to the sky

So she would never have to hurt again

Please don't let them hurt your children.

Dear Mr. Jesus, please tell me what to do

And please don't tell my daddy But my mommy hits me, too

Please don't let them hurt your children...

words and music by Richard Klender © 1985 Klenco, Inc. (Klenco Music Group), ASCAP
<http://www.daytheChild.org>

"Querido Señor Jesus"

Te escribo porque hoy vi

Algo en las noticias, que de veras me asusto.

A una ninita que su mami la golpeo

tan duro que se puede hasta morir.

Querido Sr. Jesus, yo no puedo comprender

por que a sus padres, se los llevaron, yo no se.

No son ellos tan grandes, para asi golpear,

y a su propia hijita lastimar.

Chorus:

Por favor ya no permitas que a tus niños hagan tanto dano.

Por favor no lo permitas. Queremos tu proteccion.

Querido, Sr. Jesus, por la nina que yo vi,

haz que los doctores, puedan quitarle el dolor.

Pero si ella se muere, al cielo llevala,

para que no vuelva a sufrir mas.

Chorus:

Por favor no lo permitas...etc.

Querido Sr. Jesus, no le digas a papa,

que a mi tambien me pega muy duro mi mama.

Spanish Translation & Adaptation by Roberto Cruz & Alberto Diaz

These are the words to "Dear Mr. Jesus," the song played around the world to help in the fight against child abuse. Join the fight by requesting to hear the song on local radio stations.

Cry out against child abuse; stop the tears

Child abuse cries for us all to join the fight in saving the lives of our children—our future.

Make a statement, be heard...



Salena De La Cruz
Opinion Editor

In Oregon, according to the Oregonian, children who suffered abuse or neglect reached a high of 11,241 in 1999, a 10.8 percent increase from 1998. 54% were under the age of seven.

I am shocked, even appalled. Growing up in a strong, family-oriented atmosphere, I never understood the hurt that could be inflicted on children by their parents. I remember hearing the song, "Dear Mr. Jesus" played on the radio. After that I began to ask questions that my mother didn't quite know how to answer. How do you tell your children that parents may love them, but they are still capable of hurting their children?

The biggest question I had and maybe still do is, do they love them too much or not enough?

I cry for the children who experi-

ence more pain and hatred than love and comfort. I shudder at the thought of these same children growing up and becoming what their parents were, to inflict suffering and pain on their own children.

I implore everyone to hug your children, tell them you love them, but please don't ever raise your hand in anger towards them.

It's so sickening to hear the excuses for the bruises: "The child fell down the stairs," or "They're just clumsy." My God, when will it ever stop? When will we as brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers see that hurting the children only hurts our futures?

Join the fight. Let your voice be heard. Call radio stations, request to hear "Dear Mr. Jesus," write letters, help to remind everyone that the fight is far from over. Child abuse is an issue that we need to face everyday. We must fight for those who cannot, or are too scared, to fight for themselves.

Questions or comments
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Child Abuse In America

Statistics:

- In 1997, more than 3 million child abuse reports were made.
- The actual incidence of abuse and neglect is estimated to be three times greater than the number reported to authorities. Every 10 seconds a child is abused.
- Child abuse kills more children in America than do accidental falls, drowning, choking on food, fires in the home, or suffocation.
- More than three children die each day as a result of parental maltreatment.
- Head trauma is the leading cause of child abuse death among babies. This includes shaken baby syndrome in which 25% of victims die and the majority of survivors suffer brain damage.

Victims:

- Between 1995 and 1997, 78% of child abuse and neglect fatalities were children under the age of five, 38% were children under one year of age.
- Girls are sexually abused three times more often than boys, while boys are at greater risk of emotional neglect and serious injury. Women sexually abused before age 18 have lower levels of interpersonal functions and social adjustment as adults and are less likely to form trusting relationships.

Information obtained from www.childabuse.org



Lost Innocence

-Anonymous-

Looking back on a time and place

If there isn't something different she could have done

Seeing a child's innocent face

Why didn't she scream or at least try to run

Knowing that things aren't as they appear

Fear kept her frozen to the spot

For inside she cries silent tears

While this grown man did what he should have not

Deep inside she is filled with pain

Shame and fear made her keep the silence

She feels dirty and full of shame

Innocence lost at a very young age

Kept her telling anyone about the violence

Locked this child in a pain filled cage

There is no freedom or escape

The thing that is shocking beyond belief

From the fact this child was raped

Is that this child could not get any relief

While the guilty man is roaming free

This child is sentenced to eternity

The same thing happened again and again

Eternity locked away with all this shame

The first one was just how it began

She can't help but feel that she was to blame

More than one man did his worst

Even though common sense says it was not her fault

None of them caring about the child they hurt

She can't seem to help from having these thoughts

After the first time was it easy to tell

What ifs' keep running through her mind

Was it her pain and shame they could smell?

She keeps going back to those moments in time

With every touch a part of her died

Now she is in a prison that has no gate
Every one of them sealing her fate

Love the children...
pray for the children.



Stop Child Abuse!

On Friday, December 1st, 2000, a worldwide media event will be held to raise awareness for abused children, Day of the Child 2000. You can help make history, along with thousands of radio stations whom we are asking to join us on this day, along with media outlets, and child abuse agencies around the globe. For more information go to:
<http://dayofthechild.org>.



SUPPORTER