

## HANDOUT 2.2. EXPLORING BARRIERS TO DISCLOSURE – FACILITATOR

### **Directions for the Groups**

- » Read the case study below assigned to your group.
- » Discuss the following questions:
  1. What is the type of disclosure? (direct, indirect/3rd party, voluntary, involuntary)
  2. What barriers may the child face in talking about the sexual abuse?
- » Select one group member to BRIEFLY (2-3 minutes) share key points in plenary.

### **Directions for Facilitator(s)**

- » Give groups 10 minutes to read the case study and respond to the question.
- » In plenary, give each group 2-3 minutes to share the key points. Allow other groups to add reflections and ensure key points listed beside each case study (in red) are covered.

CASE STUDIES	KEY POINTS TO COVER
<b>Group 1:</b> A mother came home from the market early one day and witnessed her uncle laying naked with her 5-year-old son and her son touching the uncle's genitals. She screamed and cried when she saw what was happening. The uncle ran away and the boy will not talk about what happened. The mother brings him to a caseworker for help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Involuntary, indirect/third party disclosure.</li> <li>» The boy may be too young to understand what happened and that it is wrong.</li> <li>» He may think it was his fault and does not want to get in trouble.</li> <li>» He may feel protective of his uncle.</li> <li>» He may not want to upset his mother more.</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2:</b> An 11 year-old girl is in love with her 21-year-old neighbor. He is very nice to her and gives her small gifts. Recently she has allowed him to touch her private parts since he says they will be married one day. She wonders if she is pregnant so tells a caseworker.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Voluntary, direct disclosure</li> <li>» The girl may trust her neighbor, want to protect him, and want the relationship to continue.</li> <li>» The girl may not know he is abusing her.</li> <li>» The girl may fear getting in trouble if anyone finds out.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Group 3:</b> A 16 year-old girl with a developmental delay is brought to the health center by her mother. The doctor tells them the girl is pregnant. The mother reacts in anger, saying it is impossible because her daughter does not attend school and rarely goes outside the home. The girl asks to speak to the doctor alone about what happened to her.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Involuntary, indirect/third party disclosure.</li> <li>» The boy may be too young to understand what happened and that it is wrong.</li> <li>» He may think it was his fault and does not want to get in trouble.</li> <li>» He may feel protective of his uncle.</li> <li>» He may not want to upset his mother more.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Group 4:</b> A 14 year-old unaccompanied boy living on the street was sexually exploited by a man. Since then, the boy has continued to provide sexual favors for the man in exchange for money, food, and place to stay. A community member witnesses this exchange and threatens to call the police if the boy does not tell what he has been doing, so the boy discloses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Involuntary, direct disclosure</li> <li>» The boy may fear judgement and blame.</li> <li>» The boy may fear that he will be criminalized for his actions.</li> <li>» The boy may feel shame in telling others.</li> <li>» The boy may fear losing his livelihood.</li> <li>» The boy may not trust service providers to help him since they were not able to help him access resources to meet his needs.</li> </ul>