

### AFRUCA - Africans Unite Against Child Abuse

Promoting the Rights and Welfare of Black and African Children

# WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Safeguarding Black and African Children in the UK Series 1
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition



# Contents

1	About AFRUCA
2	Africans in the UK
3	What is Child Abuse?
4	Forms of Child Abuse
5	Signs of Child Abuse
6	Effects of Child Abuse
7	Why are Children Abused?
8	Child Abuse - why don't children tell?
9	Reporting Child Abuse
10	Working as a Community to protect vulnerable children
11	Protecting children - what to do?
12	AFRUCA - Our Work to Protect Children from Child Abuse

# About AFRUCA

Africans Unite against Child Abuse (AFRUCA) was established in May 2001 as a platform for advocating for the rights and welfare of Black and African children following the deaths of some newly arrived children in the UK. It became a Company Limited by Guarantee in October 2001 and a registered Charity in July 2002 with a Board of Directors appointed to run the organization.

AFRUCA is embedded in and has developed out of Black and African communities in the UK as a response to their realization of the problems Black and African children and parents face and the gaps that exist within the child protection system for Black and African children in the country. The 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of The Child and the UK Children's Acts of 1989, 2004 and 2014 provide the foundation for all our work at AFRUCA. We aim to promote the best interests of the child in all our activities. Our stance is that culture and religion should never be a reason to abuse children.

#### **Our Work**

AFRUCA works in many ways to help promote the rights and welfare of Black and African children and families. Our main areas of work are:

Awareness raising and sensitization: Within Black and African communities and among young Africans about children's rights as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international conventions and UK legislation promoting the rights and welfare of children.

**Information, education, and advisory services:** To raise the profile of Black and African children in the UK, increase awareness of their needs, improve policies and practices, and develop the leadership potential of young Africans. Activities include research and publishing reports; media work; conferences, seminars, workshops, and training programmes for parents, policy makers, service providers, faith and community leaders, young people; community meetings; advice and consultancy services.

**Advocacy and policy development:** Working closely with policy makers to shape the development of policy and regulatory action to promote the welfare of children and families.

**Community and international development:** In partnership with others to put in place programmes and projects to help relieve the suffering and hardship that Black and African children and their families experience.

**Support for Children, Young People and Families:** Provision of practical and therapeutic support to children, young people and families in crisis or at the point of breakdown through effective early intervention services. Our therapeutic service provides a confidential space to explore thoughts, feelings, beliefs and experiences through one-to-one, psycho-educational groups or group therapy, to those who have been affected by abuse, trafficking or FGM.

For further information about our work, please visit our website at www.afruca.org

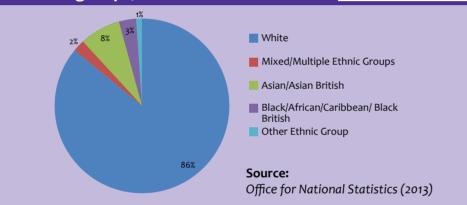
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## 2 Africans in the UK

The UK has become home to many Black and African People, through its historical links with a number of English speaking African countries, and also due to its reputation as the most multicultural country in Europe, has become home to many Black and African people.

The 2011 UK census indicates that there are over 1.8 million Africans in the UK, an increase of 1.1 million from the 2001 census making up 3.3% of the overall UK population.

### Ethnic groups, London and Wales 2011



Africans generally adapt well to British society and are economically and academically driven, making vast contributions within the health and social care system and in business. Children from Black and African backgrounds are achieving particularly well above other groups within the British education system, and continue to thrive.

#### Social Issues affecting Africans in the UK

Africans like many other immigrant groups in the UK tend to migrate with their values, beliefs and work ethos. While we acknowledge some cultural practices, beliefs and values are beneficial, others are particularly harmful to certain sections of the community such as to children and women. Increasingly, Local Authorities across the country are reporting a rise in cases of Black and African families coming to the attention of Children's Services mainly due to differences in approaches to child rearing, physical discipline and religious or cultural practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and witchcraft branding.

These practices are seen as normal by many Africans but could be considered as posing significant harm to children according to UK laws. Moreover, many Black

and African parents, faith and community leaders are unaware of the UK laws and practices that safeguard children. As a result, many Black and African children are being removed from their families and placed into care, leading to more Black and African families being broken up, with significant psychological impact.

People in Black and African communities, particularly newly-arrived immigrants find themselves without decent housing and a high proportion of Africans live on the poorest and most neglected estates in the UK's largest cities. They also face difficulties in accessing jobs that match their qualifications and experience.

Finally, many Africans have difficulty accessing social and health care, some due to their immigration status, but also, sometimes, because they are unaware of the local support services available to them. Children can also be exposed to some form of emotional abuse because of the level of stress and reality of life experienced by their parents or others looking after them.

AFRUCA has produced the "Safeguarding African Children in the UK" series of publications to highlight different safeguarding issues and to assist members of the Black and African community in the UK to know more about different forms of child abuse and how to identify the signs so children can be safe and be better protected. The "What is Child Abuse?" booklet is the first in the series.

In this publication, we have used the term African as a short-hand to denote various Black and African communities in the UK.



## 3 What is Child Abuse?

Child abuse is any form of cruelty to a child. It is any behaviour that causes harm to a child. It can be physical, emotional, sexual, or in the form of neglect.

There are a number of things that we do to children or fail to do for them, that can cause lasting pain and suffering. We will explore some of them in this booklet.

The United Nations is clear on the need to protect children from harm. This is because all forms of cruelty to children are damaging. Of all cases of child abuse, only a small number involve total strangers. Children are far more likely to be

abused by someone they know and trust, such as a parent, carer, other family members or family friend. Children from all walks of life suffer abuse; however some children are more at risk than others. These include children who are living away from home with other family members or strangers, children with disability as well as those living on the streets. Black and African children can suffer additional risk because of many cultural and traditional practices which are harmful. Examples of such cultural practices include Female Genital

"Children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence. They must be kept safe from harm. They must be given proper care by those looking after them"

Article 19, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)

Mutilation, using children as Domestic Slaves, Widowhood and Inheritance rights, Child Marriages, reliance on extreme forms of Physical Punishments as ways of disciplining children as well as the belief in and practice of Witchcraft and the accompanying branding of children as witches or as possessed by evil spirits.

The UK government has issued a guidance document for those working with children called: "What to do if you are worried a child is being abused", you can download a copy of this booklet from www.gov.uk/government/publications. In it the government defines Child Abuse as:

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment – a person may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.

### **Significant Harm**

The government uses what is called "significant harm" to decide at what point to intervene in a family to safeguard a child believed to be at risk of abuse or harm. In the UK, when a local authority has reasons to believe a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm, it has a legal duty to find out what is happening to that child. Although this sort of activity can be regarded by parents or carers as interfering in their family situation, it is usually seen by the law to be done in "the best interests of the child".

For most Black and African people, child-raising has always been a communal, community affair – it takes a village to raise a child. However, in the UK, the state takes over that role; based on powers given to it by the law and which many people are not aware of. Many Black and African parents, mainly out of ignorance, although there are other reasons, are guilty of breaching these laws, thereby causing "significant harm". The consequences of breaching these laws can be as dire and permanent for many parents such as losing their child by having them removed and placed into care of the local authority.

With this booklet, we want to help parents and others gain a better knowledge of what it means for children in our community to suffer from "significant harm" and what they can do to prevent it.

# 4 Forms of Child Abuse

The UK government has identified four main categories of child abuse. These are:

• Physical • Emotional • Sexual • Neglect

Although there are other categories and sub-categories, most forms of child abuse will fall under one or more of these.

Form of Child Abuse	Definition
PHYSICAL ABUSE	Any intentional physical contact resulting in injury, pain or discomfort. It may include inflicting pain through beating, hitting, shaking, punching, kicking, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, putting pepper/ginger in the eyes or private parts, pouring hot oil on the body, forcing a child to take a cold shower in freezing weather, or to dip his hands in hot water, force-feeding a child by holding him down and forcing food into his mouth, refusing a child food as a form of punishment. Some cultures use force-feeding as a traditional practice to fatten young girls as preparation for marriage. For detailed information see 'What is Physical Abuse' publication. It also includes forcing a child to undertake strenuous and excessive physical punishment like kneeling down straight, raising up the arms, bending over, carrying a heavy object all for long periods of time.
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child leading to severe effects on the child's emotional wellbeing and development. This includes verbally abusing or cursing a child, telling a child they are worthless or useless, shouting at, rejecting or with-holding love and affection from a child, humiliating, degrading or denying a child their worth and rights as human beings. The deliberate absence of a parent in a child's life or preventing a child from having access to his or her parents is a form of emotional abuse. Forcing a naturally left-handed child to use their right hand is emotional abuse. It may also include preventing a child from participating in normal social interaction, like not going out to play, forcing children to study nonstop, without any form of recreation as well as witnessing other people being abused – especially in the case of domestic violence.

Form of Child Abuse	Definition
SEXUAL ABUSE	Having inappropriate sexual relationships with children. This happens when an adult forces or tricks a child into taking part in any sexual activity. Such activities might include kissing, touching the young person's genitals, or breasts, having full sexual intercourse with a child (rape), performing oral sex on a child or forcing a child to perform oral sex, encouraging a child to take part in the production of or to look at pornographic materials, sending letters, emails or text messages of a sexual nature to a child and encouraging a child to behave in a sexually inappropriate manner. Children married off at an early age are also victims of sexual abuse as their roles as "wives" include having unprotected sex with their "husbands". Female Genital Mutilation is also a form of sexual abuse as it involves mutilating a girl's sexual organs.
NEGLECT	A persistent lack of proper care of children, the failure to provide them with proper nourishment, warmth, medical care, education, a safe environment and housing. It is the failure to act to protect a child from danger or risk of significant harm as described above. Adults who notice that children are being abused and neither say, nor do anything about it, are guilty of neglect. It is also when children are left without appropriate care and supervision.

A child can experience each of the above forms of abuse in isolation. However, many children also experience many forms of abuse at the same time. For example, a child victim of domestic slavery who is locked up in someone's home can be repeatedly raped, not provided with any proper medical care when they are ill, prevented from going to school and made to do excessive work in the home. They may also be severely beaten for making mistakes or for disobeying orders. They may be subjected to verbal abuse and name calling, being told they are worthless and will not amount to much in their life.

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Many vulnerable Black and African children in the UK experience different forms of abuse. As members of the community, it is our duty to be able to identify when abuse is taking place and act to protect children who are at risk. It is important for us as adults to be vigilant about the welfare of children in our community; in our families, our churches, our mosques, and in our friends' homes, at weddings, naming ceremonies, funerals, parties, at all our gatherings and on the streets. There are children around us everywhere, some suffering in silence and hoping someone will notice their plight and be bold enough to intervene. It is important for us to know what to look out for and to be able to identify a child who is suffering from or at risk of abuse.

# 5 Signs of Child Abuse

Form of Child Abuse	Signs or Indicators
PHYSICAL ABUSE  Due to differences in skin pigmentation and texture, many bruises and other injuries to a black and African child may not be visible. In that regard it is important to be vigilant and be able to identify other signs of physical abuse including:	<ul> <li>Black, and swollen eyes</li> <li>Injuries that the child or their parent or carer cannot explain or explain convincingly</li> <li>Broken bones (esp. in under 2s, non-mobile children)</li> <li>Untreated or inadequately treated injuries</li> <li>Injuries to parts of the body where accidents are unlikely, such as thighs, back, abdomen</li> <li>Bruising which looks like hand or finger marks</li> <li>Cigarette burns, human bites</li> <li>Scalds and burns esp. with upward splash marks, or rings where made to sit or stand in very hot water</li> <li>Sudden weight gain in a short space of time</li> </ul>
EMOTIONAL ABUSE This is more difficult to detect because there are no visible signs on the body. However, there other signs to look out for including:	<ul> <li>Hyperactive or disruptive behaviour</li> <li>Extreme behaviour patterns - withdrawn/aggressive/ demanding</li> <li>Over adaptive behaviour, i.e. being too well mannered</li> <li>Inhibited play</li> <li>Unusually fearful of consequences of actions resulting in lying</li> <li>Bed wetting</li> <li>Threatening or attempting suicide</li> <li>Running away from home</li> <li>Usually the scapegoat of the family</li> <li>Anorexic or bulimic, insomnia</li> <li>Low self esteem</li> <li>Poor peer relations</li> <li>Delayed development, either physical or emotional</li> <li>Sudden speech disorders</li> </ul>

Form of Child Abuse	Signs or Indicators
SEXUAL ABUSE Children who are being sexually abused may show a number of physical and emotional changes. Remember, however, that these signs do not always mean that a child is being abused - there may be other explanations. Signs of sexual abuse can include:	<ul> <li>Pain, itching, bruising or bleeding in the genital or anal areas</li> <li>Genital discharge or urinary tract infections</li> <li>Stomach pains or discomfort walking or sitting</li> <li>Sexually transmitted infections</li> <li>Pregnancy</li> <li>Vaginal/penile discharge</li> <li>Displaying sexualised behaviour, knowledge or interests</li> <li>Insomnia, fear of the opposite sex, anxiety, regressive behaviour (e.g. bedwetting)</li> <li>Fear of being left alone with a particular person</li> </ul>
NEGLECT There are occasions when parents find it difficult to cope with the many demands of caring for children. This is especially so for many Black and African parents in the UK today with little or no access to friends and families who can provide regular support with child rearing. Neglect involves ongoing, severe failure to meet a child's needs. Here are some signs of possible neglect:	<ul> <li>The child seems underweight and is very small for their age</li> <li>They are often dirty, are unwashed and have uncut and uncombed hair</li> <li>They have skin rashes, body odour and dirty thick nails</li> <li>They are poorly clothed, with inadequate protection from the weather</li> <li>They are always tired and lethargic and often doze off in class</li> <li>They are often late or absent from school for no apparent reason</li> <li>They are regularly left alone, or in charge of younger children</li> <li>They are not in school and there is no evidence of home-schooling arranged for them</li> <li>They are not registered with a GP or they are ill and are not taken to hospital</li> <li>The child is always hungry or steals food</li> </ul>

# 6 Effects on Children

Form of Child Abuse	Effects on Children
PHYSICAL ABUSE	Can have long-term effects on a child's health and development. It can cause physical injury, brain damage or disability and may lead to children developing emotional, behavioural or educational problems. Physical abuse can lead to children bullying other children. For some children, these difficulties can continue to adulthood. For example, people who were physically abused as children may have problems with personal relationships, and are more likely to abuse their own children. The child's age, the frequency or intensity of the abuse and the length of time the abuse has continued, can all influence how much the child will be affected by it. A severe isolated incident, however, can affect a child as badly as prolonged abuse.
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	Can lead to serious behavioural problems. All children need acceptance, love, encouragement, consistency and positive attention from their parents or carers. Children who are denied these often grow up thinking they are deficient in some way and that they somehow deserved to be treated badly. A child who is constantly shouted at, threatened, humiliated or insulted will feel worthless and develop a poor self-image and low self-esteem. The deliberate absence of a parent in a child's life might lead to them believing they are worthless, unwanted and unloved. Over a period of time they may internalise negative comments about themselves and begin to lack confidence in their own abilities. Sadly, when they become parents themselves they may emotionally deprive their own children because they don't have a positive model of parenting to draw on.

Form of Child Abuse	Effects on Children
SEXUAL ABUSE	Leads to adverse psychological and behavioural problem in victims – in many cases into adulthood. These can include depression, insomnia, and low self-esteem, sexual dysfunction as an adult, regressive behaviour like bedwetting or thumb-sucking. Depending on the severity, victims may develop fear and anxiety which can lead to self-destructive behaviour including drug and alcohol abuse, problems with relationships, fear (or hatred) of the opposite sex as well as anxiety over sexual issues. Young children may display inappropriate sexual behaviour or sexual knowledge. Young victims of early marriage can develop obstetric fistula - a terrible condition in which they constantly leak urine, faecal matter or in some cases both. Pregnancy and exposure to sexually transmitted diseases are some short-term effects of child sexual abuse. For many victims, the loss of their childhood and innocence is a huge price to pay for their terrible experiences.
NEGLECT	Can have a serious effect on a child's long-term physical, mental, and emotional development. For babies and very young children, these effects can be life-threatening. Children deprived of access to medical care might end up with severe disability or physical impairment. Children provided with inappropriate nutrition can become obese as adults or end up with eating disorders. Children provided inappropriate nutrition can develop nutritional deficiencies such as anemia and other health problems. For some individuals this can cause eating disorders developing into their adult life. Children who are constantly left home alone over a long period of time could end up causing serious injury to themselves and others.

# 6 Why are Children Abused?

Many children in our community experience abuse and harm for a variety of reasons:

### **Cultural and Religious Practices**

"It is our culture; that is how we bring up our children". Many harmful cultural practices are sustained because many people believe this is the best thing for their children. An example of this is Child Marriage, in which young girls are married off early because it is believed it will bring honor to them and their families. Another example is Female Genital Mutilation in which girls are mutilated in the belief that girls will not develop sexual urges prompting them to sleep around with different men making them ineligible for marriage. Religion can sometimes be used to justify child abuse. Many phrases from the Holy Books, including: "Spare the Rod, Spoil the Child", are used to excuse excessive discipline and harm even though there are many other child-friendly phrases in the same Holy Books which promote love and affection towards children.

### **Ignorance and Illiteracy**

Many people may not be aware of the negative effects of some of the cultural and religious practices they engage in because this has not been made apparent to them. An example of this is Female Genital Mutilation. While families and communities steeped in the practice continue to see FGM as an important rite of passage for their children on the path to womanhood, many victims are horrified to discover that a serious, recurrent physical ailment they experienced as adults is directly linked to the mutilation performed on them when they were little girls.

### **Poverty**

Many parents are unable to provide adequately for their children and therefore expose them to abuse and exploitation in order to earn some family income. An example is when parents give their children away to strangers in the belief that the children can work to earn money, thereby exposing the children to danger, exploitation and abuse. Many young victims of domestic slavery are given away by their own parents so that they are able to provide for their families. However, many of these young people are terribly abused by their employers because there is no one to protect them. In many cases, the children and their families are not paid for the child's labour which is the main reason her parents have given her away.

### **Vulnerability**

Many children become victims of different forms of abuse because they are vulnerable. The abuser knows they can easily harm a child because there is no one who can protect him or her. Some of the most vulnerable children around us are those with some form of disability or another, children living with other people who are not their real parents as well as children living on the streets. In many Black and African cultures, girls are also very vulnerable due to the secondary roles ascribed to them in society and the caring roles expected of them as young women.

#### Wickedness

In most cases, the child abuser is purely evil and wicked and his or her actions cannot be justified in any other way. Many child abusers harm children for their own sick and perverse gratification. They derive a sense of pleasure and satisfaction from harming others, in this case children. Sometimes these are very mentally unstable people although their actions cannot be excused.

#### **Personal Gain**

Some negative harmful practices are promoted because some people stand to gain either financially or in other ways. An example is when children are falsely accused of being witches or as possessed by evil spirits. In certain communities, it is customary for misfortunes, bad turns and social failures to be attributed to the work of an evil-doer or a witch. Unfortunately, for a number of reasons, children are increasingly scapegoated, and are usual victims of this practice, more so if the child is living with people who are not his or her parents. There are many false faith leaders who claim to be able to exorcise such children – in exchange for a fee. Many children therefore suffer needlessly because other people stand to gain financially from their terrible experiences.

### "I Don't Care" Attitude

Lastly, many acts of abuse go unnoticed and unreported in our community because those who know what is going on, who are witnesses to the abuse are not interested in doing anything about it. This is what we call the: "I don't care" attitude. Either because of their immigration status or for other personal reasons, many people do not want to get involved with the authorities. When they see abuse going on, they close their eyes to it and fail to act.

# 8 Child Abuse -Why Children Don't Tell?

There are many reasons children keep the fact that they are victims of abuse to themselves. The most common of these reasons are:

- They might not understand that they have been abused. For many children the abuse they suffer is perceived by them as normal, especially if it is the only treatment they have ever known.
- If they are aware that the abuse they are suffering is not normal, then they may
  fear the consequences of disclosure, or exposing the abuse. Many abusers
  make the children they are abusing believe that they are the ones who will be
  punished if the abuse is discovered.
- Sometimes, children are threatened that someone close to them will be hurt if they disclose abuse.
- A child may feel that they are to blame for the abuse, or feel ashamed.
- They may not have the language or the ability to describe what is happening to them. This is even more serious in the case of children with disability who might not be capable of communicating what has happened to others who are in a position to help them
- They may feel that they will not be believed, or that they cannot trust any adults to keep them safe.

# 9 Reporting Child Abuse

It is the duty of every local authority to promote and safeguard the welfare of all children living in their area. If you suspect a child is at risk of abuse or is experiencing abuse, you should:

- In the first instance contact your local authority children's services department. You can reach them by calling the Local Authority switchboard number which is on your Council Tax bill or on the local authority website.
- When you are put through to Children's Services, state that you want to make a Child Abuse "referral". This simply means you want to report a case of child abuse.
- You will be asked to provide further details about the case you are reporting. Please note that you do not have to provide your personal details.
- The local authority is obliged to make an investigation. If you do not see any changes in the case you have reported, please follow up with another phone call.
- You can also call the police on 999 to report a case of child abuse.
- If nothing happens, you can contact AFRUCA and we will pursue the case until action is taken. Our contact details are at the back of this publication.

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

# 10 Working as a Community to Protect Vulnerable Children

Government figures shows that more Black and African children are being referred into the child protection system as a result of different forms of child abuse.

In many instances, children are temporarily removed from their families and taken into care to prevent them from further abuse. In other cases, those children end up permanently lost to their families as they are given up for adoption. Many children's lives are affected as a result of their experiences of different forms of abuse.

Everyone in our community must be able to recognise signs when they see a child suffering abuse. They must know what to do to protect children they see being abused.

Based on what you have read in this booklet, on the next page is a summary of what to do to protect a child you know is being abused.

### 11 Protecting Children-What to do?

#### STEP ONE - Know the Different Forms of Child Abuse

Ensure you know the meaning of "Child Abuse".

Know the difference between physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect.

#### STEP TWO - Know the Indicators of Child Abuse

Ensure you can tell the different signs of physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect.

If you see a child who has the signs of abuse, ensure you are able to identify them. Ensure you can tell if a child you know demonstrates the effects of child abuse.

#### STEP THREE - Know what to do if a child is at risk

Know who to contact to report cases of child abuse.

Know how to contact your local authority children's services or the police on 999. Know how to contact AFRUCA for help. Our contact details are at the back of this booklet.

#### STEP FOUR - Engage others to speak out against child abuse

You can become an AFRUCA Children's Champion by speaking out in your community to educate others so they know how to act to protect children. You can invite AFRUCA to hold a presentation for your members to discuss the issue and how to protect children.

# AFRUCA - Our Work to Protect Children from Child Abuse

At AFRUCA, we are very concerned about the number of Black and African children being removed from their families due to allegations of significant harm. We work with parents to over-come the problems they are facing in bringing up their children and give them the knowledge to protect them from abuse and harm. We are convinced that parents are best placed to make the most positive impact in promoting the well-being of their children. For this reason, we have established various projects that support Black and African children, parents, faith organisations as well as practitioners and policymakers working with children in England.

Our approach is built on developing relationships and working in partnership with children and families to tackle cultural and religious practices which impact negatively on children.

### **Working with Parents**

AFRUCA works with Black and African parents across England to overcome the problems they face promoting the welfare of their children through the following activities:

Our Child Protection and Positive Parenting workshops for Black and African Parents and faith organisations to help parents gain a basic knowledge of child protection, safeguarding and alternative parenting styles.

We work with parents who have children in the care system or have a child protection plan to ensure they can get the best outcome for their children. Production and dissemination of information that deal with different aspects of safeguarding children so that they know how to protect children from harm.

### **Working with Faith Organisations**

AFRUCA has worked with different faith organisations in its work on safeguarding children in the place of worship. We protect children by:

- Delivering child protection and safeguarding training sessions for faith workers and leaders to equip them with the knowledge of key safeguarding rules and regulations and how to ensure that practices within their place of worship are conducive to protecting children.
- Working with faith organisations to develop and implement their safeguarding policies and procedures as well as encouraging them to appoint a Safeguarding Officer with oversight of child safeguarding issues. The training programme equips them to adopt safer recruitment practices by ensuring that staff working directly with children are properly vetted.

### **Family Support Services**

AFRUCA offers family support services through our culturally competent social workers who provide 1-2-1 support and dedicate time to families who are going through a distressing time when child protection issues have been identified. We work with parents and carers on a one-to-one basis to promote child protection awareness and to build positive parenting skills.

#### Influencing policy and practice on safeguarding Black and African children

- Ongoing campaign for a change in legislation to make it illegal to brand children as witches
- Organising workshops and conferences for policy makers and practitioners to ensure continued sharing of information on safeguarding Black and African children
- Practitioner training for frontline staff to improve their confidence and capacity to intervene in families where there are concerns of child protection issues based on beliefs and culture
- Providing advice and consultancy to statutory and other charitable voluntary organisations working with Black and African children affected by or at risk of faith related abuse

### Other publications in this series

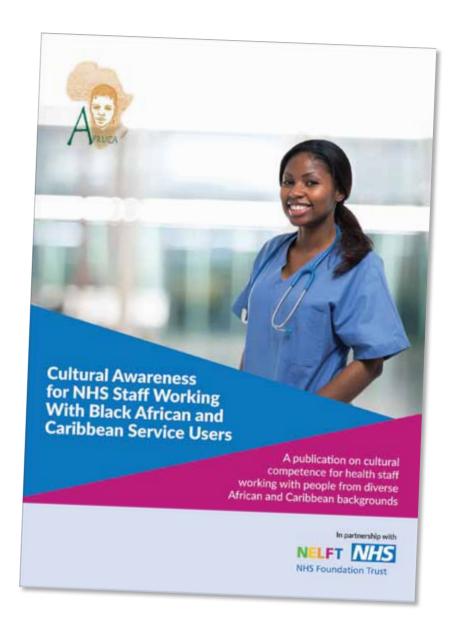
- 1 What is Child Abuse?
- 2 What is Modern Slavery?
- 3 What is Private Fostering?
- 4 What is Female Genital Mutilation?
- 5 What is Witchcraft Abuse?
- 6 What is Physical Abuse?
- 7 What is Sexual Abuse?
- 8 What is Emotional Abuse?
- 9 What is Child Neglect?

### AFRUCA publications children and young person's version

- 1 What is FGM?
- 2 What is Child Abuse?
- 3 What is Modern Slavery?

Our safeguarding Black and African Children in the UK series of publications are produced to help raise awareness among the UK Black and African community about different forms of child abuse and what they can do to help address these.

These publications can be downloaded free on our website at www.afruca.org





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Website: www.afruca.org

### Our Safeguarding African Children in the UK Series of publications include:

- 1. What is Child Abuse?
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