

Breaking silence on child abuse

The Star
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The "Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Week" was launched recently with the theme "Breaking the Silence - Let's Talk About It."

It was initiated by P.S. (Protect and Save) The Children, a project by the Malaysian Child Resource Institute (MCRI).

There were workshops on topics like prevention of sexual abuse, counselling child victims and crisis intervention.

Three professionals from Australia handled the workshops.

MCRI executive director Liew Sau Pheng said sexual abuse was not just a problem for the child concerned and his

family but to the community and country too.

"Our children must be taught to be street-wise," she said, adding that in 80% of the cases, the child knew the abusers.

A workbook on child personal safety was also introduced at the workshop.

Liew said the book would be sold to schools at RM15 per copy.

The organisers also noted yesterday that Malaysia ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1995.

P.S. The Children, which began in April last year, is aimed at working towards preventing and protecting the sexually abused.



From left:
Bakti's Datin
Yasmin
Abdullah, Datin
Shuryani
Shualb, project
director of P.S.
The Children
Madeleine Yong
and the wife of
the Canadian
High Commis-
sioner Jean
McCloskey.