



Effects of Abuse on Children

Indirect Abuse

- Children hurt by hearing mom called no good or that she deserves to be punished
- Children who are abused or see other abused in the family that "Might is right" and that pain and coercion are the way to get what they want
- Children may be used as spies and interrogated about their mothers behavior
- Children can be used as hostages
- The abuser insists that the mother leaves some of the children at home if she goes out so she cant run away
- Partner may tell her if she leaves she will never see the kids again.

Emotional Difficulties

- Fearfulness or constant fears of impending danger
- Nightmares
- Difficulty in dealing with fear, anger and sadness
- Feelings of guilt
- Feelings of helplessness
- Inability to act for themselves
- Little ability to feel badly for other people
- No connection to own feelings
- Anxiety about separation and loss