

## Sexual Abuse in Christian Organisations

The juxtaposition of the words in this title is frankly, stunning. As believers and students of the Word of God we know that such things ought never to be. Yet we also know that this title describes things as they can be and often are. It is critical that we, as the church of Jesus Christ, understand what sexual abuse is, how it happens and how it can be hidden in ministries and organisations we call God's.

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### I. Definition and Impact of Sexual Abuse

### II. Case Examples

### III. Culture of Systems

### IV. Deception

V. Power

VI. Offenders and Repentance

VII. Five Governing Principles

A. Rape and sexual abuse are illegal in most countries

B. Treatment of sex offenders is highly specialised

C. Clergy sexual abuse is often not understood

D. God's kingdom is of the heart, not institutional structures

E. Primary call of church is to love and obedience to Christ

VIII. Closing Illustration