

CPS Myths, Stats & Facts

1.) Investigations Process Leading to Removals

- a. 274,448 Reports of abuse/neglect to Statewide Intake
 - i. 46,336 Screened out
- b. 228,112 Total P1 & P2 intakes
 - i. 4,047 Opened as alternative response
- c. 224,065 Opened as abuse/neglect investigation
 - i. 56,019 P1
 - ii. 168,046 P2
- d. 176,868 Completed investigations
- e. 40,056 Confirmed cases of abuse/neglect
- f. 28,829 Cases identified risk
- g. 27,261 Opened services
 - i. 19,319 Family preservation
 - ii. 8,085 Substitute care
- h. 17,151 Children Removed From Home
 - i. 4,265 As result of abuse/neglect
 - ii. 12,886 From an open stage (Family Preservation, Family Substitute Care and Family Reunification)
- i. What's the most common offender look like?
 - i. Single, white, female, age 26 – 35 who's the parent of the child(ren)

2.) Myth: CPS takes children due to unfounded reports or child-unfriendly policies

- a. Best Interest of the child is the legal burden
- b. 53.7% of the calls are made by school staff, medical personnel and law enforcement
- c. 5% of the calls are anonymous
- d. Gates Decision upholds a family's 4th amendment rights

3.) What Does a Caseworker Do All Day?

- a. Work on paperwork (plans of service, court reports, documentation, etc.)
- b. Go to court
- c. Travel to visits
- d. Work with parents (on services or in investigation)
- e. Discuss case with attorneys, therapists, CASA, supervisor, et al.
- f. Visit youth

4.) Definitions of Abuse and Neglect

- a. Abuse
 - i. Physical abuse is deliberate actions resulting in injuries to a child or genuine threats of such actions, or concerns about physical injuries of an unexplained or suspicious nature.
 - ii. Sexual abuse includes:
 1. Sexual indecency, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
 2. Failing to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct to a child.

- 3. Using the child for the creation of obscene or pornographic material.
- iii. Emotional abuse is an emotional or mental injury caused by the parent or caregiver that results in an observable effect on the child.
 - 1. Psychological state - Concerns about the child's mental stability, as demonstrated by mood, behavior, and thoughts.
- iv. Trafficking
 - 1. Labor trafficking - parent or caregiver forcing a child into labor or services that are unhealthy or harmful to the child.
 - 2. Sex trafficking - parent or caregiver receiving compensation for forcing a child to engage in prostitution or other sex acts
- b. Neglect
 - i. Neglectful supervision means improper supervision of a child left alone which could have resulted in substantial harm.
 - ii. Medical neglect is failure to seek, obtain or administer medical treatment that could result in substantial harm.
 - iii. Physical neglect is the failure to provide a child with the necessary food, clothing, and shelter to maintain a healthy life.
 - iv. Abandonment and refusal to accept parental responsibility are where the parent or caregiver left the child in a potentially harmful situation and did not plan to return for the child.
 - 1. Refusal to accept parental responsibility - Child has been out of the home for any reason, and parent/caregiver refuses to allow the child to return home.
- c. 66,721 Total children confirmed as a victim of abuse or neglect
 - i. 52,173 Neglectful supervision
 - ii. 10,907 Physical Abuse
 - iii. 5,721 Sexual Abuse

5.) Myth: CPS Rescues Children From Parents Who Don't Love Them

- a. Major factors in neglect cases
 - i. Poverty
 - ii. Mental health issues
 - iii. Substance Abuse issues
 - 1. 60% of children were removed because of parents' alcohol or drug use
 - iv. All of the above
- b. Every single child in the CPS system has experienced trauma in two areas
 - i. Nature of abuse/neglect
 - ii. Entering the child welfare system
- c. Example – Single mom with the “bad” boyfriend

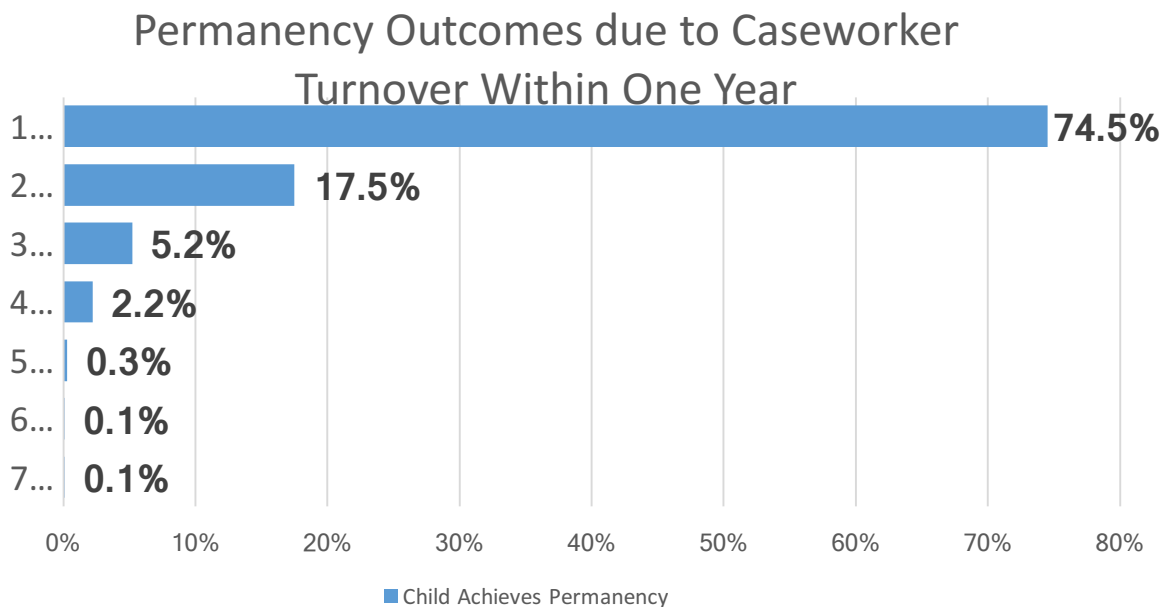
6.) Major Adults in a Child in Foster Care's Life

- a. Caseworker
 - i. CPS
 - ii. Child Placing Agency (foster care)
- b. Attorney Ad Litem
- c. Guardian Ad Litem (CASA)
- d. Caregivers
 - i. Foster parent
 - ii. Kinship provider

- iii. Treatment center staff
- e. Judge
- f. Therapist
- g. Teachers

7.) Myth: CPS Shuttles Kids To Adoptions as Quickly As Possible

- a. Average length of a family preservation (FBSS) case – 7.3 months
- b. Average length of a case where a child returns home – 13.3 months
 - i. 30.4% of children returned to own home
 - ii. Avg number of placements – 1.9
- c. Average length of a case where a relative takes PMC – 15.0 months
 - i. 31.2% of children placed with relative permanently
 - ii. Avg number of placements – 2.0
- d. Average length of a case where a child is adopted – 27.0 months
 - i. 30.7% have adoption consummated
 - ii. Avg number of placements – 2.5
- e. Average length of a case where a child is emancipated – 54.3 months
 - i. 6.6% of children age out at 18 or receive legal emancipation
 - ii. Avg number of placements – 6.5



8.) Parents Relationship to CPS

- a. Influencing factors
 - i. Nature of abuse/neglect
 - ii. Availability of caseworker
 - iii. Availability of services in area
 - iv. Access to other resources
 - 1. Family
 - 2. Workforce training