

# WHAT IS DONE TO ONE IS FELT BY ALL

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## PROTECT OUR ELDERS

Millions of elder Americans are abused, neglected, or exploited each year. American Indian/Alaska Native elders are respected for their experience and wisdom. As community members we need to protect our elders.

Elder abuse is any abuse and/or neglect of persons age 60 and older by a caregiver or another person in a relationship involving an expectation of trust.

### Forms of elder abuse:

- **Neglect** – Leaving an elder alone and/or denying basic physical, emotional, or social needs like food, medicine and companionship
- **Physical abuse** – Punching, slapping, shoving, burning, etc.
- **Sexual abuse** – Using force or intimidation to make an elder engage in an unwanted sexual act
- **Emotional abuse** – Isolation, intimidation, controlling behavior, or verbal abuse such as yelling, name-calling, blaming, and shaming
- **Financial abuse or exploitation** – Unauthorized or improper use of an elder's financial resources, like taking money from a bank account without permission

### Signs of elder abuse:

- Frequent arguments or tension between the caregiver and elder
- Changes in personality or behavior
- Unkempt clothes or hygiene
- Caregiver's refusal to allow you to see the elder alone

### If you or someone you know is experiencing elder abuse:

- **Call 911 if anyone is in immediate danger**
- **Contact the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 or visit [www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov)**
- For more information on specific tribal elder resources, visit the **National Resource Center on Native American Aging** at [www.nrcnaa.org](http://www.nrcnaa.org)



(Placeholder for local resource label)