Resources
for survivors of child sex abuse

National Sexual Assault Hotline
No matter the stage of recovery, confidential, anonymous support is available 24/7 for survivors and loved ones.

TELEPHONE 800-656-HOPE
ONLINE CHAT hotline.rainn.org/online

National Crime Victim Bar Association
Attorney Referral Service
Certified by the American Bar Association, NCVBA offers a referral service for survivors who would like to pursue civil suits. Referrals are based on type of case and location. Each survivor will be offered three referrals.

WEBSITE www.victimbar.org/referrals

Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants
The mission of the Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG) is to develop, fund, and coordinate programs that improve public safety; enhance the administration of justice; and create systems of care for crime victims, youth, and their families in the District.

TELEPHONE 1.844.4HELPDC (1.844.443.5732)
ONLINE CHAT www.DCvictim.org/chat

The Network for Victim Recovery of DC
NVRDC welcomes all survivors of crime, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, income status, race, ethnicity, religion, immigrant status, or ability.

WEBSITE www.nvrdc.org

DC Sexual Abuse
Statute of Limitations Amendment Act of 2018

CIVIL WINDOW
OPEN
MAY 3, 2019 to MAY 3, 2021

www.zerobuseproject.org
@ZeroAbuseProj
A criminal case is where the perpetrator is held accountable to the state for breaking the law and can be sent to jail.

**Criminal**

**Statute of Limitations**

**Before Amendment Act of 2018**

Criminal sexual abuse was subject to a 10 or 15 year statute of limitations.

**After Amendment Act of 2018**

If the crime happened after May 3, 2019 there is no criminal statute of limitations for any sexual abuse in the 1st or 2nd degree.

If the crime happened before May 3, 2019 and the statute of limitations has not yet expired criminal charges can be filed any time.

A civil case is where the perpetrator or another legally responsible entity is held accountable to the victim and must pay the victim money and do other things to make up for it.

**Civil**

**Statute of Limitations**

**Before Amendment Act of 2018**

A civil lawsuit against the perpetrator had to be filed before age 25 or 3 years since the victim discovered the abuse.

**After Amendment Act of 2018**

The amendment expands civil lawsuits to any sexual abuse not just acts of sexual abuse that occurred while the victim was a minor.

A civil lawsuit against the perpetrator or a negligent institution may be filed before the victim reaches age 40 or 5 years from when the victim discovered the abuse.

The amendment creates a 2-year window—open May 3, 2019 to May 3, 2021—for previously expired claims of abuse as long as the victim is still under 40 years old or within 5 years of when the victim discovered abuse.

What is a statute of limitations?

A statute of limitations is like a legal stopwatch that counts down the time to file criminal charges or a civil lawsuit. It is important to know when the clock starts ticking, when the clock stops ticking and whether anything restarts the clock.

1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be a victim of sexual abuse before they turn 18.

University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center