



123 North Enola Drive  
Enola, PA 17025

Toll Free: (877) 739-3895  
Phone: (717) 909-0710  
Fax: (717) 909-0714  
TTY: (717) 909-0715

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Kristen Houser, Chief Public Affairs Officer  
National Sexual Violence Resource Center  
877-739-3895, ext. 144; khouser@nsvrc.org

[www.nsvrc.org](http://www.nsvrc.org)



## OFFICIAL STATEMENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# The film “Spotlight” shines a light on prevention

Enola, PA — The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) applauds the makers of the film “Spotlight” for shining a bright light on the important role we all have in sexual violence prevention and response. We also commend *The Boston Globe’s* investigative journalism in uncovering widespread child sexual abuse within the Catholic Church – the basis of the film.

As lawyer Mitchell Garabedian (Stanley Tucci) articulates in the film, ‘If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a village to abuse one.’ We all can and must help prevent sexual violence. In particular, it’s critical that large and influential institutions like the Catholic Church and the media serve as leaders by supporting survivors, investigating allegations and holding those who harm others accountable and ensuring they get appropriate help. This shared responsibility isn’t about passing blame, it’s about empowering communities to look both internally and externally to change underlying systems that sustain silence and secrecy.

Prevention of sexual violence is possible – and it’s happening within the military, on college campuses and in faith communities. The NSVRC is committed to driving positive change on this issue. Through research, resources and collaboration, we’ll continue helping reporters inform the public with fact-based stories that place incidents in a broader context, as well as educating and training faith-based and other organizations on effective policies and programs.

For information on child sexual abuse definitions and rates, [click here](#).

### ABOUT NSVRC

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center, founded by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, celebrates its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The center leads the U.S. in providing professional support to local and state anti-sexual violence organizations. NSVRC collaborates with partners nationwide to create research-based resources that focus on how to prevent and respond to sexual violence. The organization has the nation’s largest library of resources on sexual violence and prevention. To learn more, go to [www.nsvrc.org](http://www.nsvrc.org).

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