

# A Graphic T-Shirt

## The Scenario:

A student, Patricia, arrives at school wearing an over-sized t-shirt depicting mice in 50 different sexual positions. When you ask her why she is wearing the t-shirt, she informs you that it is her father's and that all of her own clothing was dirty. What do you do?

## Discussion Begins

## The Scenario Continues:

Does what you do depend on Patricia's age or grade level? What if she's a 1st grader? A 5th grader? A middle school student? A high school student?

## Discussion Continues

## What do you do?

**Do you report?** If so, to whom? If so, when? If you don't, what might happen to Patricia? To you? To your school? To LAUSD?

If you report and the Local Law Enforcement Agency or the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) tells you...

...to **handle it administratively**, what do you do next?

...**they will investigate**, what do you do next?



## Legal Response

Facts presented here may not provide reasonable suspicion for filing a Suspected Child Abuse Report. However, if there is reasonable suspicion that child abuse occurred, a Suspected Child Abuse Report must be filed with either the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or the Local Law Enforcement Agency.

Regardless of the student's age, the student is to follow the dress code or the uniform policy (unless exempt). You should respond to the inappropriate clothing as noted in the school's policy (BUL-2549.0).

### Other Considerations

You should notify an administrator who must take steps to ensure that inappropriate clothing is not worn.

### Listen

Convey your interest and concern for Patricia's well-being.

### Protect

Act immediately by following the legal response. Doing so is the best way to protect students and promote a safe learning environment.

### Connect

Let Patricia know that her shirt is inappropriate. Assure Patricia that there are adults on campus available to help her in the future if necessary to ensure that she can attend school daily. Facilitate connection to the appropriate office to give her a replacement shirt for the day and/or other resources.

### Model

Maintain a professional and calm level of emotions and reactions. Do not express shock or anger at the possible perpetrator or event.

### Teach

Remind Patricia about District school uniform policies and the District dress-code. Help her to problem solve in anticipation of the next time that her laundry is dirty.

## Emotional Support