

South Africa.

The Catholic Church is not satisfied with merely responding to the sexual abuse of the young. It seeks to safeguard and protect the young from any form of abuse. The primary responsibility for the safety and well-being of children lies with the parents.

The 2015 August Plenary Session of the South African Bishops conference discussed Coping International and Children of Catholic Priests. There was a general recognition of the importance of the issues raised by Coping International and the discussion was positive. Bishops noted 'children and their needs should always come first. The South African Catholic Bishops expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the initiative Coping has undertaken and see it as essential for [the Episcopal Conference] to learn more about the situation in Southern Africa.'