**Prevention and Intervention**

- **Financial Abuse Reporting Act of 2005**
  - Requires unions and banks in California to report any reasonable suspicion of financial elder abuse
  - Financial institutions provide employee training about financial abuse

- **Other Elder Abuse Protection Laws**
  - Collect reports and manage statistical data
  - Increase community education and referrals
  - Interface with court and law enforcement

**Signs of Elder Abuse**

- Unexplained bruises, welts, burns, or lacerations that are not properly cared for
- Injuries that are inconsistent with the explanation for its cause
- Fear, anxiety, agitation, anger, isolation, depression, non-responsiveness, contradictory statements, hesitation to talk openly, confusion, disorientation
- The loss of the elder’s papers, credit cards, etc.; many bills that are unpaid; the elder’s unawareness of monthly income and expenses; bank account activity that is not usual; and forged signatures of the elder onto legal documents

**Forms of Elder Abuse**

- Physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, verbal, financial, self-neglect

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**Elder Abuse: A Policy Analysis**

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Elder abuse is a growing social problem in the United States. It takes on many forms, and is prevalent throughout various cultures. Elder Abuse Reporting Laws have been enacted throughout various states to prevent and intervene in elder abuse cases. California’s Financial Abuse Reporting Act of 2005 is one among many laws in the United States which was formed to help ensure social justice for the elderly citizens of America.

Between 2000 and 2004, elder abuse cases reported to APS increased by 19.7% (National Center on Elder Abuse, 2006)

**Ethnicities of Elder Abuse Victims**

- Caucasian: 77.1%
- African-American: 21.2%
- American Indian & Alaskan Native: 0.5%
- Asian: 0.2%
- Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander: 0.6%
- Other: 0.2%

**Most Prevalent Types of Elder Abuse Cases Investigated by APS**

- Caregiver Neglect: 12.5%
- Self-Neglect: 26.7%
- Financial Exploitation: 13.6%
- Emotional Abuse: 23.7%
- Physical Abuse: 20.8%

Source: APS, 2006

Source: NCEA, 2006