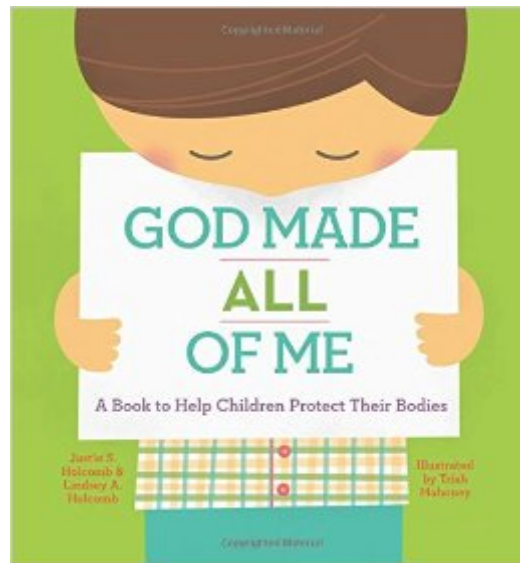


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# God Made All Of Me: A Book To Help Children Protect Their Bodies



## Synopsis

God Made Every Part of You! It's easy to convey the message to children that their bodies or particular parts of their bodies are shameful. This misconception fuels confusion, embarrassment, and secrecy, and often prevents children from recognizing or reporting sexual abuse. *God Made All of Me* is a simply-told, beautifully-illustrated story to help families talk about these sensitive issues with two- to eight-year-old children. Because the private parts of our bodies are private, the home is the ideal environment where a child should learn about his or her body and how it should be treated by others. *God Made All of Me* starts from the fundamental truth that God created everything and applies that truth to kids and their bodies. It equips parents to talk with both boys and girls about their bodies and to help them understand the difference between the appropriate and inappropriate touch of others. *God Made All of Me* allows families to build a first line of defense against sexual abuse in the safety of their own homes. *God Made All of Me* is the first children's book written by *Rid of My Disgrace* authors Justin and Lindsey Holcomb. Parents of young children themselves, the Holcombs regularly counsel victims of sexual abuse and are profoundly aware of the dangers kids face. Their simple and relatable story, designed to help children protect their bodies, will be an important resource for every family with young children. Simple, relatable story for two- to eight-year-old children, designed to help them protect their bodies. Includes colorful, age-appropriate illustrations. Conveys a clear message that God made every part of the human body and that every part is, therefore, good (the doctrine of creation.) Gently opens the conversation about sexual abuse that every family needs to have. Facilitates open conversations about appropriate and inappropriate touch. Overcomes confusion, secrecy, and embarrassment about bodies with truth.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Talking with our children about their bodies, touches, and secrets is an important step in keeping them as safe as possible. *God Made All of Me* helps parents start this conversation in a way that is not frightening and that affirms the faith traditions of many families.”

•Victor Vieth, Senior Director & Founder, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center  
“*God Made All of Me* is a helpful tool for parents who want to talk with their children about the wonders of the human body in the context of safe and healthy relationships. With a positive tone and clear illustrations, *God Made All of Me* offers helpful words and actions for children to keep their bodies safe, and to see themselves as God’s glorious creations.”

•Amy Julia Becker, author of *Small Talk: Learning from My Children about What Matters Most*  
“Children are bombarded by all kinds of sexual messages, and parents are in the most critical position to provide the first line of defense to protect and guide their children to develop a positive and clear voice about their body and sexuality. *God Made All of Me* shows you how to establish the foundation for a healthy bond with your children to meet the increasing challenges of sexuality that they will confront in childhood and adolescence. *God Made All of Me* establishes the dynamics for an ongoing, open exchange for discussing the body and healthy boundaries, imparting invaluable skills for your children to establish a spiritual compass, trust their feelings, and express their thoughts as they develop.”

•John T. Chirban, Professor of Psychology and Chairman of the Human Development Program, Hellenic College; clinical instructor in psychology at Harvard Medical School at The Cambridge Hospital; Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University; and author of *How to Talk with Your Kids about Sex*

“Protecting our children begins with conversations that help them understand how to protect themselves. Unfortunately, many parents simply aren’t equipped to have these often difficult and awkward conversations with their little ones. Tragically, sexual offenders realize this and often target children who have never learned how to protect their bodies. The simplicity of the text and the wonderful illustrations make *God Made All of Me* the perfect resource for teaching our children this absolutely necessary information. What I love most about this amazing little book is how beautifully it conveys God’s love for little ones by wanting them to be safe. As a former child abuse prosecutor, I have no doubt that *God Made All of Me* will be a major contribution to making our world a safer place for our precious children.”

•Boz Tchividjian,

Executive Director, GRACE; Professor of Law; and former prosecutor

“Justin and Lindsey have written a book to help us protect our children from sexual abuse. In clear and simple language it engages the child in the discussion. Woven throughout is the foundational belief that our children have been purposefully created by God and that every aspect of their being was his idea. I highly recommend *God Made All of Me* to parents of young children. Love them well by educating them about keeping their bodies safe.”

• Diane Langberg, PhD, Psychologist

“This is a strange and beautiful book. Strange because it’s so unique: exploring God’s creation with a view to helping children protect themselves in an increasingly at-risk culture. Beautiful because it hits its mark: instilling practical wisdom in a way that teaches without terrifying. The combined experience of the authors makes this a terrific resource for parents as well. As a father of four, I highly recommend it.”

• Michael Horton, Professor of Systematic Theology and Apologetics, Westminster Seminary California

“A lively, engaging, and straightforward little book, *God Made All of Me* is the perfect invitation to start a conversation with children about their bodies, boundaries, and the people in their life that make them feel safe. This book is both God-glorifying and visually stimulating and our homes and churches will be safer and more joyful places because of it.”

• Rachel Held Evans, author of *Blogger* and author of *Faith Unraveled* and *Searching for Sunday*

“*God Made All of Me* is a sweet, compelling, brilliantly sensitive invitation to teach your children the beauty of their body and the honor due to being made in the image of God. It offers simple and clear wisdom little ones can grasp about how to protect themselves from inappropriate or unwanted touch. It is the responsibility of every parent and grandparent to address uncomfortable subjects. This glorious resource is an investment in care, protection, and honor. I am grateful I get to read this to all three of my grandchildren.”

• Dan B. Allender, Professor of Counseling Psychology and Founding President, The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology; author of *The Wounded Heart* and *Healing the Wounded Heart*

“I wish my family had this book when I was a little girl because if they did I wouldn’t have the sexual abuse story I have today. This is an important, straightforward book.”

• Mary DeMuth, author of *Not Marked: Finding Hope and Healing After Sexual Abuse*

“As a parent to a young daughter, I’m already thinking through how to parent well in this area. Too many resources, when I was growing up, made us feel shame because of our bodies, or just simply didn’t talk about it. I’m so thankful and completely indebted to Justin and Lindsey for giving us a resource like this.”

• Jefferson Bethke, author of New York Times bestseller *Jesus > Religion*

“This is a must-read for any parent who wants to help empower their child to be safe from those who hurt little ones.”

• Michael

Reagan, President, The Reagan Legacy Foundation “This book is an absolute gift to parents! Finally, there is a quality book that engages children while providing a way for parents to discuss the difficult topic of sexual abuse. This is a vital tool to help parents raise healthy, brave children.”

•Lindsey Strickland, former child advocate at Sexual Assault Resource Agency, Charlottesville, VA “It’s sad that we have to educate our children in self-protection; but it is profoundly necessary. The good news is we can rejoice that we are God’s creation and teach our children to live in that sacred dignity. This book is a great help!”

•Gregory O. Brewer, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida “Educating our children about their bodies is one of the most important steps in preventing child abuse. That’s why God Made All of Me is a valuable resource. A simple story with colorful artwork, and theological and practical truth all packed into one small book. Parents, educators, Sunday school teachers, children’s ministry directors, and many others should pick up a copy today and read it to their young children.”

•Deepak Reju, Pastor of Biblical Counseling and Family Ministry, Capitol Hill Baptist Church (Washington, DC); and author of On Guard: Preventing and Responding to Child Abuse at Church and The Pastor and Counseling

Dear Parent or Caregiver, We wrote God Made All of Me as a tool so you can explain to your children that God made their body. Because private parts are private, there can be lots of questions, curiosity, or shame regarding them. For their protection, children need to know about private parts and understand that God made their body and made it special. We want parents and caregivers to be smarter and better prepared than those who would want to harm the child you love and want to protect. Education is important in prevention against inappropriate sexual behavior or contact. By teaching children about their body and discussing appropriate and inappropriate touch, you are helping them understand their ability to say No to unwanted touch, which will help them if anyone ever tries to hurt or trick them. Please consider taking the time to read this book and talk to your child about it. Thank you, Justin and Lindsey Holcomb

I say this delicately, because this is an important book about a vital topic...in its current state, this is not a book to give your kids. We thought the middle - the parts geared for children - were very well done. But with the beginning and ending aimed at adults, it’s not something I felt we could just leave around the house. My kids aren’t ready for child abuse statistics, and I would venture not many between 2 and 8 are. The message in the center of the book? YES. Helping a child grasp the number of sexual assaults when they can scarcely do math? NO. This means we have to be

purposeful and careful with the content. We have to keep the prying eyes of our 8 year old from seeing things that would cause her to ask questions in front of her 3 year old brother that he certainly couldn't handle. It just makes it awkward and hard to manage, and that's a shame. I wish there was a totally kid friendly version and an adult workbook. I would pay extra for two items, because this is important. I also hope Mr. Holcomb will continue to write and share his heart for this issue. May God bless his ministry!

A friend of mine just delivered her 11th (yes) child and my 6 year old son and 4 year old daughter have started asking some questions about their family and why it's so much larger than ours and of course.... Where are these babies coming from? They are just at the age where they know they need privacy, but not sure exactly why or what that means. Pee with the door open, but yell if someone walks by. Decide to undress in the same room as someone else if the other person's back is turned kind of thing. So, I have been looking into some help with answering some tough questions and this book is a GREAT introduction. Nothing squeamish in it at all, opened up the floor for conversation, perfectly appropriate for any age. After reading through, my daughter flipped back to the one page that says "some parts are not for sharing" and wanted to know why. It has three main points- 1. Private parts aren't bad, they are just private 2. Secrets and surprises are not the same thing 3. There is a difference between good touches and bad touches (it also mentions that people you love could give you bad touches and you need to tell your parents.) It's a non-threatening introduction and I will probably loan out mine to friends. For the price, it's rather expensive for such a short book, but it's such an important topic I bought this and 2 others. Like other reviews say, there is a bit of info in the book just for parents that you probably don't want to share with little ones, but I just opened it up right at the story and my kids didn't even notice.

It's a book about children and their bodies and appropriate touch vs inappropriate. Which on the surface could seem like a pretty daunting subject. One that many of us might like to shy away from, but this book does a good job of making it natural and not awkward. One of my favorite things about the book is that it incorporated part of the catechism which we have already been instilling in our kids. Q"Who made you?" A"God made me."Q"What else did God make?" A"God made all things."It incorporates scripture. It discusses saying no to unwanted touch that isn't necessarily bad, as well as touch that shouldn't happen. I also like that it talks about the difference between secrets and surprises, that if anyone tells your child to keep a secret that they should always tell mom and dad and that they will not get in trouble for telling mom and dad about things that have made them

uncomfortable etc. My 3 year old asked me to read it 3x in a row and she enjoyed answering the catechism questions like we do at night and listing the parts of her body that God made. Some of it is a little above her head but I think it is great to start early and have both parent and child comfortable with open conversation.

Such a great book to teach even the smallest child about their body and how God made it. Helps to teach them to know boundaries when they aren't quite sure. It also comes with some great parent reading in the front also which is nice for helping with such a tender subject. My 5 and 9 year old love this book and really enjoy it whenever I read it to them. They also like the pictures because they are very kid friendly and almost cartoonish! I would certainly recommend this book for even the smallest of children.

What a great and necessary book! As a parent of multiple children, the statistics on sexual abuse are frightening and demonic. My family is at the stage where we need to have conversations with our children about appropriate and inappropriate touching. This book approaches those issues from a biblical, God-focused, embodied perspective. There is a "word to the parents" at the beginning, which provides an excellent introduction to why the book is necessary. The stories of the children Kayla and David and their parents kept my children's attention and are told in ways children as little as three can understand. There are Bible verses spread throughout the story to reinforce how good their bodies are and how God desires to protect us. Little ones need these reminders. At the end of the book is a list of 9 ways to protect your children from sexual abuse. This is a helpful list for parents to read through and apply. I'm so thankful for this book!

I thought this book was forward and simple--much shorter than I expected but I think the repetitiveness and simple explanations helped my child understand the safety issues. I particularly liked the idea of Surprises Vs. Secrets explaining what is a secret and when is it bad and not telling someone vs. a surprise which is usually celebratory...

This is a wonderful book for young children. Our children are 7, 5, 4 and 2. Our two year old didn't understand it, but the other three paid close attention and asked questions. It covers very wonderfully the key points that will protect your children from sexual abuse, but it is all done in a context that affirms the fact that every part of their bodies is good. It is very tastefully done. We will be reading this book to them regularly.

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