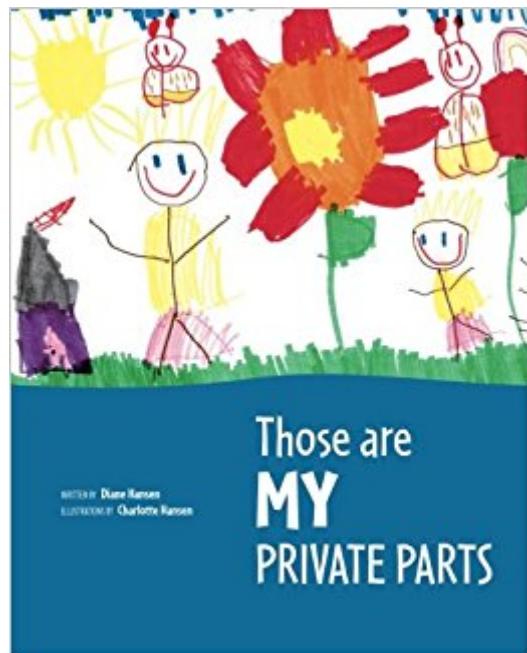


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# Those Are MY Private Parts



## **Synopsis**

Its primary message is: "America, please teach our young children about their sexuality before the child molester does." In just 12 pages of rhyme, the book \* gives parents a great starting point for having important, candid discussions with their children about recognizing and preventing sexual abuse \* names the most common perpetrators of sexual abuse in clear, kid friendly language \* informs children about the tactics perpetrators use to trick children \* equips children with an action plan for telling trusted adults about abuse \* empowers children to say "no" and to get righteously angry if abuse happens NOW AVAILABLE IN SPANISH, "Esas Son Mis Partes Privadas!" For quantity discounts contact dianerhansen@yahoo.com

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 36 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #163,979 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Safety #28 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Sexuality

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

It is a delightful and engaging contribution to helping parents educate children about the importance of learning to set boundaries. --Kathleen Brooks, Ph.D., host of Darkness to Light: Breaking the Conspiracy of Silence read it to my 4 year old client. He said, "Read it again". Congratulations on this great project! --Dr. Karyl McBride, Ph.D, P.C. MyPareTime.com highly recommends this book. Simple rhymes to colorful child drawn illustrations, it's a wonderful tool for parents. --My PareTime June 2005 --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I had high hopes for this book, but it falls short. The rhymes are cute, but its message of saying no

to adults is too broad and annoyingly repetitive. The message leaves no room for explaining to kids which situations are appropriate for touch (parents bathing/doctors). The book adamantly insists that NO ONE, EVER, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES should touch a child's genitals- and it preaches this message OVER AND OVER again. My child is toilet training and doesn't wipe her bottom well, often requiring a "follow-up" check. This same kid has an allergy to bubble bath that caused redness in her genitals that needed to be examined by a doctor. This book made no mention of "okay" circumstances for touch. Additionally, research shows that the most effective way to teach children about "stranger danger" or other risky situations is to help them learn to recognize and listen to their gut or uncomfortable feelings. This book makes no mention of this concept. This is only a minor issue, but worth mentioning. I didn't anticipate this, but when I showed the book to my three year old, she wanted to start drawing in all of her books since the illustrations in this one are all child drawn (or child-like). This could be a pro or a con depending on your needs/uses, but the book only uses stick figures and doesn't show any anatomy. The positive message (and sadly the only message) is that there should never be any games involving private parts. This is important because most abuse occurs under the guise of a game. I appreciate this message as many books gloss over it, unfortunately it's the only message in the book.

I very much appreciate this book and how it deals with body sovereignty. However, I have one complaint that is significant to me: the writer, in the Note to Parents, emphasizes how important it is to correctly name kids' private parts. Yes! Then goes on to underscore the names as "penis and vagina." I understand that even using those two words is a stretch for many parents, as most of us were taught to treat our genitalia as a shameful mystery. But in the spirit of teaching our kids the correct name of their private parts, "penis and vagina" is a confusing half-step. Boys have a penis and testicles; girls have a vulva, in which is protected a clitoris and a vagina. To omit these real and very important parts of the genitalia is to continue the era of body ignorance and shame, which as we know, among other things can lead to our children being more susceptible to the predators. The American Association of Pediatrics recommends correctly naming all parts of the genitalia from the beginning. In terms of my family, my husband and I (though we were a little shy about it at first) correctly named our toddler's private parts from the first time she started asking, when she turned two. She had realized that there were several different parts, and why would we and how could we name them all "vagina?" She confidently refers to whichever part she needs to and understands that each one is private and only hers. I encourage all of us parents to be brave and empower our children to correctly name and own their private parts, along with the rest of their wonderful bodies!

The book repeats the theme that there is no \*game\* that is ok that involves the private parts and empowers the child to say No, I don't like that touch. So, if your child doesn't want you to wash them then they would say no. It says potty words are pee and poop and it's ok to ask for help to go potty. Also, "rubba-dub is for the tub" "A babysitter, super-star, whoever they may be. Will never, ever play a touching game with me. I do not have to play. Get away I will say" In NO way did I get the impression that private parts were demonized AT ALL! The exact OPPOSITE in fact. This book allows adults to talk to a child about something adults are uncomfortable saying out loud. It encourages the adult to say penis and vagina out loud with no shame. Please don't skip over this book because of one reviewers impression, it is too important of a book! This book EMPOWERS ("I am young and I have a big, loud voice") the child to take ownership of their body and that there are adults to tell and get help to stop the "game" (because usually the abuse is from an adult the child trusted). I would be very cautious of adding any clarification for my kids that no one is allowed to touch thier privates except for mommy & daddy to clean because a child molester would use that and start playing a cleaning game and say "mommy and daddy told me to clean you and will be very mad if you don't let me". And what if the molester is the mom or dad? No, just keep it simple, no "private parts game" & "I can say No I don't like that".

This is a really cute little book. I really like how the book talks about how ANYONE can be an abuser. I find that most kids learn about stranger danger, and yet have no idea that most people who sexually abuse kids are in the family or a close family friend. Also in one of the illustrations it labels a penis and vagina in a non threatening age appropriate way. As you can see from the cover all the illustrations are created by children. It's a rhyming book which makes it fun and really gets across that a child is the boss of their body. I would recommend this book to others.

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