

Letter to the Editor for *Outside Magazine*
(To be submitted following article publication)

Anna Strzempko's story revealed the dynamics by which child sexual abuse in sport can occur and the devastation it can cause ("Unprotected"). One child hurt is one too many.

We now understand those issues much clearer and have learned to better address the problem of abuse. We have come a long way since 2010.

The article missed an opportunity to share how our members and parents have more resources than ever to prevent or stop an abusive situation. With a concentration on the past, readers were not given an accurate picture of how vastly different our organization is today.

We started a new chapter in 2010 with the creation of Safe Sport and have worked tirelessly to minimize the risk that any child could be victimized. Safe Sport is now an essential part of our responsibility to our 400,000 members, with the continued introduction of new programming, educational tools and outreach efforts.

The 'bad guys' are those who gain the trust of our children and manipulate relationships to abuse them. We must work collectively to keep our members safe from harm.

For more about our Safe Sport program, visit www.usaswimming.org/protect/.

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