

## **Box 6.2 The American Psychological Association's Division 37 Section on Child Maltreatment**

The American Psychological Association (APA) is the largest scientific and professional organization of psychologists in the world, with more than 100,000 members and 54 divisions representing the many diverse areas within the field of psychology. Each APA division contains various sections made up of members who are interested in special topics within psychology. APA's Division 37 (Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice) is the home of members of the Section on Child Maltreatment.

The Section on Child Maltreatment is the only permanent organization within the APA specifically created to address issues related to child physical and sexual abuse, child psychological maltreatment, and child neglect. The section was established in 1994 to support and promote scientific inquiry, training, professional practice, and advocacy in the area of child maltreatment. In the short time of