

Preventing Exploitation of Children And Adolescents On The Internet

The Health Resources and Services Administration

Maternal and Child Health Bureau

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What will we cover?

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

How does technology endanger children?

Who are the Child Predators?

Who are the victims of child sexual exploitation?

How big is the problem?

What efforts are being made to address the problem?

- Enforcement
- Prevention



What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

- It is the manipulation of children to perform sexual activities for the gratification and or monetary gain of the child predator
- The manipulation can manifest itself as:
 - Child prostitution
 - Sexual solicitation
 - Sexual molestation/assault
 - Child pornography



How does technology endanger children?

- Using technology the child predators now have virtual playgrounds where they have access to real children without much fear of being identified
- Grooming techniques of child predators are aided by online profiles created by children
- Children post personal information which makes the grooming easier for the child predator
- Since most children are more computer literate than their parents contact by online predators is done in secrecy
- This secrecy is the online predators strongest weapon



Who are the Child Predators?

- Child predators come in all shapes, sizes, and walks of life
- In very broad strokes these offenders appear to be:
 - Male
 - White
 - 18 to 65 years of age



Who are the victims of child exploitation?

- These are not necessarily the “troubled children.” They are more likely to be the children that have never acted out before
- They generally are the children with access to the use of technology without the benefit of parental supervision.
- The grooming techniques of online child predators only work when a child won't tell and parent does not ask.



How big is the problem?

The following are the statistics from state and local law enforcement supported under the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program over the past two years....

	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>
▪ Arrest	2,403	3,047
▪ Search Warrants	4,065	5,199
▪ Subpoenas	12,691	14,406
▪ Forensic Exams	10,515	10,567
▪ Victims ID	399	1,040

What efforts are being made to address the problem?

There are efforts to address the problem at all levels:

- Law Enforcement
 - Federal/State/Local/International
- Private Corporations
- Nonprofit organizations
- NonGovernmental Organizations



ICAC Task Force Program

Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2008, (the "PROTECT Act") (Public Law 110-401)

Section 102 of the PROTECT ACT.....

.....there is established within the Department of Justice, under the general authority of the Attorney General, a National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, which shall consist of a national program of State and local law enforcement task forces dedicated to developing effective responses to online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases.

How does the ICAC define child exploitation?

Technology Facilitated Child Sexual Exploitation includes all forms of sexual exploitation of children (SEC) and commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) facilitated by technology. Offenses include, but are not limited to:

- trafficking of children for sexual purposes, such as prostitution
- sex tourism, mail-order-bride trade and early marriage
- stripping, performing in sexual venues (e.g., peep shows)
- the manufacture, distribution, and possession of child pornography
- online enticement of children by sexual predators

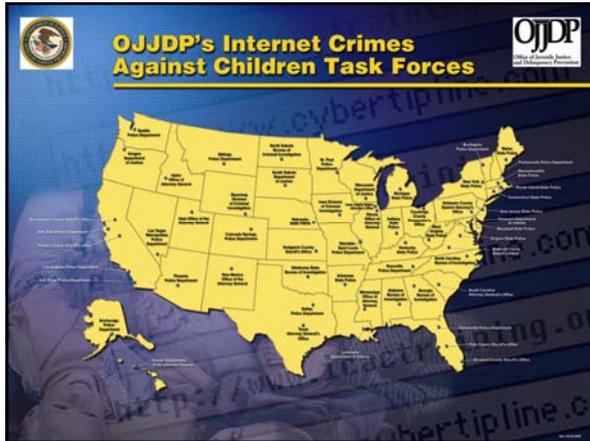


ICAC Task Force Program

- Increasing the investigative capabilities of state and local law enforcement officers in the detection, investigation, and apprehension of Internet crimes against children offenses or offenders, including technology-facilitated child exploitation offenses.
- Enhancing nationwide responses to Internet crimes against children offenses, including assisting other ICAC task forces, as well as other Federal, state, and local agencies with Internet crimes against children investigations and prosecutions.

Federal Law Enforcement

- Project Safe Childhood (PSC) www.projectsafchildhood.gov
- FBI – Innocent Images
- FBI – Innocence Lost
- United States Postal Inspection Service
- Department of Homeland Security – Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- DOJ Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS)
- United State Marshal Service
- Untied States Secret Service



ICAC TASK FORCES



www.icctraining.org

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children



www.ncmec.org



www.cybertipline.com

- Report incidents of child sexual exploitation via phone (800-846-5678) or go to cybertipline.com
- All reports are reviewed, analyzed and provided to law enforcement
- Approximately 2,000 reports per week



Prevention

- ICAC - Internet Safety and Outreach
 - 43,000 Internet Safety Presentation
 - 1,683,384 Parents and Children Reached
 - 167,416 Law Enforcement Officers Trained
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - Netsmartz - www.netsmartz.org
- Web Wise Kids - www.webwisekids.org
- I-Safe.org - www.isafe.org
- iKeepSafe - www.ikeepsafe.org
- INOBTR - I Know Better - www.inobtr.org



Prevention

- Remember an online sexual predators' strongest weapon against our children is secrecy. It is the mainstay of the grooming process
- These grooming techniques only work when a child won't tell a parent, guardian, teacher or caretaker what is happening or when a parent, guardian, teacher or caretaker won't ask about the child's online habits.
- Take the time and TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN