

Check Point

Child Sexual Exploitation Service

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What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

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“Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.”

Department of Education, 2017

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

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Some warning signs

- Increased missing from home incidents.
- Reduced attendance in education.
- Change in physical appearance
 - Reduced personal hygiene care
 - Increased anti-social and/or criminal activity.
- Withdrawn.
- Social isolation from peers or change in peer group.
- Secretive.

Peer on peer Child Sexual Exploitation.

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Peer on peer Child Sexual Exploitation

- Far more common than you may think.
- Unwittingly involved in Child Sexual Exploitation through image sharing.

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- The power imbalance or the use of substance(s) in exchange for sexual gratification is the key difference between sexual exploitation and other forms of sexual abuse.

Impact of CSE? Trauma

➤ “Trauma is anything that has a long lasting effect on the psyche or self” (Shapiro, 2005)

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➤ “Trauma is perhaps the most avoided, ignored, belittled, denied, misunderstood, and untreated cause of human suffering.” (Levine and Kline, 2007)

➤ “When stressed, children often function like threatened animals – an inability to learn, attend, concentrate, enjoy friendships, play, problem solve” (Babcock Integration LLP, 2016)

Impact of CSE?

- Self questioning and blame can be one of the hardest things to deal with.
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The Child Exploitation
and Online Protection Centre



The UK's National Centre for Protecting Children

...Continued

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Emotional

Depression
Hopelessness
Overwhelmed
Anxiety
Denial
Guilt, shame and self-blame
Mood swings
Anger
Happiness/Fun
Accepted/ Wanted
Entertained
Purpose/role to play

Physical

STI, STD
Pregnancy
Injury, Bruising, Broken bones etc.
Insomnia / disturbed sleep / nightmares
Disconnection from self/ body
Fatigue
Difficulty concentrating
Paranoia
Self harm
Weight (loss or gain)
Death
Vivid flashbacks

Behavioural

Aggression
Lack of concentration
Extreme alertness/ Paranoia
Extreme emotional responses
Substance misuse
Going missing/staying out late
Low school attendance
Mistrust of professionals

Interpersonal

Withdrawn from others
Fearless
Challenging barriers
Difficult relationship with parents
Friendships strengthen and/or break down
Unable to engage with services / mistrust /
fear

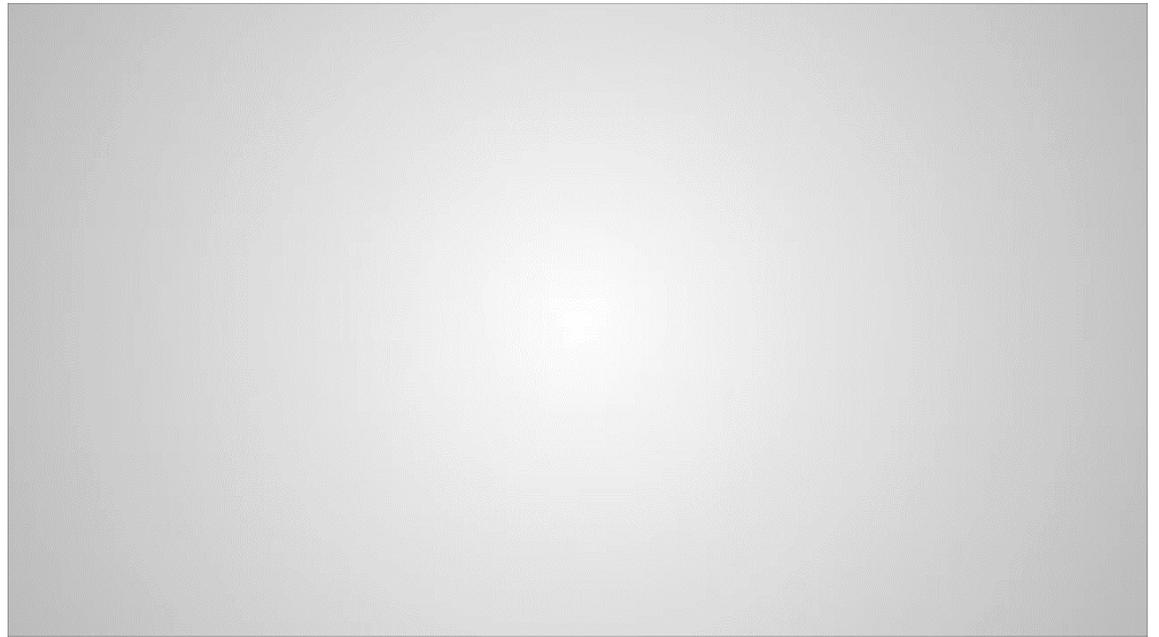
It can happen to anyone

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It's everyone's responsibility

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Thank you for listening to an introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation and its impact.
With the limited time left I'll answer questions, otherwise feel free chat to me later

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The Children's Society is a national charity that runs local services, helping children and young people when they are at their most vulnerable.

We also campaign for changes to laws affecting children and young people, to stop the mistakes of the past being repeated in the future.

Our supporters around the country fund our services and join our campaigns to show children and young people they are on their side.

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