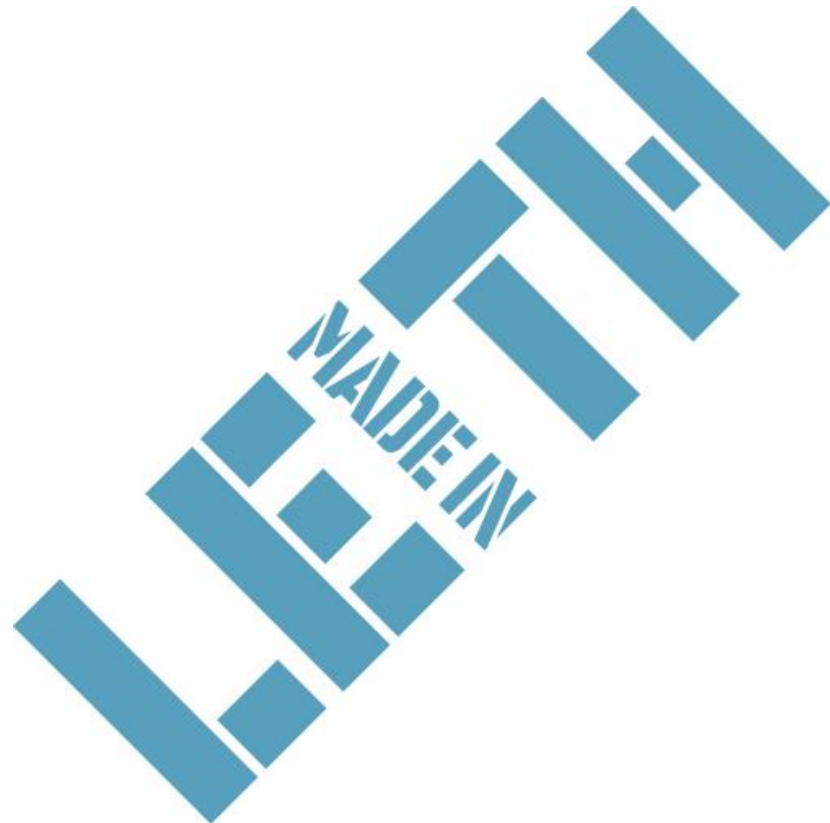


Child Sexual Exploitation Insight Gathering Research

Debrief

Thursday 6 August 2015



What we'll cover today

- **Background**
- **Context**
- **Main findings**
 - **Stakeholders:**
 - **Awareness / understanding of CSE in Scotland**
 - **Perceptions of parent / child understanding of CSE**
 - **Priorities**
 - **Parents:**
 - **Awareness / understanding of CSE**
 - **Information gaps / messaging opportunities**
- **Conclusions and recommendations**

Research objectives



To build a picture of prevalence and permutations of CSE in Scotland

To inform a communications strategy and messaging to encourage reporting

To build resilience amongst young people to support a prevention strategy

To inform Scotland that CSE exists here but can be tackled by collective action

Sample frame overview (practitioners)



- **Matt Forde, NSPCC**
 - **Jackie Brock, Children in Action**
 - **Tam Bailie, Scottish Commissioner for CYP**
 - **Elaine Galbraith and Lesley Boal, Police Scotland**
 - **Moira McKinnon, Glasgow City Council**
 - **Maureen Wylie, With Scotland**
 - **Martin Crewe, Barnardos Scotland**
 - **Kevin Mitchell, Care Inspectorate**
 - **Daljeet Dagon, Barnardos, Glasgow**
 - **Belinda McEwan, Renfeshire Council**
 - **Norman Dunning, Public Awareness Action Group Chair**
- To be completed:**
- ***Education Scotland***
 - ***Aberlour***
 - ***Roshni***

Fieldwork conducted 20th July – 12th August 2015.

Sample frame overview (parents)



Group	Gender	Age	Children	Socio-economics	Location
1.	Mix of male and female, all parents	30 to 50 year olds	With at least one child aged 14 to 17	ABC1	Glasgow
2.	Mix of male and female, all parents	30 to 50 year olds	With at least one child aged 14 to 17	C2DE	Edinburgh

All parents screened to ensure that any siblings were younger, that they had a home computer which the whole family could use and that their 14 to 17 year old child had a smart phone and internet access from that device.

Fieldwork conducted 20th July – 12th August 2015.



CONTEXT

The context



We've never really lived in times like this before.

Tam Bailie, Commissioner for Children
and Young People in Scotland

High profile child abuse cases dominate media



HAMISH McRAE: WHAT'S REALLY GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE EUROZONE THIS SUMMER PAGE 24

www.independent.co.uk

THE INDEPENDENT

Guilty: the gang who groomed girls for sex

Police missed chance to break up Rochdale ring two years before reign of terror was finally ended

By ANASTHIAN BROWN

Stricken by public, social and moral outrage, the Crown Prosecution Service led to a previously hidden ring of paedophile being exposed and publicly acknowledged in a court trial.

A former girl's teacher and a former police officer who had been secretly grooming at the hands of an amateur club doctor a whole array of girls in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, led to an estimated seven years of abuse being exposed in a court trial in 2012. Many of the boys have still not been named.

These men were described as "paedophile" by the press as they were named in the court proceedings.

Victim at Liverpool Crown Court for the so-called grooming of vulnerable youngsters.

The 12-year-old had been the gift, significantly from the groomers, of a mobile phone and a bicycle, and was also the only child ever to have a night out in the town being sexually exploited by ages 15-16 men across the North of England.

Continued on PAGE 4

Get set... for the new race for Olympic tickets

News, page 13

Grace Dent: at last, France has a proper First Lady

Opinion, page 17

Revealed: the secrets of the new "Wicker Man"

Robin Hardy bares his soul

Arts, page 45

TWENTY-SIX MILES. SIXTEEN DAYS. UNLIMITED GRIT

Clare Lomas, a 32-year-old former housewife who is paralysed from the waist down, completed the London Marathon yesterday, more than two months after the other competitors. Report, PAGE 9

Continued on PAGE 7

THE SCOTSMAN

Stubbs 'unfazed' by challenges he faces at Hills

Sixth generation Polo could save you a mint

Savile's horrific hospital abuse revealed

He's neither aged 75 nor has he been haunted by sex acts with corpses

Thousand more are flocking to live in Newcastle

Victim

Continued on PAGE 4

THE Sun **JUST 40p** **CHILD SEX SCANDAL**

Welcome to Rotherham

Thursday, August 28, 2014

ABUSED

I was raped & molested by gangs of Asian men from the age of 11.

Victim Sarah Wilson, left right

ACCUSED

I want to unleash all my years of hell on Shaun Wright...he must GO!

WADA GOAL

Sanchez winner is worth £50m

BACK TO SCHOOL

£5 OFF WHSmith

STATIONERY WHEN YOU SPEND £15

Mrs CRUNCH

40 MORRISONS

**We live in an increasingly
permissive society**

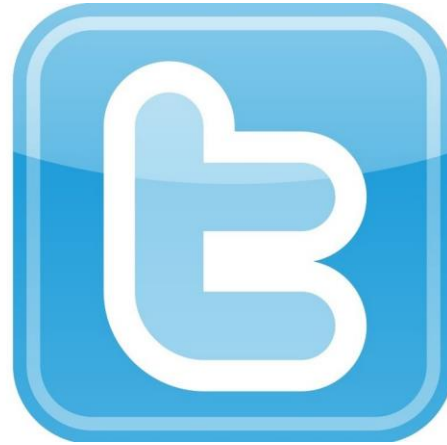



Many dubious role models

*Gonna wear that dress you like, skin-tight
Do my hair up real, real nice
And syncopate my skin to how you're
breathing*

*Cause I just wanna look good for you, good
for you, uh-huh
I just wanna look good for you, good for you,
uh-huh
Let me show you how proud I am to be yours
Leave this dress a mess on the floor
And still look good for you, good for you, Uh-
huh, uh-huh, uh
Uh-huh, uh-huh, uh*

Just as much life online as off





*“There’s an absolute
desensitisation.”
Practitioner, August 2015*

Normalising behaviours



I'm worried about my sons' perceptions of women, growing up with so much imagery around. Pole dancing in music videos and all. It's like stripping really.

Parent, C2DE, Edinburgh

Parents continue to talk in terms of (real world) 'stranger danger'





CSE: WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN SCOTLAND



CSE IN SCOTLAND (PRACTITIONER VIEW)

Broadly similar to what's been documented in England and Wales:

- **More often male predators**
- **Often female victims (but male cases not uncommon)**
- **Grooming as entry point**
- **Prosecution problematic**

Some variations suspected:

- **Gangs less of a feature (fewer of them, less organised crime)**
- **May be less rooted in night-time economy than high profile cases in England**
- **Trafficking between cities rather than countries**

Awareness of prevalence is low



The ministerial away day that was meant to be for all chief executives and senior police officers and chief executives of health, local authorities etc...and it was quite strange how very senior people had the belief that CSE had to be organised crime and that's where we've got it wrong. CSE...doesn't have to be organised crime, it can be peer on peer, there's a whole different range of how you can exploit an individual for your own or another person's gratification. And I think people were seeing it as organised crime and it had to be Asians and if it wasn't the two of them we don't have a problem with CSE, because somewhere else it's organised crime and it's Asian males.

If very senior people in various parts of the country, and I've heard them at conferences talking about it, being quite blatant that it doesn't happen in my area, if that is from individuals who are in that position of authority in a public service, I don't think we can have very high expectations that the general public have an understanding.

There are still local authorities in Scotland that are saying that CSE isn't an issue for them.

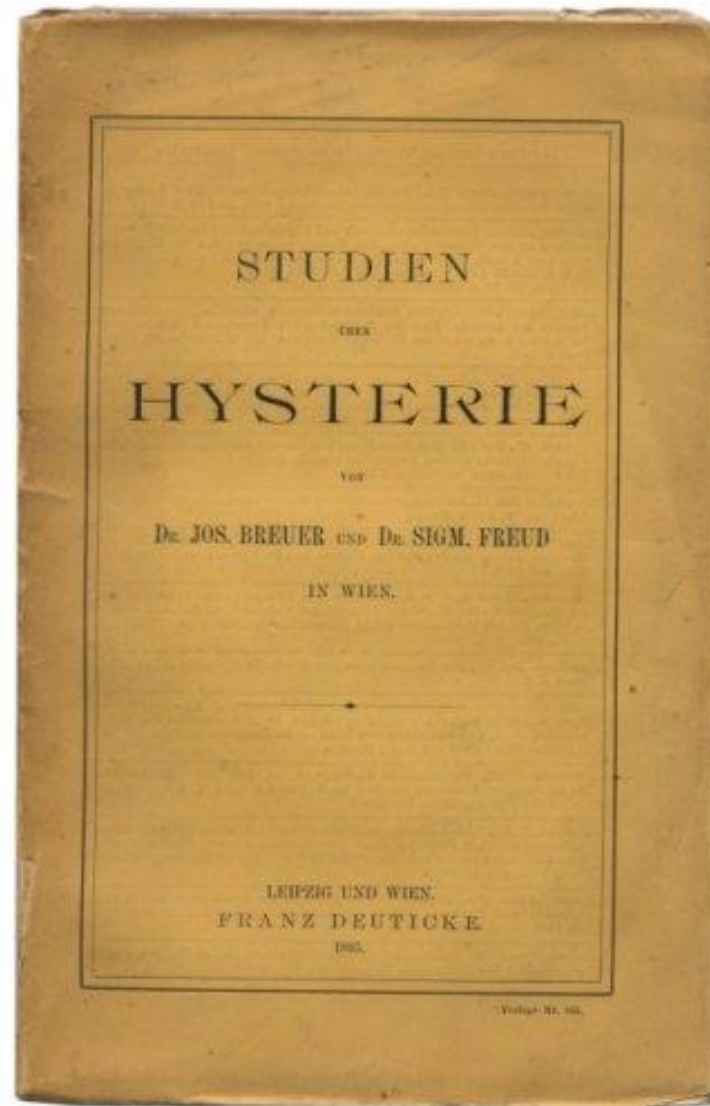


**Awareness /
understanding
amongst
practitioners
could be
better**



PRACTITIONER PERSPECTIVE

A troubling history



Broad concern about definition



AGES INVOLVED

BEHAVIOURS

OFTEN
PRESUMED TO
TAKE PLACE IN
HOME

CONFUSION WITH
CHILD ABUSE

“An issue with fuzzy edges”



It's an issue with fuzzy edges. You can get an awful lot of undesirable behaviours and then you get the illegal bit and that's where it gets difficult. If a 16 year old boy and a 14 year old girl have a relationship (do you say that's wrong) or do you say it always happens but then if it's a 17 year old boy and a 14 year old girl, it's illegal... And...there's a lot of different types of CSE, different models and that's where you get into arguments about what's CSE and what's child abuse. That can get a bit angels dancing on the head of a pin if you're not careful when it's really about how we respond to it.

Practitioner, July 2015

It's complicated



The sort of fundamental issue in CSE is the exchange and the fact that there's a relationship so you can only really rule out where there has been no prior or post relationship with the two, effectively a sort of stranger encounter type and everything else really is a form of exploitation because there's some sort of understanding of an exchange so we've made it a bit complicated. Therefore, if we're making it complicated, how are people out there supposed to understand what is going on?

And how's a young girl or a young boy?



**PERCEPTIONS OF CSE HEAVILY
INFLUENCED BY PERSONAL
EXPERIENCE**

CSE often confused with abuse



I think the issue is that child abuse historically would probably be reported more to police or social workers if it was in a family setting. So that's how probably from reporting mechanisms you have got a greater number of children who are abused within a family setting...but in actual fact that's just what's reported and that's what we're aware of.

Three quarters of children are living with their families when it happens.

What we do know is that if children are going to be sexually abused, it's going to be within families.

It's most likely to take place in the home: it might be an adult, a family friend, an uncle.





**TENDENCY TO
FOCUS ON THE
MOST VULNERABLE
CHILDREN**

Sensationalising CSE



I think the issue is they keep it front page when it has certain factors, as in Asian males and taking drugs when drunk. It's all the negative stereotypes that you wouldn't want. Young girls who have been in care, or are drunk. Even the stories over the weekend – there's was more negativity about the girls, to a certain extent, than the males who had been exploiting them. And the way it was written up in that very red tabloid form. So I think people are probably talking about it but it's the way it's being put in the media, I still think there will still be a whole range of parents who still think it'll never happen to my kids.

Practitioner, July 2015

Priorities for tackling CSE



1. Frontline education

Education of practitioners (awareness, prevalence, symptoms)

2. Resource allocation

Resource allocation by (local) government to offer adequate support

3. Education of teenagers

Consistent focus in child education (currently varies by local authority)

4. Broad awareness

Awareness raising and education amongst general public

5. Prevention

Prevention strategy with young people from P6/7 (also varies by local authority)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a black smartphone. The person is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowd. The text is overlaid on the image in white, bold font.

14 - 17 year olds as priority audience

But many of those directly involved don't recognise there's a problem

Prevention should start sooner (P6/7)



Lack of parent / carer attention often felt to contribute – because practitioners often envisage most vulnerable young people



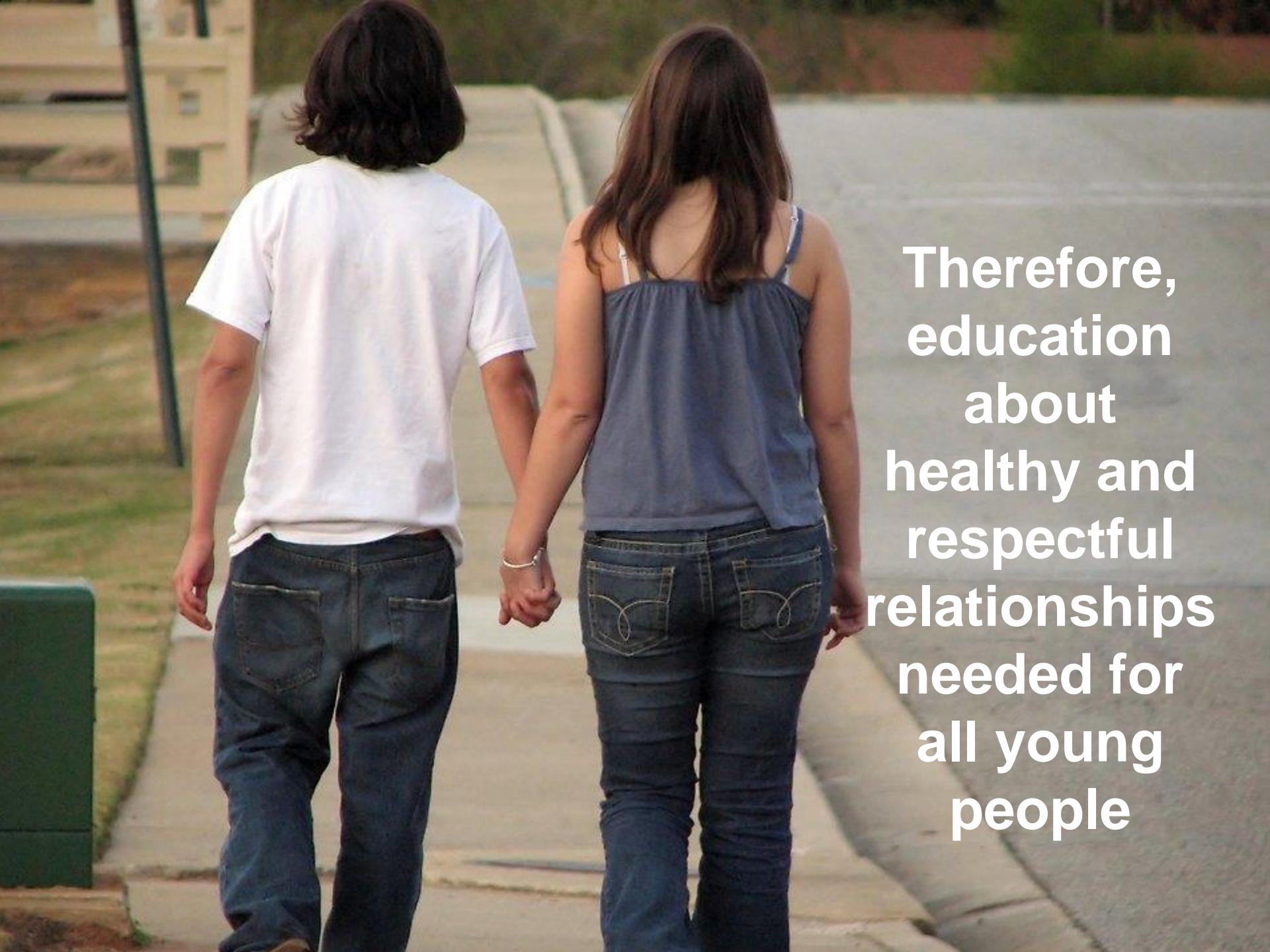
**Those more closely
involved accept that
all young people
could be at risk**

Credulity causes problems



The bit which is most worrying for us (as parents) is the acceptance of face value. My second son, one of his friends was gaming and made friends with somebody online who said they were the same age and just by everything they've been told in school, everything we've said, he was playing this game and said he was 13 and they just took this at face value and that's the difficulty for kids who don't have any support network... The police have said you can't underestimate how determined these guys are. They had one case of a guy who had created 30 different profiles online so when the kids looked at him, it appeared that the young person was joining a network of 7 or 8 people their own age but they were all personas manipulated by this one person.

Practitioner, July 2015



**Therefore,
education
about
healthy and
respectful
relationships
needed for
all young
people**

Need for 'relationship' education



The biggest issue for young people is consent. Young people need a basic understanding of what's a friend. What's a boyfriend or girlfriend? What is consent?

It's messages about your own body, being safe, being in control of your own body, touching in a way that doesn't feel correct. About helping them to understand that a relationship is about equality.

There is something more generally about the way that young boys and girls, the way that we address the whole set of issues around relationships and respect.

What you'd like to see come out of this is ultimately young people promoting what is a healthy relationship, as opposed to trying to focus in on what the sort of negative is in terms of "this is how you should be treated"; "this is what a healthy relationship is" as well as all the dangers online.



Practitioner verbatims, July & August 2015

Consider peer identification to reach young people



- Practitioners for the most part acknowledge that young people directly involved in sexual exploitation very rarely see it as such
- So trying to encourage self-identification in any activity targeting young people would be hugely challenging
- One practitioner suggested early on in the exercise that encouraging peer identification ('keep an eye out for your friends') was likely to be more effective

I do quite like your idea of a peer point of view – I'm worried about my friend. She's secretive, got this flashy mobile phone that she won't let me look at.

- Practitioners interviewed since have validated this approach, feeling it would have a higher chance of success.

Perceived barriers to reporting



IDENTIFICATION

FEAR OF
CONSEQUENCES

“TABOO” SUBJECT



PARENTS' PERSPECTIVE

Parenting is tough



It's normal to have sex these days. It's ridiculous. It's terrible the way Amber (17) carries on (talking about it). Her friends as well. They're all sleeping about... She actually had to get a test for chlamydia and I was mortified, I never even told my husband. I had to phone up to get the result for her but the thing is I've got to talk to her about it – I don't want her doing things behind my back. So it's a double edged sword.

It all boils down to not being able to discipline your children, not giving them a good skelp. My daughter kens I can't lift a finger to her and if I do, she'll phone social services... So I've just to let her dae it or chuck her out... I've got nae way of enforcing my rules. I say right I'll turn the internet off, she's got 3G on her phone. I'll say you cannae get out but she'll watch things she's got downloaded. She's got a laptop, tablet, phone and a computer. She's got DSs. They've got everything. My daughter laughs at me, she thinks she can get everything. She doesn't take advantage of me.

Awareness of CSE is high



There was that story in the North of England.

Is it like what happened in Birmingham, like trying to get young people recruited into a gang and like prostituting them out?

- Tendency to focus on most extreme cases
- But definition of CSE is reasonably narrow (gangs, care homes, 'grooming' of vulnerable children)
- Largely felt to be something that would affect other people

Spontaneous perceptions of CSE



It's grooming online.

I think there's that huge case, you know, down south just now.

The danger is how vulnerable your kids are...It can spread so quickly from nothing to going out and meeting someone... Hopefully it'll never come to your door but you can't take chances.

You read all these stories about men pretending to be 14 year old girls online.

Is that to do with their facebook people, like adults, like befriending bairns, is it something like that?

Parents, Glasgow / Edinburgh

Risk to their own kids initially feels hypothetical

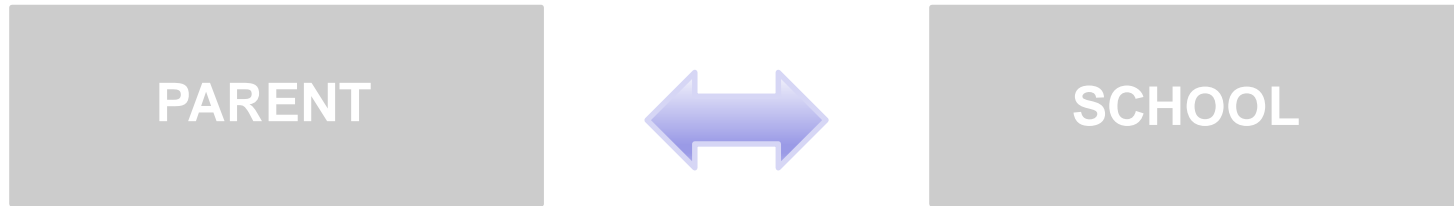
If they don't have (supervised) internet access, how do you know? There's no sure way of protecting against it. You've just got to be careful.

They are smart enough but could they mistake someone? How do they know, in that split second, not to?

(From a dad with boys) There is definitely more problems for girls in teenage years. There's a danger of – girls seem to always want to meet older boys.

You hear about the paedophiles who live in your area. My friend told me not to let my kids play at that play park as there's 33 paedophiles in the high risk overlooking the park.

Course of action if worried



- If they were worried about a child (and knew the parents), respondents would first contact the parent
- As a second port of call, ABC1 respondents suggested contacting the school
- No sense of involvement being inappropriate: duty of care to child takes priority
- In early discussions, only a minority reference the police.

What about facebook? Do they not have some kind of team that look out for this?

I suppose it would depend on the seriousness of the situation. If it was farther down the line, they might just go straight to the police.



PRESENTING THE STATS

Stimulus: stats



152 children were trafficked for sexual exploitation last year. (2013)

1 in 9 16 year olds has experience of an adult trying to sexually groom them.

1 in 5 indecent images of children shared online were taken by the child themselves. That equates to 16,000 images.

38% of all rapes recorded by the police are committed against children under 16.

- **Parents find it relatively easy to explain these stats:**
 - they know trafficking exists; this sounds like a low number
 - the grooming stat can be explained (they think) because it's legal to have sex when you're 16
 - indecent image stat chimes with what they know: some children do, often unwittingly, share inappropriate content
 - rape cases involving underage kids are more likely to be reported

Stimulus: stats



Around 50,000 people in the UK downloaded or shared online images of child abuse last year.

6 out of 10 13-18 year olds have been asked to send sexual images / videos of themselves. 4 out of 10 have.

Over 2,400 children were victims of sexual exploitation in gangs or groups between 2010 and 2011.

- **These stats, on the other hand, horrified parents:**
 - there are far more people actively involved in image viewing / sharing than they realised
 - 6 out of 10 is surprisingly high but they had assumed that most kids would be smart enough not to respond: this unsettles them
 - limited media coverage of gangs suggests gang scenarios are extremely infrequent: the stats suggest not.

Reactions to the stats



You've given me food for thought, for sure.

Most people have got a natural protective instinct towards their children. And statistics like this are just horrifying.

I'll talk about some of these statistics with my daughter. Though I don't feel I need to reiterate some of the conversations we've had, I will point out how widespread the problem is and the signs to look out for.

I think that's quite high. I didn't realise there was that many cases that have been documented.

It's been a wake up call.

Parents, Glasgow / Edinburgh

Personal experience



- **Very limited experience amongst ABC1 respondents of CSE indicators / behaviours amongst their kids (some knowledge of other kids, e.g. photo sharing with terrible consequences)**
- **More extensive experience of potentially troubling behavior amongst C2DE respondents (ignoring curfews, inappropriate dress, undesirable friends, hanging out with older people)**
- **Early on in the groups, respondents didn't consider sexting / image sharing / coercing to share images or films to be CSE (particularly when between 'same age' teens)**
- **Dawning realisation as the groups progressed that CSE encompassed far more than they realised**



**Most routes into CSE
familiar but boyfriend
model surprises some
and party house / peer
introductions are
shocking new news**

CSE symptoms



- When asked about symptoms of CSE, parents spontaneously mention mood swings, seeming quiet and / or withdrawn and sometimes “*school work suffering*”
- When presented with the list, most are unsurprised and feel that these would be logical things to look out for – though many wouldn’t have occurred to them without prompting
- They all claim they’d immediately question their child if they appeared with a new mobile phone
- But they can’t imagine the situation escalating to the extent that other behaviours would be manifest
- There’s a clear role for these messages somewhere within the general public facing campaign.

So what next?



- **Parents are all adamant that they talk (and will now definitely talk!) to their kids about this topic**
- **Most don't feel they need advice about how to have the conversation**
- **But group discussions revealed, they do need a prompt to have a conversation.**



Role for guidance about recommended action



- Parents' knowledge of their child's behaviour online is often extremely vague – in stark contrast to the information they'd expect from their child before they left the house alone
- 'Stranger danger' communications have made physical location into a comfortable, sensible topic of conversation
- They don't (all) know the equivalent questions to ask when it comes to online behavior
- Many monitor home computer use
- Some evidence of monitoring mobile phone use (mostly texts, sometimes social media, infrequently contact lists), more amongst ABC1 respondents, but this tends to be discussed apologetically– residual sense that they're 'intruding'
- Practitioners closest to the topic echo the need to clarify acceptable boundaries online as well as off.

Uncertainty



I can't get access to my sons' phones. At 15 and 16, it's impossible.

Mine's (daughter's texts) is all nonsense. Like I love you I love you so much baby, big kisses. It's always a lot of shit, like it's laughable what they're writing.

I feel facebook's not the one they're using any more. I don't have snapchat or Instagram or anything like that and I think that's because they can be more secretive.

I've got my son's Instagram open on my phone and he doesn't know but that's Marvel Heroes and all that rubbish. But I've checked other kids' accounts and there's some really disgusting stuff going around. Like there's this one going about now, Glasgow slags. It's just disgusting and they're asking people not to report it.

Has anyone here heard of snapchat? That can be quite bad because the thing's only there for a couple of minutes so somebody might send you a picture. If you're quick enough, you can save it. You might not have time to think 'haud on a minute, that's not a right picture'. This is an older guy sending me a picture.

Parents, Glasgow / Edinburgh

Reporting procedure



- **Having discussed manifestations, parents were much more likely to suggest going to the Police with concerns**
- **In the event of serious concerns, the Police would be their default**
- **But in less severe cases, they would approach the parent (or child) in the first instance, often to avoid embarrassment or (in their own case) betraying their child's trust.**



PROPOSITION TERRITORIES

Propositions



Child sexual exploitation is a crime. If you're worried about someone, get in touch.

Too many young people in Scotland are involved in child sexual exploitation. We need to take action against it.

There are many forms of child sexual exploitation. Find out more about the signs and get in touch if you're worried.

There's no place for child sexual exploitation in Scotland. Together we can help and support those at risk.

Response to propositions



- Respondents are universally aware that CSE is a crime so the first proposition feels like a statement of the obvious
- They are also universally agreed that CSE should not be tolerated so this statement (no place for) feels accurate but not necessarily motivating
- Three elements overall caught their attention and should form the basis of the proposition for the adult education campaign :
 - “too many young people” (new news)
 - “find out more about the signs” (useful information)
 - “get in touch if you’re worried” (solution)

In response to the propositions



There's an education thing, isn't there, so we know what's involved? You mentioned rightly that sending photographs is wrong. We might not have known that.

Parent, ABC1 group, Glasgow



ATTITUDES TOWARDS PERPETRATORS

Attitudes towards perpetrators



- **Attitudes amongst parents towards perpetrators were uncompromising:**
 - They are solely responsible for their crimes
 - Neither their victim(s), their parents or any other adult should feel any responsibility
- **Having said this, some respondents did feel the opportunity to seek help (as in Germany) could be a good idea if it avoided crimes being committed**
- **But if it came down to resource allocation, they would rather see victims and those at risk supported than perpetrators.**

Attitudes towards perpetrators



Even if there was a bit of that (consensual activity), it's not the child's responsibility. They're too young to know.

I actually think that is because you probably find that in a huge number of cases, the people who are doing it have probably been abused as well.

I'd give them all a lethal injection if I had my way.

I would rather have the chance to prevent it than not. I think it's better than doing nothing. I don't necessarily agree with doing anything to help someone who's of that mind but if it helps...



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions



- **Parents and practitioners are in agreement that more needs to be done to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation**
- **There's a real appetite amongst practitioners (especially those closest to the issue) for immediate and ongoing training with anyone working in frontline services with young people (health, education, care as well as wider community, e.g. shopkeeper selling alcohol to underage drinkers)**
- **Parents are, for the most part, willing to take responsibility for their child's behavior on and offline and are anxious to monitor them enough to keep them safe**
- **Both audiences acknowledge that education is the first step: by raising awareness of prevalence and the manifestations of CSE in Scotland, the general public are better placed to identify potential cases.**

Clarifying the task



- **For the general public in Scotland, we need to:**
 - Explain that CSE is more of a problem in Scotland than they think
 - Raise awareness of the multiple manifestations of CSE
 - Further down the line, educate around indicators of CSE
 - Inspire ongoing conversations between parents and children about their online behaviour
 - Encourage them to get in touch if they have any concerns about a child or young person
- **For young people in Scotland, we need to:**
 - Raise awareness of the multiple manifestations of CSE
 - Educate around indicators
 - Encourage them to get in touch with any concerns about a friend
 - Wrapped up in communications about healthy relationships.

Messaging for adults



TOO MANY
YOUNG PEOPLE

MANY FORMS
OF CSE

GET IN TOUCH

UNDERPINNED BY 'HERE'S HOW'
(indicators, online / mobile safety, reasonable parameters)

Messaging for young people



HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS

FORMS OF CSE

GET IN TOUCH IF
YOU'RE WORRIED
ABOUT A FRIEND

UNDERPINNED BY ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION
(how it can start, safety checks, possibly partner materials,
e.g. Barnardo's app Wud U?, CEOP films etc.)



“This is a parenting issue – not just another risk groups issue. Really, it needs to be everybody’s issue as you need people to walk past a situation on the street and think ‘that’s not right’.”

Practitioner, August 2015



THANK YOU



APPENDIX

Definition of CSE shared with focus groups



Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of child abuse.

It happens when a young person is encouraged, or forced, to take part in sexual activity in exchange for something.

The reward might be presents, money, alcohol or simply emotional attention.

It could happen on or offline and without the young person being aware of it.

Stats shared with groups



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1 in 9 16 year olds has experience of an adult trying to sexually groom them.

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38% of all rapes recorded by the police are committed against children under 16.

Forms of / ways into CSE shared with groups



- Peer introductions
- Party house scenario
- Prostitution
- Sexually exploitative relationships, possibly using a 'boyfriend' model
- Internet exploitation (through image sharing / webcam / text / online communication)
- Performing sexual acts in return for alcohol, gifts, clothes, money, drugs
- Trafficking
- Gangs / organised gangs



Indicators shared with groups

- Regularly return home late
- Receive phone calls at odd times of the day / late at night
- Mood swings
- Hang out with groups of older people
- Have older boyfriends / girlfriends
- Bring home unexplained gifts, e.g. new clothes / mobile phone
- Seem to have more money than you'd expect
- Overnight absences with inadequate explanation
- Drug / alcohol misuse
- Exclusion or unexplained absences from school or college
- Act secretively about where they're going / who they're seeing / talking to
- Seen entering / leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults
- Suffer from sexually transmitted diseases or unplanned pregnancy