

Understanding the Dynamics of Technology-Assisted Child Sexual Abuse (TA-CSA)

September 17, 2026
1:00–2:30 pm CST



Housekeeping

- If you'd like a copy of the presentation slides & resources, you can access them in the chat box.
- Please look out for an email later this afternoon that will explain how you can complete the evaluation form & receive your certificate.
- If you have any questions during the presentation, please submit them in the Q & A Box.



Upcoming Events

Live Webinar

 Guardify

Where to Star(r)t: Understanding Child Abuse Charges & Prosecution

 Thursday, October 22, 2026

 1:00–2:30pm CST

 **Marissa Kuzbyt**
Assistant District Attorney,
Prosecutorial District 33

 NCCDA

CONNECTED AGENCIES

Where Justice Systems **Work.**

Capture, Cases, and Evidence, working as one
from intake to outcome.



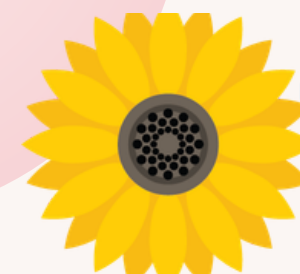


Rachel Glaser

Forensic Interviewer



UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF TECHNOLOGY-ASSISTED CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (TA-CSA)



Lakeshore Regional
Child Advocacy Center

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rachel Glaser

FORENSIC INTERVIEWER
RGLASER@LAKESHORECAC.ORG
920-393-9297

*Lakeshore Regional
Child Advocacy Center*

Saukville
134 S. FOSTER DR.
SAUKVILLE, WI 53080
262-358-9080

Sheboygan
1817A N. 8TH ST.
SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081
920-393-9297



GOALS

01

BROADEN UNDERSTANDING OF TA-CSA

02

**IDENTIFY FACTORS THAT INCREASE
CHILDREN'S VULNERABILITY ONLINE**

03

**STRENGTHEN RESPONSES FROM MDT
PARTNERS TO CAREGIVERS**

DEFINITIONS

what is Technology Assisted-Child Sexual Abuse (TA-CSA)?

ANY SEXUALLY ABUSIVE OR EXPLOITATIVE BEHAVIOR TO A MINOR THAT IS CARRIED OUT USING TECHNOLOGY OR ONLINE PLATFORMS, INCLUDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

what TA-CSA is not...

TA-CSA IS NOT SEXTING OR PORNOGRAPHY

IT IS A FORM OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE
& IT IS A CRIME

types of TA-CSA

- EXPOSURE TO PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL
- ONLINE GROOMING
- SEXTING, SEXUALIZED IMAGES, & SELF-GENERATED CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL (SG-CSAM)
- SEXTORTION
- AI GENERATED CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIALS (AIG-CSAM)



AN ONLINE ERA



- ALWAYS GROWING & EVOLVING
- THOROUGHLY EMBEDDED INTO THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS
- CAN BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO REMOVE ACCESS ENTIRELY FOR CHILDREN

So...

&

- HOW DO CAREGIVERS PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN ONLINE?
- HOW DO THEY RESPOND TO CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED ONLINE?

Our purpose:

HOW DO WE FACILITATE PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS & FAMILIES WHEN RESPONDING TO TA-CSA CASES?

THE NUMBERS

THORN, ONLINE GROOMING, 2022

THORN, YOUTH PERSPECTIVES
ON ONLINE SAFETY, 2024

2024 NCMEC CYBERTIPLINE REPORT

1 IN 4

MINORS AGE 9 – 17 REPORT THEY HAD
CONVERSATIONS OF ‘FLIRTING, INTEREST IN
DATING, OR ROMANTIC’ VARIETY WITH PEOPLE
THEY ONLY KNEW FROM ONLINE CONTACT



1 IN 3

VIEW THIS IS AS NORMAL
BEHAVIOR FOR KIDS THEIR AGE

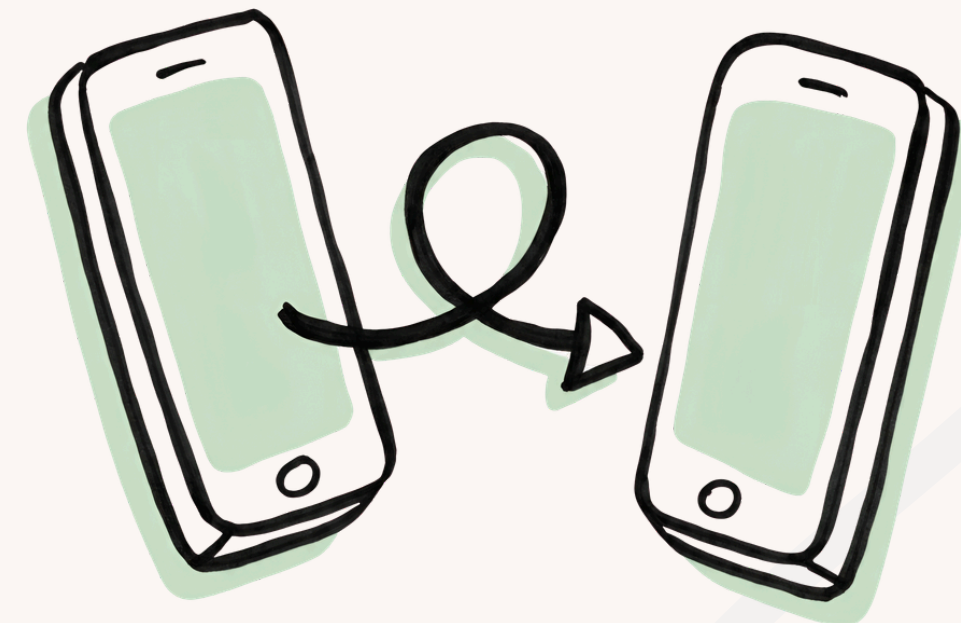
1 IN 5

MINORS AGE 9 – 17 HAVE
SHARED THEIR OWN SG-CSAM

3 IN 5

VICTIMS ARE ABUSED BY
SOMEONE KNOWN TO THEM IN
THEIR OFFLINE COMMUNITY

SELF-GENERATED CSAM (SG-CSAM)



“They would never send that!”

APPROX. 50%

OF THE SAMPLE SHARED AN IMAGE
WHEN ASKED

“Just say no...”

REQUESTS THAT REPEATED OVER A MONTH OR
OCCURRED MORE THAN 4 TIMES INCREASED
LIKELIHOOD OF SHARING AN IMAGE

SURVEY SAMPLE OF YOUTH UNDER 18 FROM THE USA FROM 2023-2024

JONES, L. M., MITCHELL, K. J., COLBURN, D., & GEWIRTZ-MEYDAN, A. (2026). ADOLESCENT
RESPONSES TO COERCIVE REQUESTS FOR SEXUAL IMAGES.

A DECREASE IN TA-CSA?

2024 NCMEC CYBERTIPLINE REPORT

29.2 MILLION
SEPARATE INCIDENTS OF
SUSPECTED ONLINE
EXPLOITATION IN
2024



7 MILLION FEWER
REPORTS OF SUSPECTED
ONLINE EXPLOITATION IN
2023

A DECREASE IN TA-CSA?

2024 NCMEC CYBERTIPLINE REPORT

causes of the decline

ANALYSIS SHOWS MULTIPLE FACTORS
LEADING TO DECLINE INCLUDING:

- DECREASE IN REPORTS FROM CERTAIN PLATFORMS
- IMPLEMENTATION OF END-TO-END ENCRYPTION (E2EE)

PLATFORMS WITH A HISTORY OF
CONSISTENT REPORTING SUBMITTED
FAR FEWER REPORTS IN 2024

INCLUDING GOOGLE, X, DISCORD,
MICROSOFT, & MORE

20% FEWER

REPORTS IN 2024
THAN 2023

END-TO-END ENCRYPTION (E2EE)

META BEGAN DEFAULT E2EE
SETTINGS IN LATE 2023 &
COMPLETED THE PROCESS MID 2024

the result?

**6.9M FEWER REPORTS IN 2024
FROM FACEBOOK THAN 2023**

HOW TECHNOLOGY HAS ALLOWED CSA TO EVOLVE

what we know
but what families might not know

THE SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDREN HAS EXISTED LONG BEFORE THE CREATION OF COMPUTERS OR THE INTERNET – BUT IT HAS ALLOWED IT TO CHANGE & CREATES NEW CHALLENGES THAN OFFLINE CSA



01

CREATED A NEW WAY FOR
PREDATORS TO TARGET &
COMMUNICATE WITH
CHILDREN THEY WOULD NOT
HAVE HAD ACCESS TO
OTHERWISE

02

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED
THE NUMBER OF NEW YOUTH
EXPOSED TO CSA THROUGH
ONLINE ACCESS

03

CREATED A NETWORK FOR
PREDATORS TO SHARE
CONTENT & TACTICS WITH
OTHER PREDATORS

01 NEW WAYS TO FIND VICTIMS

CSAM IS READILY AVAILABLE THROUGH
VIRTUALLY EVERY INTERNET TECHNOLOGY

- SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
- FILE-SHARING SITES
- GAMING DEVICES
- MOBILE APPS

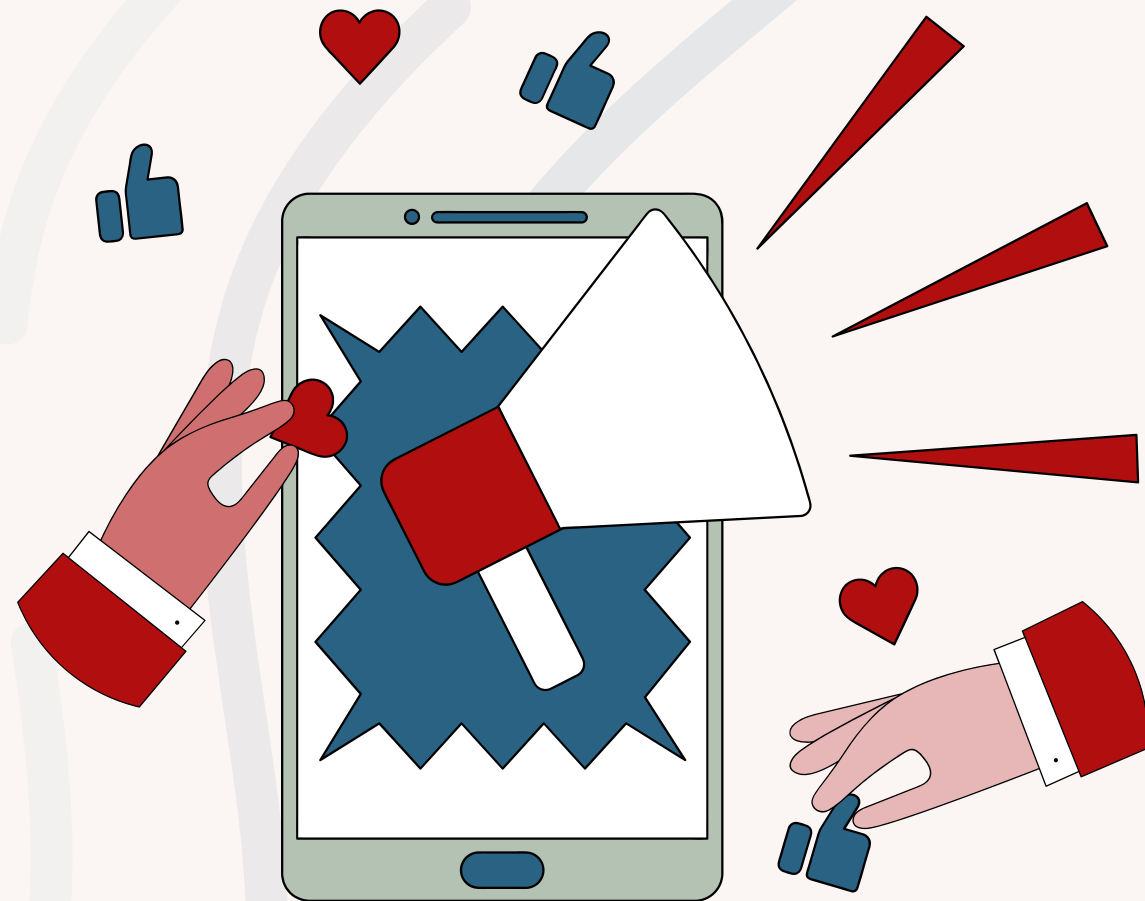
a global problem

84%

OF REPORTS TO NCMEC RESOLVE OUTSIDE THE U.S.



02 NEW POPULATIONS AT RISK



NEW AVENUES FOR PERPETRATORS TO
TARGET & COMMUNICATE WITH
CHILDREN

*what increases a child's risk
online?*

FREQUENCY OF USE ALONE DOES NOT RAISE
THE RISK OF VICTIMIZATION

DEPENDENT ON FREQUENCY **AND** INTENSITY
OF USE OF TECHNOLOGY; AS WELL AS
ADDITIONAL FACTORS

03 NEW WAYS FOR PERPETRATORS TO CONNECT

ONE CHILD'S ABUSIVE
IMAGERY HAS BEEN
CIRCULATED FOR THE PAST

19 YEARS

APPEARING IN

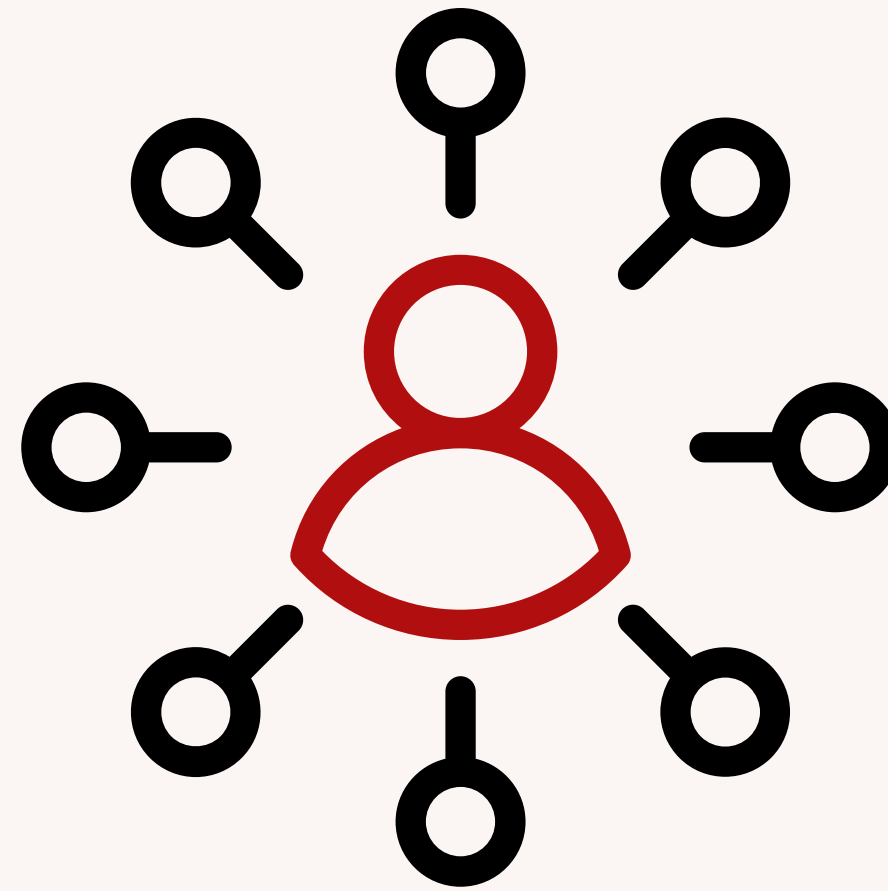
MORE THAN 1.3 MILLION
SUBMISSIONS TO NCMEC

*connections amongst
perpetrators*

NETWORKS TO SHARE
CONTENT & TACTICS

permanency of images

WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF IMAGES ON
THE INTERNET MAKES IT
INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO
COMPLETELY REMOVE CSAM CONTENT



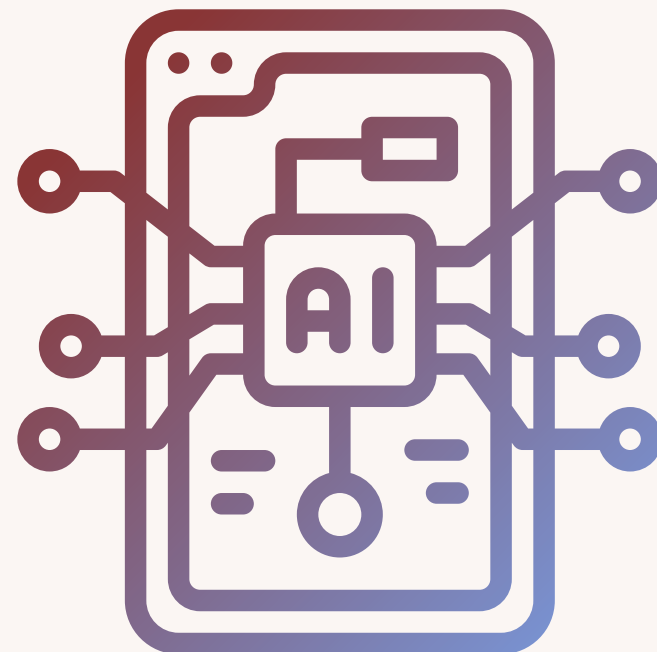
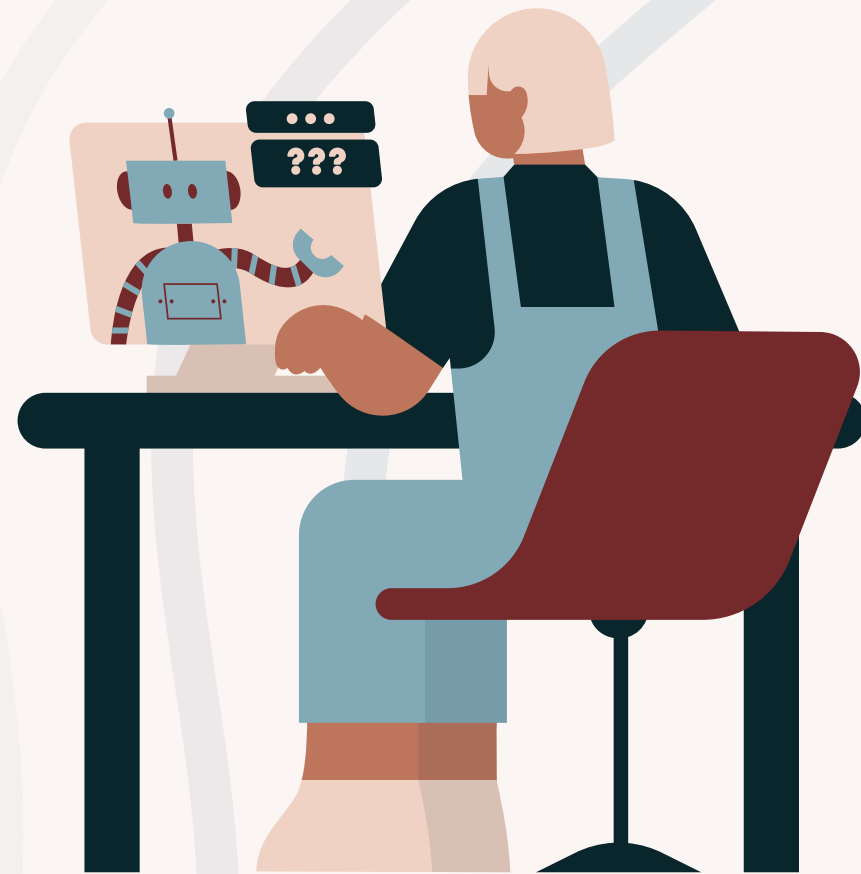
THE CURRENT TRENDS

juvenile offenders

INCREASE IN REPORTS OF
JUVENILES VICTIMIZING OTHER
JUVENILES ONLINE, INCLUDING
THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA



THE CURRENT TRENDS



Artificial Intelligence (AI)

67,000 REPORTS

CSAM & OTHER SEXUALLY
EXPLOITATIVE CONTENT FROM
GENERATIVE AI

1,325% INCREASE
IN REPORTS INVOLVING
GENERATIVE AI FROM 2023

THE CURRENT TRENDS

sadistic online exploitation

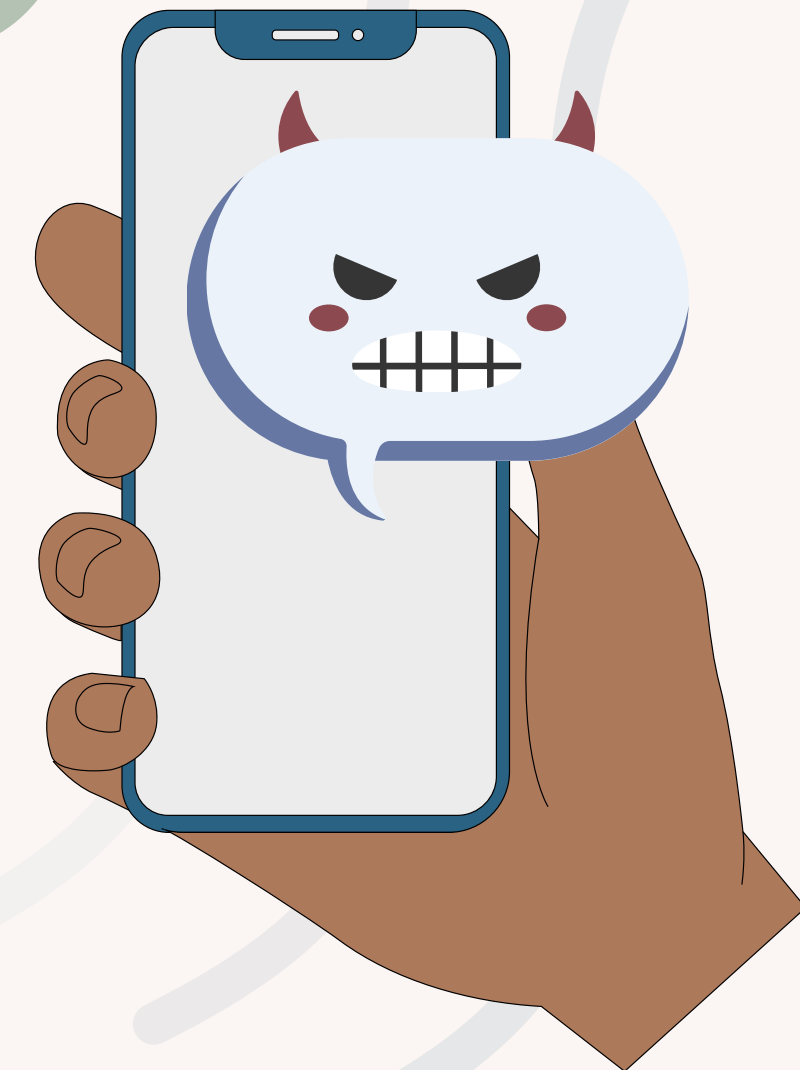
INCREASE IN VIOLENT ONLINE GROUPS
WHO MANIPULATE CHILDREN TO:

- HARM THEMSELVES & OTHERS
 - INCLUDING TO THE EXTREMES OF SUICIDE OR MURDER
- CREATE SG-CSAM
- SEXUALLY EXPLOIT OTHER CHILDREN (INCLUDING THEIR OWN SIBLINGS)
- HARM ANIMALS

DATA SHOWS AN INCREASE OF
MORE THAN 200%
OF REPORTS OVER THE LAST YEAR

69%

OF THESE
REPORTS
COME FROM
THE PUBLIC



HOW CHILDREN & TECHNOLOGY INTERACT

TWO FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO
INCREASED VULNERABILITY FOR
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
USING TECHNOLOGY

**ADOLESCENT
BRAIN
DEVELOPMENT**

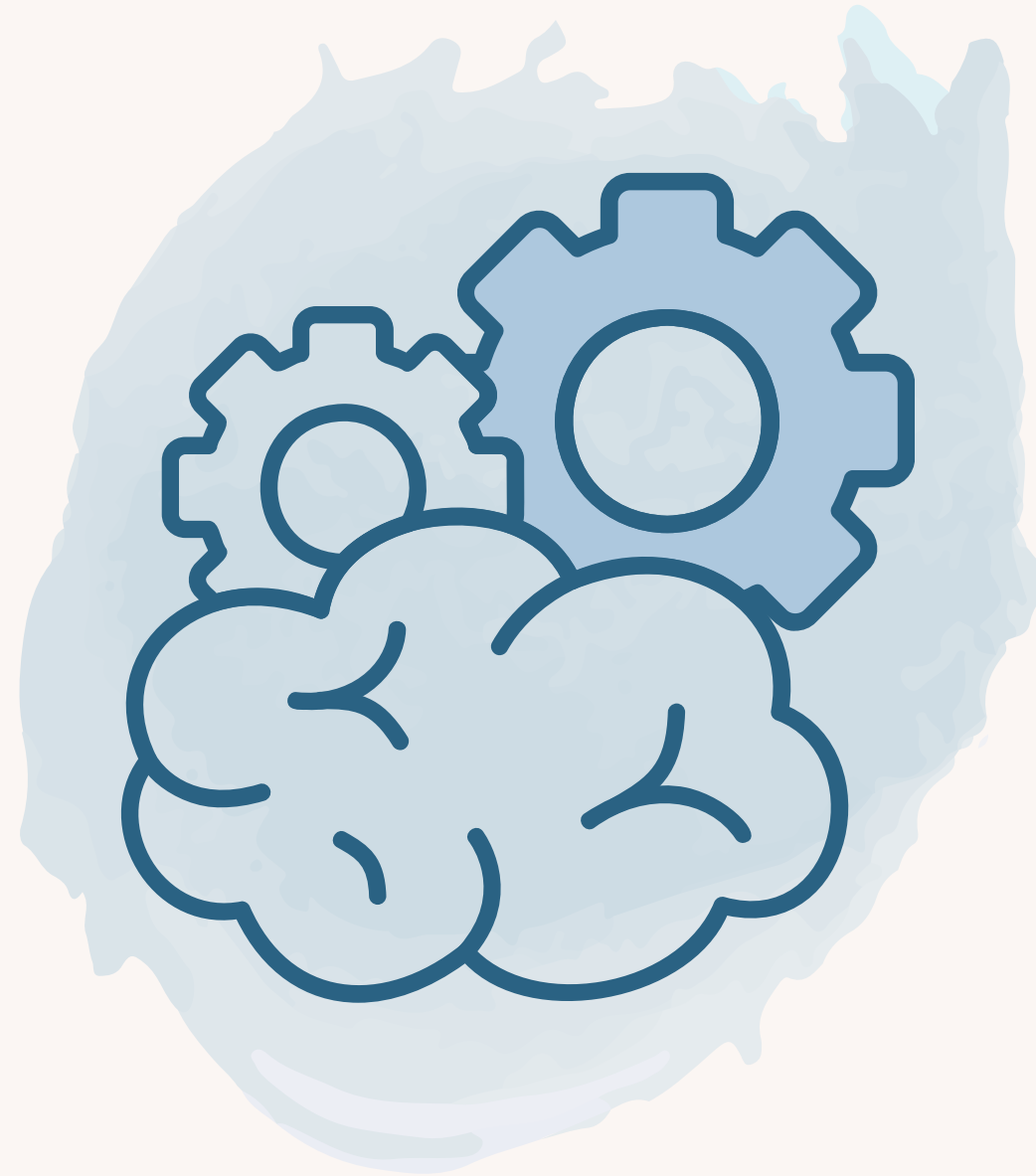


**ONLINE
DISINHIBITION**

ADOLESCENT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

*prefrontal
cortex
(PFC)*

UNDERDEVELOPED
UNTIL 25 YEARS OLD



*subcortical
regions*

MATURE BY
ADOLESCENCE

ADOLESCENT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

*what this gap means for
TA-CSA*

- INCREASED VULNERABILITY TO VICTIMIZATION AND MAKING RISKY DECISIONS WHEN ONLINE
- DECREASED CAPACITY TO RECOGNIZE ABUSE DUE TO BRAIN DEVELOPMENT IN ADDITION TO AFFECTS OF GROOMING



01

dissociative anonymity

ABILITY TO SEPARATE ACTIONS
ONLINE FROM IN PERSON LIFESTYLE
& IDENTIFY. ABLE TO FEEL LESS
VULNERABLE DISCLOSING AND
ACTING OUT.

invisibility

02

PEOPLE CANNOT SEE EACH OTHER IN
MOST CONTEXTS ONLINE & THIS
INCREASES DISINHIBITION DUE TO
LOWERING THE WORRY RELATED TO
HOW THEY LOOK, SEEM, SOUND,
PERCEIVED, ETC.

03

asynchronicity

DO NOT INTERACT WITH ONE ANOTHER IN
REAL TIME - SOME COMMUNICATIONS MAY
TAKE SECONDS OR MINUTES, SOME COULD
TAKE HOURS, DAYS, MONTHS, TO REPLY.

04

dissociative imagination

BEING ONLINE CREATES AN
OPPORTUNITY TO EASILY ESCAPE OR
DISSOCIATE FROM WHAT HAPPENS
OFFLINE. THIS CAN CAUSE A SPLIT
BETWEEN THE TWO 'WORLDS' FOR
PEOPLE.

06

minimization of authority

ONLINE A PERSON'S STATUS MAY
NOT BE KNOWN TO THE AND MAY
NOT HAVE IMPACT FOR RESPONSES.
RELUCTANCE TO SAY THINGS TO
AUTHORITY IS REDUCED ONLINE
WHEN YOU DO NOT KNOW ABOUT
THEIR STATUS.

05

solipsistic introjection

FACE TO FACE CUES ARE ABSENT
ONLINE AND THEREFORE CAN ALTER
TYPICAL SELF-BOUNDARIES PEOPLE
WOULD HAVE WHEN RESPONDING IN
PERSON.

ONLINE DISINHIBITION

TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE WHY & HOW



how the relationship begins...

- SEXUAL CURIOSITY AND EXPLORATION
- UNDERSTANDING THEIR IDENTITY
- PROCESS THEIR CHALLENGES
- CONNECTION

the image of the perpetrator

- SEEMINGLY 'NORMAL' INDIVIDUALS
- MARRIED
- WELL-EDUCATED
- EMPLOYED
- UNDER THE AGE OF 50

GROOMING IN TA-CSA

- GROOMING OCCURS IN SIMILAR PATTERNS TO OFFLINE CSA
 - IDENTIFY VULNERABILITIES AND EXPLOIT
 - SHOW INTEREST IN CHILD
 - ISOLATE
 - ADAPT LANGUAGE & BEHAVIOR TO MATCH CHILD
 - INTIMIDATION AND THREATS
- HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME ADDED COMPLEXITIES...
 - BLACKMAIL
 - TIMELINE VARIATIONS
 - CONSTANT ACCESS

THE FACT THAT CHILDREN ARE OFTEN AWARE THEY ARE COMMUNICATING WITH AN ADULT & CONTINUE TO TALK WITH THEM, SHOWS OF THE INTENSITY & POWER OF THE GROOMING & MANIPULATION BY THE PREDATOR, AS WELL AS THE INTENSITY OF THE CHILD'S VULNERABILITY.



THE EXPERIENCE OF THE VICTIM

POWERLESSNESS *alone*
LIVING A DOUBLE LIFE SHAME
Dismissed NO SAFE SPACE
SUICIDALITY *self blame*
FEAR OF CONSEQUENCES
isolation ANGER POSITIVE
NO ONE WILL FEAR EMOTIONS
BELIEVE ME THREATS & BLACKMAIL FOR
OFFENDER



DISCLOSURES IN TA-CSA

delay in disclosure is normal

RECENT STUDIES SHOW THAT DISCLOSURE IN TA-CSA HAS ADDITIONAL BARRIERS TO DISCLOSURE THAN IN PERSON ABUSE

why does this happen?

- SHAME & BLAME
- WORRY OF WHO WILL ALL FIND OUT
- SAFE PERSON TO TALK TO
- CUE TO TALK

Double Silencing

WHEN A VICTIM DENIES ABUSE HAS OCCURRED, DESPITE BEING CONFRONTED WITH CSAM EVIDENCE

forced disclosure

UNDERSTANDING OUR ROLE IN THE CONTROL OF **THEIR** STORY

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WHEN THEY TELL

ANY CHILD WHO HAS
BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED
WANTS TO BE ABLE TO
SPEAK TO PEOPLE WHO
BELIEVE THEM & KNOW
HOW TO HELP THEM



THE CAREGIVERS

*improved responses
by caregivers can...*

01

REDUCE THE RISK OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
EFFECTS

02

REDUCE THE RISK OF RE-VICTIMIZATION

03

REDUCE THE RISK OF SUICIDE

A Caregiver's Mental Health

AN OVERLOOKED FACTOR IN A CHILD'S
HEALING PROCESS

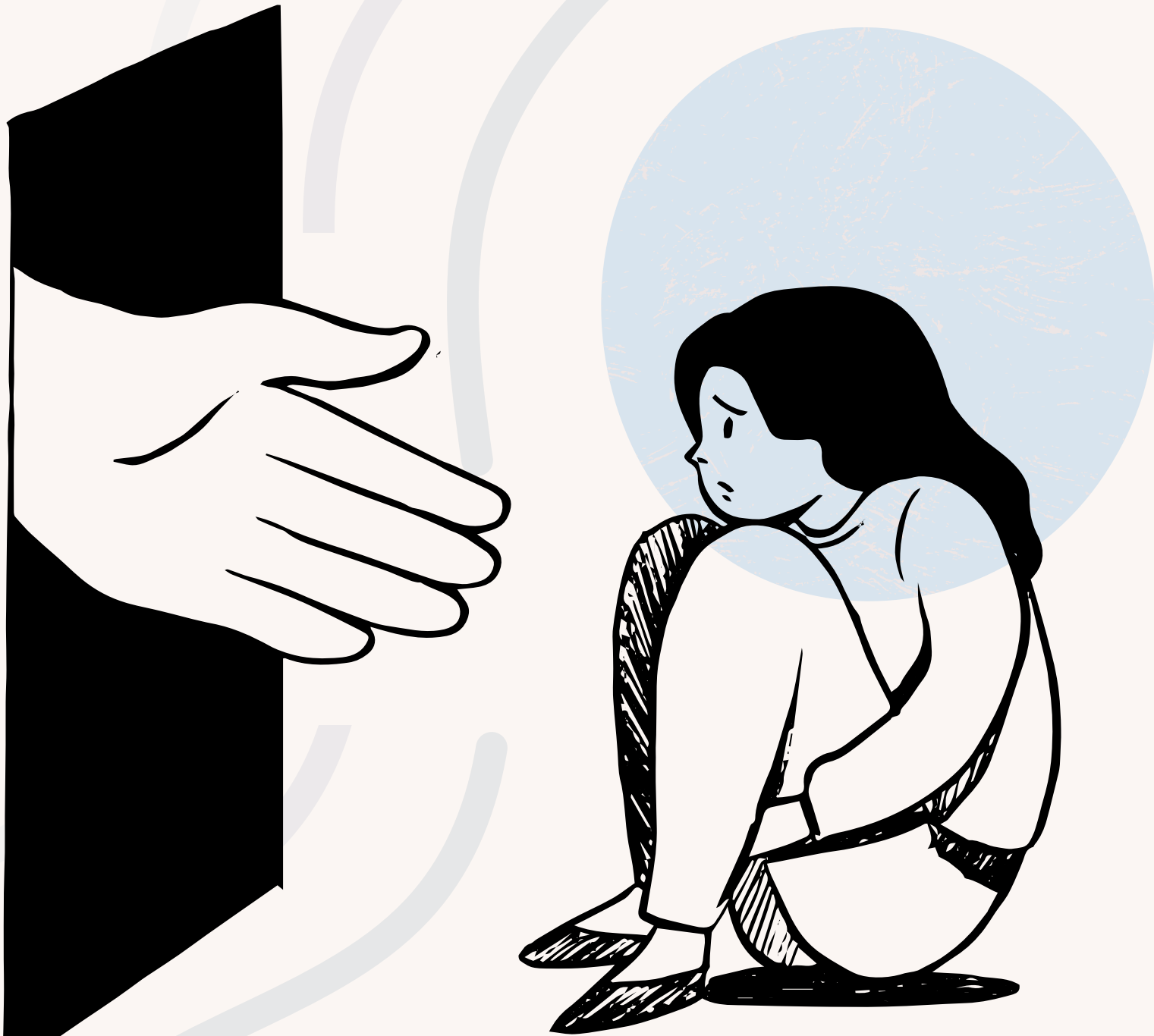
Caregiver's response to TA-CSA

PARENTAL SUPPORT IS ONE OF THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT INDICATORS TO THE
HEALING AND OUTCOME OF THE CHILD

How can we help?



HOW WE CAN IMPROVE VICTIM EXPERIENCES & OUTCOMES



Simple Changes We Can Make...

- BE EDUCATED AND INFORMED ABOUT TECHNOLOGY
- BE NON-JUDGMENTAL THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS
- ENSURE YOU ARE TAKING THE ALLEGATIONS AND POTENTIAL HARM TO VICTIMS SERIOUSLY
- ALLOW CONTROL BACK TO VICTIMS WHERE YOU CAN

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR YOU

Back to the beginning...

TECHNOLOGY IS EVERYWHERE & IT IS
HERE TO STAY



Case example

IN PERSON SEXUAL ABUSE
DISCLOSURE WITH AN ADDITIONAL
TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT

MOVING FORWARD *together*

protecting children in a digital world is a shared responsibility

- CAREGIVERS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN TA-CSA CASES - WORKING TOGETHER WILL BE NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS
- RESEARCH SHOWS THAT COORDINATED INTERVENTIONS THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEMS IS KEY TO SUSTAINABLE AND EFFECTIVE PREVENTION



Questions?

DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT!

Rachel Glaser

FORENSIC INTERVIEWER
RGLASER@LAKESHORECAC.ORG
920-393-9297

*Lakeshore Regional
Child Advocacy Center*

Saukville
134 S. FOSTER DR.
SAUKVILLE, WI 53080
262-358-9080

Sheboygan
1817A N. 8TH ST.
SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081
920-393-9297

Thank you



Lakeshore Regional
Child Advocacy Center

REFERENCES

BROWN, S. (2023). KEY MESSAGES FROM RESEARCH ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BY ADULTS IN ONLINE CONTEXTS. CENTRE OF EXPERTISE ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

COOPER, S. W. (N.D.). THE IMPACT ON CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY [WRITTEN TESTIMONY]. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHAPEL HILL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

DE SANTISTEBAN, P., DEL HOYO, J., ALCÁZAR-CÓRCOLES, M. Á., & GÁMEZ-GUADIX, M. (2018). PROGRESSION, MAINTENANCE, AND FEEDBACK OF ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL GROOMING: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF ONLINE PREDATORS. CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT, 80, 203–215. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2018.03.026](https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2018.03.026)

FESTL, R., REER, F., & QUANDT, T. (2019). ONLINE SEXUAL ENGAGEMENT AND PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION EXPERIENCES. COMPUTERS IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR, 98, 102–110. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1016/J.CHB.2019.04.010](https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHB.2019.04.010)

FINKELHOR, D., TURNER, H., & COLBURN, D. (2023). WHICH DYNAMICS MAKE ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND CYBERSTALKING MORE EMOTIONALLY IMPACTFUL: PERPETRATOR IDENTITY AND IMAGES? CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT, 137, ARTICLE 106020. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2023.106020](https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2023.106020)

HAMILTON-GIACHRITSIS, C., HANSON, E., WHITTLE, H., & BEECH, A. (2017). “EVERYONE DESERVES TO BE HAPPY AND SAFE”: A MIXED METHODS STUDY EXPLORING HOW ONLINE AND OFFLINE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IMPACT YOUNG PEOPLE AND HOW PROFESSIONALS RESPOND TO IT. UNIVERSITY OF BATH, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM, NSPCC, AND CEOP.

HOTZ, D. (2026). EXPLAINING PEER-GENERATED AI-CSAM: A CRIMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF YOUTH OFFENDING, GENDERED HARM AND TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED SEXUAL ABUSE. CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE. ADVANCE ONLINE PUBLICATION. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1177/17488958261467387](https://doi.org/10.1177/17488958261467387)

JONES, L. M., MITCHELL, K. J., COLBURN, D., & GEWIRTZ-MEYDAN, A. (2026). ADOLESCENT RESPONSES TO COERCIVE REQUESTS FOR SEXUAL IMAGES. JAMA NETWORK OPEN, 9(3), E260739. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1001/JAMANETWORKOPEN.2026.0739](https://doi.org/10.1001/JAMANETWORKOPEN.2026.0739)

KAYA, K., & ERDEM, Z. (2026). UNDERSTANDING CYBER GROOMING IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS: A SCOPING REVIEW OF RISK FACTORS AND PREVENTION STRATEGIES. FRONTIERS IN PSYCHIATRY, 17, ARTICLE 1896109. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.3389/FPSYT.2026.1896109](https://doi.org/10.3389/FPSYT.2026.1896109)

KLEIJN, M., & BOGAERTS, S. (2021). SEXUAL OFFENDING PATHWAYS AND CHAT CONVERSATIONS IN AN ONLINE ENVIRONMENT. SEXUAL ABUSE, 33(8), 871–890. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1177/1079063220981061](https://doi.org/10.1177/1079063220981061)

LESHAM, R. (2016). BRAIN DEVELOPMENT, IMPULSIVITY, RISKY DECISION MAKING, AND COGNITIVE CONTROL: INTEGRATING COGNITIVE AND SOCIOEMOTIONAL PROCESSES DURING ADOLESCENCE—AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SPECIAL ISSUE. DEVELOPMENTAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY, 41(1-2), 1–5.

PATCHIN, J. W., & HINDUJA, S. (2026). SEXTORTION AND SUICIDE: IMPLICATIONS FOR ADOLESCENT IMAGE-BASED ABUSE. CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT, 175, ARTICLE 107981. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2026.107981](https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CHIABU.2026.107981)

QUAYLE, E., JONSSON, L., & LÖÖF, L. (2012). ONLINE BEHAVIOUR RELATED TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: INTERVIEWS WITH AFFECTED YOUNG PEOPLE. COUNCIL OF THE BALTIC SEA STATES, ROBERT PROJECT.

SULER, J. (2004). THE ONLINE DISINHIBITION EFFECT. CYBERPSYCHOLOGY & BEHAVIOR, 7(3), 321–326.