

THEIR EXPERIENCE

NO SAFE SPACE EXISTS · LIKE THEY ARE LIVING A DOUBLE LIFE ·
BLAMING THEMSELVES · SELF-HARM ·
FEAR OF CONSEQUENCES



SHAME · PICTURES MIGHT BE SEEN BY OTHERS · REAL EMOTIONS FOR THE PERPETRATOR · PEOPLE WILL THINK DIFFERENTLY OF ME · POWERLESSNESS

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



HOW YOU RESPOND MAKES A DIFFERENCE

YOU HAVE POWER

IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU CANNOT CONTROL EVERYTHING, FOCUS ON WHAT YOU CAN – YOUR SUPPORT & RESPONSE.

THE SUPPORT OF A CAREGIVER

IS SO POWERFUL IN THE HEALING OF THE CHILD FOLLOWING THE REPORT OF ABUSE. IT CAN HAVE A GREATER IMPACT ON THE CHILD’S OUTCOME THAN THE ABUSIVE ACTS.



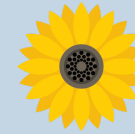
HOW TO PROVIDE SUPPORT:

- LISTEN CAREFULLY WITH KINDNESS
- TELL THEM IT IS NOT THEIR FAULT
- SHOW YOU TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY
- DO NOT CONFRONT THE ABUSER
- TALK ABOUT NEXT STEPS
- STAY BY THEIR SIDE, EVEN IF YOU DON’T HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS

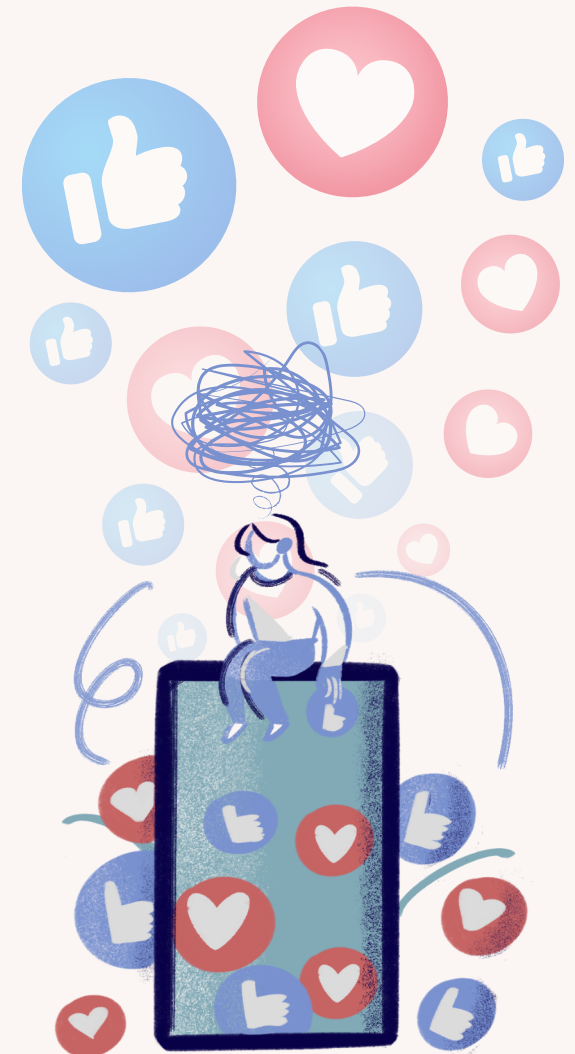


SCAN FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION &
RESOURCES

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



Lakeshore Regional
Child Advocacy Center



WHAT YOU MAY SEE

- ALWAYS ON THEIR PHONES, HIDING SCREENS, OR STAYING UP LATE ONLINE
- SPEND MORE TIME ALONE
- UNEXPLAINED GIFTS OR MONEY
- OUTBURSTS OF EMOTION

WHAT YOU MAY THINK

- THEY CHOSE TO TALK TO THIS PERSON
- THEY DID SOMETHING WRONG
- THEY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER, SAID NO, OR STOPPED IT

PREDATORS MANIPULATE THE CHILD IN A PLANNED MANNER TO GET CHILD TO FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THEM, MAKING THEM MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY & TO PREVENT THE CHILD FROM RECOGNIZING THE RELATIONSHIP AS HARMFUL.

WHAT YOU DON'T SEE

- PREDATORS FIND CHILD'S VULNERABILITIES & TAKE ADVANTAGE
- SHOW INTEREST TO THE CHILD IN THEIR HOBBIES, INTERESTS, LIKES, & DISLIKES
- COPY THE LANGUAGE OF THE CHILD SO THEY SEEM CLOSER IN AGE
- COMPLIMENT THE CHILD & MAKE THEM FEEL SPECIAL
- TRY TO PULL THE CHILD AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT THEM
- INTIMIDATE, THREATEN, OR PRESSURE THE CHILD

LIFE IN AN ONLINE ERA

TECHNOLOGY IS A PART OF OUR EVERYDAY LIVES.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS NOT NEW

& HAS EXISTED LONG BEFORE THE INTERNET.



BUT TECHNOLOGY HAS:

- CREATED A NEW WAY FOR PREDATORS TO TARGET & COMMUNICATE WITH CHILDREN THEY WOULD NOT HAVE HAD ACCESS TO OTHERWISE
- CREATED A NETWORK FOR PREDATORS TO SHARE CONTENT & TACTICS WITH OTHER PREDATORS
- SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED THE NUMBER OF NEW YOUTH EXPOSED TO CSA THROUGH ONLINE ACCESS

THE LINK TO RISK IS NOT A SIMPLE CONNECTION OF TIME SPENT ONLINE & TA-CSA VICTIMIZATION; INSTEAD IT IS DEPENDENT ON INTENSITY & FREQUENCY OF ONLINE USE.

THE WHY & HOW

ONLINE DISINHIBITION

THE PHENOMENON WHERE PEOPLE ACT DIFFERENTLY WHEN ONLINE THAN IN PERSON.

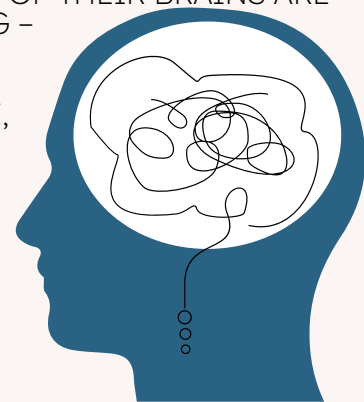
WHY IT HAPPENS:

ANONYMITY
MINIMIZATION OF AUTHORITY
ASYNCHRONICITY
INVISIBILITY
LACK OF FACIAL CUES & SOCIAL BOUNDARIES
DISSOCIATION



BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

ADOLESCENTS MAY APPEAR MATURE IN THEIR THINKING & EMOTIONS, BUT IMPORTANT PARTS OF THEIR BRAINS ARE STILL DEVELOPING - MAKING THIS A PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TIME, EVEN IN EVERYDAY ONLINE DECISIONS.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S BRAIN & ONLINE DISINHIBITION