

Resources

KIDS Help Phone 1 800 668 6868

Anonymous and completely confidential information and support for children and youth. Open 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week.

Children of the Street Society – prevention education strategies, public awareness initiatives, and family. www.childrenofthestreet.com

ONYX – provides support services to youth 18 and under who are or have been sexually exploited.

TEL: 604 708 2647 EMAIL: onyx@plea.bc.ca

PEERS Vancouver Resource Society – A non profit society established by ex-sex workers and community supporters dedicated to the empowerment, education and support of sex workers through public awareness, exiting support and programs that help individuals transition into healthier lifestyles. www.peersvancouver.org

OFFICE: 604 681 3044 OUTREACH: 778 868 1776

Resources

Predator Watch

TEL: 604 777 7510 WEB: www.predatorwatch.ca

Safe Online Outreach Society (SOLOS): Information and tools for youth, parents and educators to help keep children and youth safe online. www.safeonlineoutreach.com

Sexual Exploitation Toolkit (Justice Institute of BC) – www.jibc.ca/seytoolkit/prev.htm

Vancouver Community Action Team (VCAT) – developing strategies to prevent sexual exploitation and support youth.

TEL: 604 708 2647 EMAIL: cjimenez@plea.bc.ca

See the **Living in Community** resources page for more info on services for sexually exploited youth: www.livingincommunity.ca

SAFE is an initiative led by local businesses, residents, and organizations. We work together to improve sex worker's health and support networks, prevent the sexual exploitation of youth and engage businesses, residents and families in building a healthier neighbourhood.



We Want to Hear from You!

If you have a specific concern, you can contact SAFE at:

EMAIL: safeincollingwood@gmail.com

PHONE: Messages for SAFE can be left at Collingwood Neighbourhood House at 604 435 0323

WEB: www.safeincollingwood.ca

A POCKET GUIDE FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN

INFORMATION ABOUT PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN

SAFE
IN COLLINGWOOD

Working together to create a community that is healthy and safe for everyone.

"Child Sexual Exploitation" refers to the sexual abuse of children and youth under the age of 18 through the exchange of sex or sexual acts for drugs, food, shelter, protection, other basics of life, and/or money.

- Exploitation can occur at home, school, in public places like the mall, or online
- People who sexually exploit children and youth are usually friendly at first, older males or people known to the child/youth

Child Sexual Exploitation includes:

- Child pornography
- Internet or phone based, i.e. "sexting", Facebook, home based stripping
- Indoor venues, i.e. brothels, massage parlors
- Engaging in exchange of sexual services on the street for survival

What is Online Sexual Exploitation?

The use of online messaging, website recruiting scams, and online chats which sexually humiliate, manipulate or are harmful.

Can also include:

- Luring youth to another city or country
- Engaging in sexual activities online i.e. cybersex
- Sending, creating, or distributing sexual images

Sending or sharing sexually explicit pictures of anyone under 18 (including yourself) can lead to serious charges even if it is consensual.

Some reasons given by youth for their entry into the sex trade include:

- family issues, being kicked out of the home
- someone in their family is involved in the sex trade
- influence of friends and peers
- attraction to the perceived glamour of street life
- to support themselves and/or their family

Some young people are being sexually exploited but don't realize it.

Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and not coerced or threatened into doing something they don't want to do.

How to identify a recruiter

- Can be male or female, but the vast majority are male.
- May be any age, but most are between 13-45 years old.
- Often very manipulative, i.e. smooth talkers, friendly at first
- Likely involved in other criminal activities (i.e. gangs, organized crime, drug trade)

Tactics used by recruiters

- Promises of care and love ("I'm the only one you can trust")
- Isolating you from your friends
- Presenting gifts then demanding sexual favors
- Glamorizing sex work
- Requesting sexual images
- Coercion (forcing you to enter the sex trade)