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## Police Nab 700 Suspects in Pedophile Ring AP

LONDON (JUNE 18) - Police smashed a global Internet pedophile ring, rescuing 31 children and rounding up more than 700 suspects worldwide, authorities said Monday.

Some 200 suspects are based in Britain, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Center said. The ring was traced to an Internet chat room called "Kids the Light of our Lives" that featured images of children being subjected to horrific sexual abuse.

# THE SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDHOOD

## WHO'S BEING GROOMED?

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# Definitions

- Child Pornography-child sexual abuse images
- Intrafamilial Prostitution of Children and Youths-the commodification of child sexual abuse for profit
- Cyber-enticement-use of the Internet to facilitate an ultimate sexual encounter, assault, sexual slavery or murder
- Child Sex Tourism-travel outside the country for the purpose of having sex with a child
- Human Trafficking –the movement of children and youths for the purpose of prostitution, sexual slavery, labor or civil rights violations from an international nexus or domestically
- Self-exploitation-provision of self-made explicit digital images in response to peers and emerging social norms

# AS IN MOST PREVENTION MESSAGES

WE STILL PROMOTE THAT THE  
GREATEST DANGER IN SEXUAL ABUSE  
IS “STRANGER DANGER”

**A COMMON THREAD....**

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IMAGES

# THE PROBLEM OF SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDHOOD

- There are two very sexually unhealthy messages which are in fact being marketed to society (inclusive of children, youth and adults)
- That children should be seen as desirable sexual objects and
- That highly sexualized adult women made to look like children communicates the message that children are fair game for sexual exploitation

# How Much is “Out There”?

- Initially, the database in the US tabulated about 100,000 images
- Most recent data (2009) is 15.5 million images on the Internet
- One image is often part of a series
- Monitoring of the Internet reveals:
  - aging of children
  - infant and toddler victims
  - more violent images
  - streaming video

# VICTIM DYNAMICS

- In older children and youths, guilt and self-blame seem to occur to a greater degree when pornographic images are part of victimization *(Expert Working Group, Save The Children-Sweden 2006)*
- Denial of the images is so common that the concept of “double silencing” seems to be the rule *(Just a Click Away, Barnardo’s,UK 2004)*

## WHO'S BEING GROOMED?

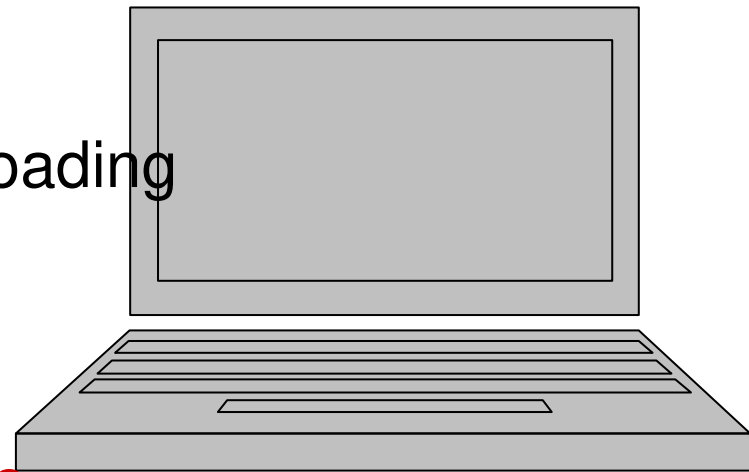
- YOUTH AS COMPLIANT VICTIMS
  - BYSTANDERS
- FUTURE WEB ADDICTED OFFENDERS

# CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

The teen online is inundated with sexualized images which impact their behaviors, beliefs and self image; This consequently effects their value system

Youth offenders are at risk for serious consequences of downloading or acting out what they see; This challenges society with the need to define sexual

exploitation v exploration



# Perpetrator Motives

(Taylor & Quayle 2001)

- Sexual Arousal: masturbation and blue print for action
- Collectibles: importance of series
- Facilitating social relationships

# Perpetrator Motives

(Taylor & Quayle, 2001)

- As a way of avoiding real life: allowing a means of creating a secret and separate world
- Child pornography as therapy: described within the context of computer addiction and to avoid contact offenses
- Enhanced use of the Internet: a means of improving computer skills

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY  
CHILD MALTREATMENT (ICT)

UNITED NATIONS STUDY ON VIOLENCE  
AGAINST CHILDREN  
2005



# THE PROBLEM OF SELF-EXPLOITATION

- When children and youth become too sexualized, they begin to see their only value in their sexuality
- Their beliefs transform such that talents, academics and athletic skills become of secondary importance to sexiness
- Sexual self-objectification contributes to actions that are often illegal and certainly sexually unhealthy

# COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

- Estes et al found a higher incidence of intrafamilial prostitution leading to runaway behaviors
- Average time on the streets before survival sex is 7-10 days
- GLBTQ youths at great risk of exploitation because of having been thrown away
- Estimated number of victims: 300,000 (2001) to 650,000 (2006)

# INITIATIVES

- ▣ OJP -Salvation Army grant on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- ▣ FBI – Innocence Lost
- ▣ ECPAT - End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
- ▣ NCMEC – Prostituted children and youths are not only exploited but often are missing as well

# MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

- PTSD
- ANXIETY DISORDERS
- DEPRESSION
- DISSOCIATION

# CYBER-ENTICEMENT

## ONLINE GROOMING

Youths meet predators on the average 2 times for sex, knowing their general age, before there is an arrest (Finkelhor, Wolak, Mitchell, 2006)

## Police Charge Teen In Facebook Sex Assaults

Anthony Stancl allegedly tricked students into providing nude pictures.

By K.C. Jones, [InformationWeek](#)

Feb. 5, 2009

URL: <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=213201807>

The same day Facebook claimed it was proud it had no legal cases involving registered sex offenders or members who met a minor on the [social networking](#) site, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported police accused a teen of using the site to extort nude photos and blackmail students into performing sexual favors.

The Waukesha County district attorney's office announced multiple charges against 18-year-old Anthony Stancl on Wednesday. Police and prosecutors accuse him of copying Facebook photos and using them to pretend he was a female so he could lure male students to send him nude photos. Once he had the photos, Stancl told the male students that the girl would release the pictures to the rest of the school if they did not perform sex acts on him, police said.

So far, police believe Stancl obtained nude photos of 31 teen victims and they said that he coerced at least seven of the boys into sex acts in school bathrooms, a parking lot and in some victims' homes.

The criminal complaint states that some of the boys were abused repeatedly. Stancl faces up to 293 years in jail if convicted on all counts, a judge said.

## Police Charge Teen In Facebook Sex Assaults

Anthony Stancl allegedly tricked students into providing nude pictures.

Police said they discovered the scheme while investigating a bomb threat, which led them to Stancl and his computer. At the same time, one victim reported abuse after Stancl asked for nude pictures of the victim's brother, police said.

Stancl's computer contained more than 300 photos and video clips of the local boys in 39 folders named after the victims, and they found twice as many "professional" movies featuring child pornography, authorities told the newspaper.

The court set bail at \$250,000 and prohibited Stancl from using any devices capable of accessing the Internet. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Feb. 26.

Facebook didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

On Wednesday, Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal criticized social networking sites for failing to take steps like confirming identities and ages to keep children safe.

Facebook responded by issuing a statement, saying it has "devoted significant resources to developing innovative and complex systems to proactively monitor the site and its users, including those not on a sex offender registry, for suspicious activity (such as contacting minors or users of predominantly one gender)."

# THE LANDSCAPE

- Children are natives in the technology age and adults are the immigrants
- Whereas many adults use the Internet for information retrieval, data storage, and communication i.e. e-mail
- Youths use the Internet more as a social network and means of interaction and entertainment

# PREVENTION OF COMPLIANT VICTIMIZATION

UNDERSTAND  
CONTRIBUTING  
FACTORS

# MIRROR NEURONS

Neurons noted in the human brain  
respond to what we see, as if we  
actually experienced the phenomenon

# THE NORMALIZATION OF SEXUAL HARM

THE GLORIFICATION OF PROSTITUTION  
IN  
MEDIA, MUSIC, BOOKS, ADVERTISING

# SOCIETAL GROOMING

## A CONTINUUM ENHANCED BY THE INTERNET

FEMINISM → EMPOWERMENT →  
SEXUALIZATION → ROLE MODELING



COMPLIANT VICTIMIZATION  
OFFENDER RATIONALIZATION

# MARKETING

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE  
WHAT CAN BECOME “TRUTH” TO  
YOUTH

# MUSIC VIDEOS

(AVERAGE LISTENING 1.5 TO 2.5 HOURS PER DAY)

- ▣ >3 hours/day exposure lead to 3X more likely to assault a teacher;
- ▣ 2.5X as likely to be arrested
- ▣ 2X as likely to have multiple sexual partners
- ▣ 1.5X more likely to acquire an STD, use drugs & alcohol

*(Journal of Public Health, 2003)*

- ▣ Compared sexually explicit and degrading music lyrics to sexually explicit but non-degrading lyrics with adolescent (12-17 year olds) sexual behaviors
- ▣ Listening to sexually explicit and degrading music lyrics was associated with earlier sexual intercourse and more advanced levels of noncoital sexual activity

*(Pediatrics, 2006)*

# WHO' S CONCERNED?

- Teachers ~ increasing sexual behavioral problems
- Youth groups ~ increasing exploitation episodes with peers
- Physicians ~ increasing STDs and sexual behaviors at younger ages in youth listening to degrading lyrics
- Law enforcement ~ increasing teen dating violence as a result of the sex & violence link
- Juvenile court judges ~ increasing numbers of exploitation cases (2001=300,000; 2006=650,000)
- Therapists ~ increasing web addiction in youth to pornography, gambling, and video games with compliant victimization
- Faith communities ~ increasing unhealthy sexual values and beliefs in boys and girls
- Parents ~ youths are commodifying peers, and readily sexually exploiting others through technology
- Media researchers ~ content more misogynistic, violent, disrespectful