



Federal Ministry for  
Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,  
Women and Youth

# Protecting Children and Young People from Sexual Violence with a Focus on the **New Media**: Perspectives for **Europe**

## Recommendations of the Workshops



**Save the Children**

Innocence  
**in danger**



# “Sexualization of Children through the New Media – How Many Ways Can You Hurt Me?”



- **Provide peer-to-peer education on sexual relationships and safe use of the (new) media. Provide sufficient financial and human resources to utilise best practices.**
- Develop, implement and monitor codes of conduct for the media industry, especially advertising (beauty, fashion)
- Evaluate successful prevention models to ensure sustainability of concepts with changes in technology
- Explore outreach methods for engaging vulnerable social groups
- Give children their childhood back

# “New Media Education: Web 2.0 for Children and Families”



- **Strengthen peer-to-peer education, e.g. within children’s social networking sites and when conveying safety messages and promoting media skills**
- Classify age, literacy and vulnerability levels to enable teachers, parents, social workers and other relevant groups to educate children in accordance with their stage of development
- Promote a more holistic understanding of child protection risks and challenges in order to empower children to deal with them

# „Victim Identification and Child Protection Services ...“



- Educate professionals on sexual abuse in general and provide specialist training on online abuse
- Incorporate 'Report Abuse Button' on social networking sites
- **Every country needs resources to create specialised police units that work in close cooperation with child protection professionals. These units should be supplemented with civilian hotlines that the public can contact. Children and their carers need to be informed and empowered about their rights and about the need to tell and ask for help.**

# „Young (Sexual) Offenders – What now?“



- Holistic prevention approach should be mandatory at preschool and school level, including training
- Train all personnel working with children, adolescents, parents and carers about sexual development, relationships, etc.
- Train all personnel working with children, adolescents, parents and carers on how to deal with sexual offences committed by juvenile offenders using an interdisciplinary approach.
- Provide sufficient funding (including from corporate sources) and therapy, inpatient treatment places, etc.
- **This issue requires political as well as financial support in every European country, in all political parties and in all government ministries in order to move forward.**