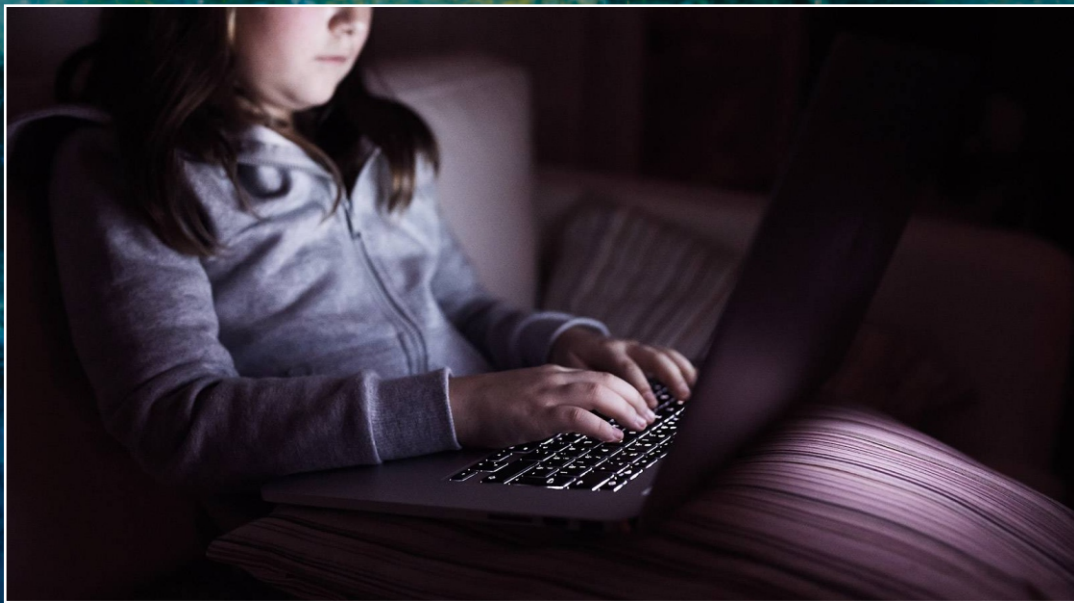


6 SHOCKING WAYS TRAFFICKERS AND SEX OFFENDERS USE THE INTERNET TO GROOM YOUR CHILDREN

& THE SECRETS TO PROTECT THEM FROM EXPLOITATION



**Pokémon or
Pornography?**

**What do a baseball bat,
flute and carrot
all have in common?**

**Is TikTok the
new OnlyFans?**

**Nude selfies, sexting
and more...**

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REVEALED: 6 Shocking Ways Traffickers and Sex Offenders Use the Internet to Groom Your Children

– And the Secrets to Protect Them from Exploitation

Is it true that everyone is talking about it, looking at it, and engaging in it? With the advent of modern technology, in the era that is the 21st Century the answer is categorically “Yes!”

That’s right, I’m sorry if I’ve just burst your bubble concerning the innocence of your children, but I really have to say it, “They are just not as naïve as you may think.”

Now hear me out, I’m not suggesting that your children are somehow wayward, off the rails or promiscuous, but the reality is that they are constantly being exposed and plagued by inappropriate images, music, and sexual innuendos that are far from overt but instead smacks them right in the face. Think about Cardi B’s song WAP.... I say no more.

You see, what you need to realize is that exploitation is an equal opportunity employer! Yes, I’m serious; although I can guarantee that unless you’ve been privy to Attorney Gregory Love’s [Ministry Safe Training](#) or presentations, you have never heard it phrased like that.

Sexual abuse, incest, rape, human trafficking, and domestic violence are not limited only to the impoverished, indigent, or developing communities. On the contrary, absolutely anyone vulnerable can become susceptible to these scourges including modern-day slavery.

Let me begin by sharing with you a true story. Over 70 years ago in a town in the Caribbean a young teenage girl became pregnant giving birth to a son. A short while after his birth she begins sexually abusing him.

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When her son gets older he moves abroad to the West. He later begins dating and gets his girlfriend pregnant. They conceive a daughter but separate. The daughter grows up without having a relationship with her father, so when she finally reconciles with him aged 13, she's excited by the concept. Things don't go exactly to plan however when her father sexually abuses her.

She then travels to the Caribbean where her father is originally from and spends time with her paternal grandmother. In the evenings her grandmother would get a lamp and inspect her granddaughter's private parts. It was not actually an inspection, but the grandmother was being sexually aroused. She would then send her granddaughter down the road to have sex with a man, collect money and bring it back to her, that was sex trafficking.

The little girl was so angry at God and her father particularly because her father was a pastor (not a priest,¹) that she tore up the Bible and stuffed it in her underwear for protection. Although the Bible is quoted as being sharper than a double edge sword² it failed to protect her, because the Bible was removed by her aunt and uncle who also sexually abused her too.

Even if you're like me and you can keep your emotions in check, I'm convinced that after reading that true story of systematic sexual abuse you are filled with anger.

The first time I heard that directly from the survivor's mouth I shed 2 or 3 drops of tears. I was incensed and outraged. Just listening to the hypocrisy of this family of "Christians" subject their daughter, niece, and granddaughter to incest, rape and sexual exploitation was simply not okay.

¹ The point I want to make here is that sexual abuse is not limited to Catholic Priests. Any Christian minister can be a perpetrator of sexual abuse, and any person of faith or with the absence of faith can likewise violate another person sexually.

² "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, ..." Hebrews 4:12

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In fact, truth be told it actually spurred me on to make more of a difference than I was currently making; working from home listening to countless victims of domestic violence recount all that their husband or partner had subjected them to and being powerless to do anything.

That story did indeed propel me forward because less than 6 months later (after my return flight back to England was cancelled) I found myself “locked in” to St Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) pursuing my passion (albeit pro bono) as a public speaker on human trafficking and child abuse prevention.

It is from here, that I am currently penning this e-book so without any more hesitation let me begin:

1. Typosquatting

Before the 2021 restrictions came into place in SVG, I remember asking some of my audience participants what they thought the word Typosquatting meant to them. As was usually the case, they would often shy away from responding, because of the fear of public humiliation if they were wrong.

This is despite the fact that I would always reassure my audience that, “There are no wrong answers in this room.” I recall asking the question in one group of young people to which I did indeed get the correct answer.

Typosquatting is exactly what you see written on the page, squatting on a typo. Let me break it down for you with an example. Now, we all know the search engine Google, which is spelt G-o-o-g-l-e. Typosquatting on Google would look something like this, G-o-o-o-g-l-e. Do you see the difference? There’s an extra “o,” when there should just be two.

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But, why is that a problem? Here's why, instead of landing on the legitimate Google page, the internet user is redirected and more often than not to a pornography website.

Now, imagine your preteen son or daughter stumbling upon such sexually explicit material. Gone are the days where pornographic images consisted of nude poses seen adorning the exterior of Indian temples, Greek vases, and Roman bedrooms. These have instead been replaced with the dark web and websites like Pornhub where rapes and sexual assaults are uploaded, distributed and live-streamed for the sexual gratification of its viewers.

'Hurtcore' is becoming more mainstream in the world of pornography where the entertainers endure extreme sexual violence including beatings, suffocation, strangulation, sometimes until the point that they throw up. It seems that the more degrading the experience, the higher the ratings.

One such creator of 'Hurtcore,' was Cambridge Professor Matthew Falder who received a 32 year prison sentence for his barrage of sadistic online crimes.³ These included creating the false persona of a teenage artist called Liz who via e-mail conversation coerced "Victim 5" into sending a topless selfie for an art project.⁴

Falder skillfully built up trust with "Victim 5" who had innocently placed a buyer's advert on Gumtree because she was looking for a pet dog.⁵ "Victim 5" began opening up to Liz about her difficult home and school life, and Liz then offered to buy her the dog in exchange for the photo.⁶

³ Max Daley, "Inside the Repulsive World of 'Hurtcore', the Worst Crimes Imaginable", *Vice*, February 19, 2018, 2021. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/59kye3/the-repulsive-world-of-hurtcore-the-worst-crimes-imaginable>

⁴*Ibid*

⁵*Ibid*

⁶*Ibid*

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Once Falder received this first photo he blackmailed “Victim 5” into sending more photos, making demands for more sexually explicit and degrading content.⁷ She threatened suicide, but when this fell on deaf ears, “Victim 5” overdosed and was hospitalized.⁸

Falder, 29 at the time did not have the characteristic “look” of a sexual predator. On the contrary he was an ambitious, well educated, middle-class man in a long-term relationship with his girlfriend.⁹

During sentencing he was described by Judge Philip Parker QC as exhibiting behavior that was “... cunning, persistent, manipulative and cruel.

In a case such as this, “Victim 5” was completely innocent. She had not found herself entangled on Tinder, Plenty of Fish, or a single’s chat room. Instead, she was on a classified advertisement and community website searching for a pet dog.

Stories such as this one highlight how dangerous the internet can be. “Victim 5” lived in foster care in the U.K. she was a victim of bullying, and the older sister of a differently-abled brother.¹⁰ I say all this to demonstrate that she was not impoverished. Although her living situation may have been challenging, the foster care system in the U.K. can be deemed of an acceptable standard.

“Victim 5” lived in a first world country but was a victim of sexploitation because of her vulnerabilities, including the loneliness and isolation she experienced. This is why I penned the question, “What is your currency?” in my book, [Can You Keep A Secret?](#) Currency can be anything, and the value of it changes depending on the situation.

⁷*Ibid*

⁸*Ibid*

⁹*Ibid*

¹⁰*Ibid*

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Currency aka vulnerabilities can include the following:

1. Age
2. Gender
3. LGBTQ+
4. Refugee status
5. Immigration status
6. Forced migration
7. Homelessness
8. Runaway/foster care youth
9. Race
10. Caste
11. Class
12. Physical inability
13. Mental health
14. Previous victim of abuse/exploitation
15. Gang involvement
16. Addiction
17. Poverty

This list is not extensive, and as you will see I intentionally placed poverty at the end. The important thing to note here is that, no matter how great a child's upbringing, their vulnerability places them at risk.

Bearing this in mind, one thing that I cannot advocate enough is transparency between you and your children. It is absolutely vital that you create a safe space where they can let you into their world without fear of reproof or judgment.

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As the saying goes, “What’s done has been done.” Therefore, no matter how well-meaning we may be, we cannot turn the clock back and retrieve that nude photo or sex tape. Instead, parents and caregivers need to step into the role of damage control.

2. Silhouette Challenge

The Silhouette Challenge (SC) is one such instance where the application of damage control is now necessary because as recent news articles have disclosed the images are being misused beyond their original creation of female empowerment.¹¹

For those who do not know, the SC involves a semi-nude or naked female dancing seductively behind a red filter.¹² This trend has taken TikTok by storm, but unfortunately, all seemingly good things do often come to an end whereby unsuspecting females have had the red filter removed thereby exposing their bodies.¹³

When we refer back to the case of “Victim 5” if she had engaged in the SC and Faulder had removed the filter this would have constituted a consent violation, but still given him the ability to use that original video to blackmail additional images from her.

Even in the absence of a SC video I read of a situation involving some girls in the Philippines that were asked to send semi-nude photographs to an alleged modeling company. Upon receipt of those initial pictures, the girls’ heads were removed and photo-shopped onto nude bodies posed in sexually provocative positions. The girls were then blackmailed into sending sexually explicit photos which they did.

¹¹ Ben Cost, “Women bust TikTok pervs after exposing viral silhouette challenge scam”, *New York Post*, February 2, 2021. <https://nypost.com/2021/02/02/tiktok-users-warned-about-silhouette-challenges-potential-dangers/amp/#aoh=16168058095491&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com&tf=From%20%251%24s>

¹² *Ibid*

¹³ *Ibid*

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This here is an example of fear, F-E-A-R, false, evidence, appearing real. Now, to the average person, it makes absolutely no sense that these girls would send nude photographs, knowing that the first pictures they received were photo-shopped, but when a person has been conditioned, groomed, coerced, threatened, or blackmailed often rational decisions go out of the window.

3. OnlyFans

One such platform where content creators may not always be thinking rationally is OnlyFans. This is a website that charges subscribers a fee to access content such as videos and images, in addition to paying referral bonuses to users who introduce new creators.¹⁴

British Founder, Timothy Stokely's original design may not have been to create what is now considered to be a "sex worker" site, but that is definitely where it is leaning towards.

However, before I continue, I want to first address the term "sex worker." There is a huge debate and two sides of the fence concerning whether prostitution is indeed the oldest profession in the book or the commoditization of women's bodies and therefore exploitation.

After reading Rachel Moran's book *Paid For* I was further convinced that prostitution is not a job, and in fact every time I hear that term "sex work" it makes me physically uncomfortable.

I have fortunately never been prostituted, let alone trafficked, but I've spent over a decade working with victims and survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation and interacted with both men and women actively engaged in prostitution and the sex industry.

OnlyFans and movies like *Pretty Woman* and *Hustler* glamorize prostitution. But the reality is far less desirable. The men and women are often brutalized, raped, sodomized, and left beaten,

¹⁴Samantha Cole, "OnlyFans Is Cutting Referral Bonuses Because So Many People Are Signing Up", *Vice*, May 4, 2020. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/xg8qqg/onlyfans-cutting-creator-referral-program-bonuses-payout>

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bruised with broken bones or worse. Their mortality rate once entering prostitution is lower than average because they often lose their lives at the hands of the “customer,” pimp, or as a result of HIV/AIDS or overdose.

Bearing all of this in mind, when considering the hazards of prostitution, I struggle to comprehend how anyone can call it a job. I’m even more fascinated by the fact that through my observations, those who loosely throw around the term ‘sex work’ would not endorse such a profession for themselves, let alone their son or daughter.

OnlyFans on the other hand supposedly minimizes these inherent risks because content creators (who could be deemed makeshift pimps because of the incentive of the referral bonus) act as online service providers whilst remaining in the comfort and safety of their own home.

4. Community Confessions

Unfortunately, the sanctity of a home is something one can only dream of when we think about all that creeps in through the internet, without even making reference to the dark web. Instead, seemingly innocent social media sites like Instagram and pages like Community Confessions open up the follower to a whole new world of sexuality, sexual activity and experimentation.

SVG have their own variation of this page called Vincy Confessions, however, I must warn you that it is not for the faint hearted, especially because we now live in a day and age where all things are permissible.

I really would not advise anyone to peruse either “confession page” unless absolutely necessary. Honestly, I don’t see the purpose or value of having a forum where people go into vivid detail about their sexual exploits with girlfriend, boyfriend, roommate and even cousin (because they didn’t know they were related). But, it does not stop there because engaging sexually with an

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inanimate object or food item including flute, baseball bat or carrot is also included in the topic of discussion.

Suffice to say, after a 4 hour mammoth dose of scrolling and reading, I saw all that I needed to see, and truth be told I have not been back to either page since.

Now, the thing about Community Confessions, although the posts are made anonymously, the original poster often gives so much detail that it occasionally isn't difficult to work out who they are or where they are from.

When we think back to my earlier discussion surrounding vulnerabilities, “airing one's dirty laundry” is one of the fastest ways to fall into the sightline of a predator or trafficker.

5. Teen Vogue

On the other hand, sending a nude photo or video also places the sender at risk of blackmail, sexexploitation, trafficking or abuse.

Bearing this in mind, is it any wonder that Teen Vogue wrote an article dealing with sexting and the safety around it.¹⁵ You have every reason to be alarmed that a magazine aimed at twelve to seventeen year olds is advising on this issue, however, according to the article it was written in response to a reader's question.

Am I inferring that this makes the article somehow okay? I would not say that, however, I am not naïve to the fact that a parent's failure to talk about sex with their child does not keep them sexually pure. This magazine and article will do that job for you and the advice it gives out in

¹⁵ Nona Willis Aronowitz, “When Is It Safe to Send a Partner Nude Photos?”, *Teen Vogue*, May 2, 2019 <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/when-is-it-safe-to-send-nude-photos-dtfo>

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spades may not be the kind of information you would want your child to be privy to at such a young age.

Now, remember the readership of this magazine. The answer begins with, “When I was 19, ...”¹⁶ Straight away that sets off alarm bells in my head but it gets worse with the line, “My masturbatory photo shoot ...”¹⁷

Once again the article goes down the empowerment route. Yes, it addresses the risks attached with a nude photograph being created by a minor or distributed without consent, but it goes on to justify taking the risk so as to “... neutralize the power of those people who hurt people simply because they participated in a completely usual sexual activity.”¹⁸

When we think back to “Victim 5” and the consequences she suffered by sending a topless selfie, one has to ask themselves, “Is it really worth it?”

There’s a saying that comes to mind, “Just because something is legal does not make it okay.” I think it needs to be said, accept the possibility that your child has created their very own “masturbatory photo shoot.”

Even as I type that phrase, I just cannot get my head around how things have drastically changed from the days when I attended an all-girls secondary school to now. Without showing my age we were innocent, not as much as the generation before but when I consider the exploits of children nowadays we would not have had the creativity let alone the imagination to even think of such things.

¹⁶*ibid*

¹⁷*ibid*

¹⁸*ibid*

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6. Japanese Porn – Hentai

You see that is the challenge, creativity and ingenuity of dangerous proportions have seen the advent of the ever-growing Hentai Porn.¹⁹It combines anime and magna pornography using images where the characters have exaggerated proportions including the use of childlike features on an adult body, or an adult face with a childlike body.²⁰

What is even more disturbing is the themes of incest, bestiality, rape and sexual activity with inanimate objects.²¹

Although the general consensus is that Hentai Porn is better than live pornography, a number of pornography addicts disclosed that it was in fact the gateway to hardcore live porn and propelled their addiction.²²

Putting the struggle of addiction aside, the real issue here is that your child may unknowingly and innocently stumble upon Hentai Porn. Let's go one step further and consider that you happen to shoulder surf your child and a quick glance at their electronic device leaves you to erroneously believe that they are looking at Pokémon.

It may seem farfetched knowing what you know now but the reality is that children are accessing pornography in their very own homes and their parents have no idea. Of course now you're going take a second look and not take anything at face value.

Despite all that I've shared here is just scratching the surface, because each of these topics can be covered in six separate e-books. The aim however, is to give you a basic understanding of these

¹⁹ Fight The New Drug, What is Hentai Porn, And Why Is It So Popular?, Accessed March 27, 2021.

<https://fightthenewdrug.org/exposing-the-new-wave-of-extreme-hentai-animated-porn/>

²⁰*ibid*

²¹*ibid*

²²*ibid*

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different mediums, a foundation of knowledge with which to build upon. One thing that these 6 things all have in common is that through the use of grooming your child could become victim of abuse or exploitation.

Even when we consider Typosquatting; a child's innocent exposure to pornography may lead to further exploration which gradually develops into an interest and often, later addiction. We have to also consider that children tend to emulate what they see hence one of the reasons that in the grooming process many children are made to watch pornography prior to physical sexual contact between the perpetrator and victim.

Sexual abuse and human trafficking is in our very own backyard, but our lack of knowledge hinders us from seeing what is right under our noses. I encourage you to no longer keep your head buried in the sand concerning this taboo topic, because acting as though this is not happening does not protect and safeguard your children or those children in your neighborhood or community.

As Gandhi said, "Be the change you want to see." Focus on being proactive rather than reactive by studying and knowing the signs of an abused child or trafficking victim, the behavioral indicators of a pedophile. Learn about the resources available in your area, that way if you see something you know where exactly to say something.

- ✓ You are invited to be a part of my **FREE** weekly Zoom Lockdown Lesson meetings on the issues discussed in this article, [sign up here](#)
- ✓ My education and empowerment podcasts on gender based violence can be found by [signing up here](#)
- ✓ For a more in-depth look at the topics of grooming, sexual abuse and human trafficking get your hands on a copy of [Can You Keep A Secret? Available Here](#)