

Erin's Law Presentation

Minooka School District 201
Grades 6-8



Why is this important?

- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are victims of sexual abuse
- 2 out of 3 are between ages 12-17.
- 90% know their abuser



Types of Abuse

- Physical
- Verbal/Emotional
- Sexual

Child Sexual Abuse

- Touching and non-touching behaviors without permission.
- Touching of the body parts that a swimsuit covers.
- Trying to look at a child's naked body or asking them to look at an adult's
- Showing a child pictures of naked people
- Asking a child to show or send sexually explicit photos of themselves, etc

Abusers often do not use physical force. They use sneaky efforts to prevent a child from telling.



Grooming

The process by which an offender builds an emotional connection with a child to gain his/her trust with the purpose of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or sexual trafficking.

What do groomers do?

Gain a child's trust and sometimes the child's family's trust too.

Break down defenses.

Manipulate (trick) a child into keeping unsafe secrets.

Make a child feel loved by giving gifts or helping the family.

Trick the child into thinking they share a "special bond."

Sexualize the relationship causing the child to hide in shame and live in fear of others finding out.

Intimidate and threaten the child.



Facts and Statistics about Grooming

- Children can be groomed online, face-to-face, or by someone they know.
- Abusers can be neighbors, friends, or family members. They can be found in churches, schools, families, recreation centers, youth sports league, and other places where children gather.
- Groomers go through great lengths not to be identified.
- About 90% of sexually abused children know their abuser.
- About 30% of sexually abused children are abused by a family member.

Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships

Individuality

Control

Kindness

Hostility

Respect

Disrespect

Independence

Dependence

Fairness

Intimidation

Non-violence

Violence

Sexual Harassment is a Crime!

Flirting ...

- Is welcome attention
- Goes both ways
- Makes you feel flattered or attractive
- Makes you feel in control
- Makes you feel good about yourself
- Is legal in school

Harassment...

- Is not wanted
- Is one-sided
- Makes you feel put down or ugly
- Makes you feel powerless
- Makes you feel bad or dirty
- Is a violation of school rules and state/federal laws

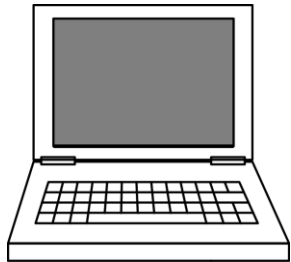
Sexual Abuse Online

When sexual exploitation happens online, young people may be persuaded or forced to:

- send or post sexually explicit images of themselves
- take part in sexual activities via a webcam or smartphone
- have sexual conversations by text or online.

Abusers may threaten to send images, video or copies of conversations to the young person's friends and family unless they take part in other sexual activity.

Images or videos may continue to be shared long after the sexual abuse has stopped.



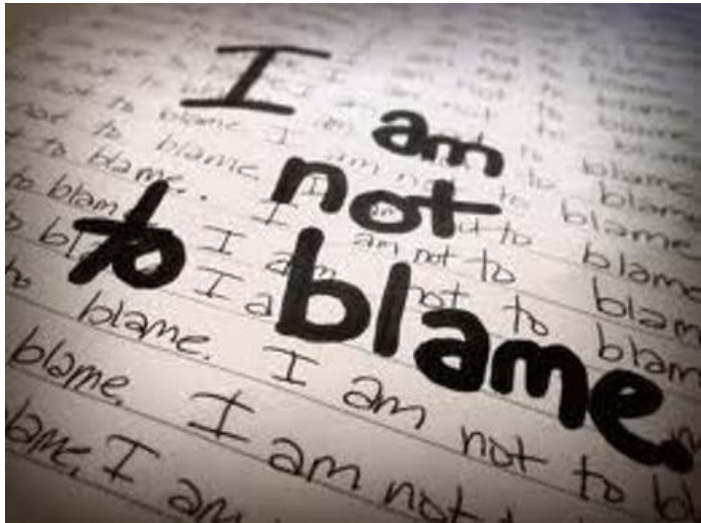
Secrets Video

What should you do?



1. Say “no” and get away from the person trying to hurt you.
2. Tell a trusted adult or contact a safe agency.
 - This may be embarrassing or make you feel ashamed. But abuse is never the victim’s fault.
 - Find someone who will listen and believe you.
3. Seek medical attention if necessary.

Things to Remember:



- Your body is yours.
- No one has the right to touch you without permission.
- No one should hurt you or force you to do something that makes you uncomfortable.
- Trust your instinct!
- Abuse is never the victim's fault!

**Time for
Questions**

Sources

Loveisrespect.org

Erinmerryn.net

The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault

Schoolcounselingbyheart.com

Beakidshero.com

National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)

<https://www.rainn.org/statistics/children-and-teens>

Resources for Help

- National Suicide Hotline: 1-800-273-8255
- The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741
- National Runaway Safeline: 1-800-RUN-AWAY or text 66008
- National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733
- Reclaim 13: www.reclaim13.org; 630-209-4554