

Have you been Targeted?

Child exploitation online

Online child exploitation includes any attempt by an adult to groom, manipulate, or harm a child through digital platforms. There are malicious groups online who prey specifically on children and teens to get them to engage in dangerous, harmful, illegal, and sometimes lethal behaviour. These groups glorify and encourage violence, threaten or use violence to intimidate victims, and engage in sextortion.

Where Does it Happen?



These child exploitation groups are active across various digital platforms, including:

- Social media platforms
- Gaming and gaming-adjacent platforms
- Messaging apps



Who They Target?



Warning Signs

1. Someone you know or met online is:
 - a. asking you to share pictures of yourself
 - b. Encouraging self-harm.
 - c. Lovebombing
 - d. Sending gifts in exchange for sexually explicit images of yourself.
 - e. Threatening you with black mail if you refuse.

If You Think this is Happening to You

1. Stop all contact. Do not respond to or initiate contact with the perpetrator.
2. Save everything. Take screenshots and save messages, usernames, email addresses, and any payment info.
3. Report it to [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children \(US\)](#) or the [Canadian Centre for Child Protection \(Canada\)](#)
4. Seek support from a mental health professional.

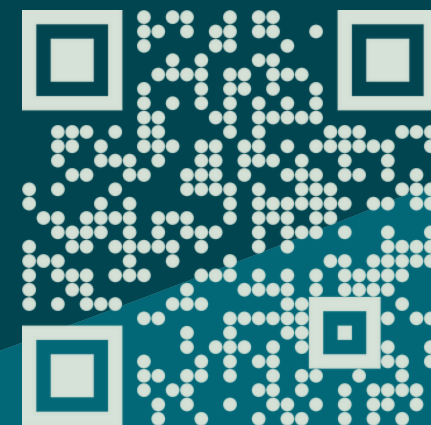
Where to Get Free and Confidential Support

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC): NCMEC is a non-profit organization that works to prevent the exploitation and victimization of children through providing a variety of services.
- TakeltDown: TakeltDown is a free service provided by NCMEC which facilitates the removal of non-consensual intimate imagery from participating online platforms. Victims submit images to be added to TakeltDown's hash-sharing database, preventing further victimization.
- Cybertip.ca is Canada's tipline for reporting the online sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Operated by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P).

Remember

This is not your fault. You were targeted
You are not in trouble.

It's okay to ask for help - you don't need to go through this alone.



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