



Preventing Trafficking by Creating Safe Online Spaces

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Getting to Know You



What are your favorite ways to use technology for fun, relaxation, or connection?

Learning Objectives

By the end of this presentation, you will be able to:

- Identify opportunities to integrate technology-facilitated human trafficking prevention into your work
- Locate additional resources to deepen your understanding of the topic
- Connect with potential partners to collaborate and share information/resources

Q&A

What are some of the ways you see technology influencing human trafficking today?

Example: Online Enticement & Child Sexual Exploitation

- Individual communicating with someone believed to be a child via the internet with the intent to commit a sexual offense or abduction
- Includes sextortion
- Takes place across platforms, including:
 - Social media
 - Messaging apps
 - Gaming platforms




Example: Online Enticement & Child Sexual Exploitation

- In 2020, reports of Online Enticement of Children for Sexual Acts to NCMEC's* CyberTipline grew by 97.5% compared to 2019
 - 2019: 19,174 reports
 - 2020: 37,872 reports
 - 2021: 44,155 reports

*NCMEC = National Center for Missing & Exploited Children





What can we do
about this?

Social-Ecological Model



Individual

Personal characteristics

Behavior

Personal experience



Relationship

*Parents/guardians &
children*

Friendships

Romantic partnerships



Community

Schools

Workplaces

Neighborhoods



Societal

Social norms

Cultural norms

Policies

Individual-Level Risk Factors and Approaches to Online Enticement & Child Sexual Exploitation

Risk Factors:

- Age
- Gender identity
- Lack of awareness of risks
- Use of video games and other online platforms with open channels of communication
- Loneliness and isolation (especially related to COVID-19)

Example of an Intervention:

Into the Cloud, an animated online safety adventure series produced by NCMEC (photo from



Community-Level Risk Factors and Approaches to Online Enticement & Child Sexual Exploitation

What are some community-level risk and protective factors for online enticement & child sexual exploitation?

- *e.g., tech use policies at school*

What are some community-level interventions you could imagine creating to prevent online enticement & child sexual exploitation?

- *e.g., write a best practice template for tech policies in school settings and make outreach to local administrators*

SAAM 2022

Building Safe Online Spaces Together

What can you and/or your agency do to integrate technology-facilitated trafficking prevention methods into your work?

To learn more about National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM):

National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC):

<https://www.nsvrc.org/saam>

To report child sexual exploitation online:

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) CyberTipline:

<https://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline>

For resources to help parents and kids learn online safety:

NetSmartz, produced by NCMEC:

<https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz>

Thank you!

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