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Child Pornography – From Sex to Barbie Dolls Course Outline

• Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force - http://www.icactraining.org

- ✓ The ICAC Task Force Program was created to help State and local law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative response to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children.
- ✓ The program is currently composed of 59 regional Task Force agencies and is funded by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice, and Delinquency Prevention.
- ✓ It has been estimated that each year more than a million new pornographic images of children are being shared or sold via the internet and each day, there are over 100,000 search requests for child pornography being made
- ✓ Many of these exploited children are under the age of 5 and it is important to realize these images can have a devastating and lasting effect on children.
- ✓ Many of these younger child victims being exploited are between the ages of birth and 6 and grow up thinking that the acts being committed against them are "normal."

• Illegal Sexual Activity

- ✓ Producing or possessing child pornography
- ✓ Uploading and downloading child pornography
- ✓ Soliciting sex with "children"
- ✓ Those who traffic in online child pornography are know as "traders"
- ✓ Those who solicit sex with children online are know as "travelers"

• Child Pornography

• What the pedophile collects can be divided into two categories:

- ✓ Pornography
- ✓ Child Erotica
- ✓ Child pornography, is, or was, the permanent record of the sexual abuse or exploitation of an actual child
- ✓ Child pornography, by itself, represents an act of sexual abuse or exploitation of a child and, by itself, does harm to that child
- ✓ Types of Violations
- ✓ Possession Knowledge of the nature or content
- ✓ Distribution Possession of more than one item in which child pornography is depicted raises the rebuttable presumption that the offender possessed with intent to distribute
- ✓ Manufacture: Films or reproduces items containing child pornography
- ✓ Solicitation of Child: Solicits, persuades or entices any child under 18 to participate
- ✓ International Violations: Travels abroad to purchase of manufacture child pornography

• Child Pornography - Commercial Verses Homemade

- ✓ Commercial child porn is that is produced and intended for commercial sale
- \checkmark Most often sold via the internet
- ✓ More readily available in foreign countries
- ✓ United States citizens seem to be the main customers of such material
- ✓ The quality of homemade child porn can be as good if not better than the quality of commercial porn
- ✓ Homemade porn is continually produced, swapped, and traded in almost every community in the United States, primarily via the internet

• Legal definitions vary from State to State

- ✓ Visual depiction
- \checkmark Child younger than 18 years of age at the time the image was made
- ✓ Engaging in sexual conduct

• Under federal law, child pornography is defined as:

- ✓ A visual depiction of any kind, including a drawing, cartoon, sculpture, or painting, photograph, film, video, or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct
- \checkmark Where it depicts a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct and is obscene, or
- ✓ Depicts an image that is, or appears to be, of a minor engaging in graphic bestiality, sadistic or masochistic abuse, or sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex, and such depiction lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

• Who Is a Minor?

✓ Federal statute defines "minor" as any person younger than 18. "While a majority of states follow the federal statute, some state laws define 'minor' or 'child' as a youth younger than 14, 16, or 17.

• Sexually Explicit Conduct

 Sexually explicit conduct includes various forms of sexual activity such as intercourse, bestiality, masturbation, sadistic or masochistic abuse, and lascivious exhibition of the genitals.

• These illegal images can be presented in various forms such as:

- ✓ Videotape
- ✓ Print media
- ✓ Film
- ✓ Compact disc
- ✓ Read-only memory (CD-ROM)
- ✓ Digital versatile technology (DVD)
- ✓ Transmitted through computer bulletin-board systems (BBS), USENET Newsgroups, Internet Relay Chat, web-based groups, peer-to-peer technology, and an array of constantly changing world wide web sites.

• How is CP Distributed?

- ✓ Transmitted through computer bulletin-board systems (BBS)
- ✓ USENET Newsgroups
- ✓ Internet Relay Chat
- ✓ Web-based groups
- ✓ Peer-to-peer technology, and an array of constantly changing world wide web sites

• Where is CP Predominately Found?

- ✓ The Internet has created an exciting new world of information and communication for anyone with access to online services.
- ✓ The development, increasing accessibility, and use of home-computer technology

• Why does Child Pornography appeal to the offender?

- ✓ Personal Sexual Gratification
- ✓ Photograph of a "Crime in Progress"
- ✓ Extension of an offenders sexual gratification
- ✓ Lowers the inhibition of additional child victims
- ✓ Blackmail of victim
- ✓ Monetary gain
- ✓ Sexually "indiscriminate," meaning they are constantly looking for new and different sexual stimuli
- ✓ Sexually curious, downloading a few images to satisfy that curiosity

• Who Possesses Child Porn?

- ✓ Forty percent (40%) of those estimated arrestees were "dual offenders," who sexually victimized children and possessed child pornography, with both crimes discovered in the same investigation.
- ✓ An additional 15% were dual offenders who **attempted** to sexually victimize children by soliciting undercover investigators who posed online as minors.
- ✓ Most were unmarried at the time of their crime, either because they had never married (41%) or because they were separated, divorced, or widowed (21%).
- \checkmark Thirty-eight (38%) percent were either married or living with partners.
- ✓ With the availability now of digital photography it has made it easy for a caregiver to not only trade or sell child porn but also produce it using their own kids or kids they have contact with

Child Pornography Arrests

- ✓ Police made an estimated 1,713 arrests for internet-related crimes involving the possession of child pornography from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2001
- ✓ Of those estimated arrestees, law enforcement found about half (48%) had more than 100 graphic still images, and 14% had 1,000 or more graphic images.
- ✓ 91% were male
- ✓ 86% were older than 25
- ✓ Only 3% were younger than 18
- ✓ 83% had images of prepubescent children
- ✓ 80% had images graphically depicting sexual penetration
- \checkmark 1 in 5 had images depicting sexual violence to children such as bondage, rape, and torture
- \checkmark 39% had at least one video with moving images of child pornography

• How Old Are the Children Found in These Images?

- ✓ Most had images of children who had not yet reached puberty
- ✓ Specifically 83% had images of children between ages 6 and 12
- \checkmark 39% had images of 3 to 5 year old children
- \checkmark 19% had images of toddlers or infants younger than age 3
- Are the Children in the Images Boys or Girls?

- ✓ 62% had pictures of mostly girls.
- ✓ Fourteen (14%) had pictures of mostly boys.
- ✓ Fifteen percent (15%) had pictures showing boys and girls in about equal numbers.
- ✓ Investigating Issues
- ✓ Identification of child or children
- ✓ Date, Time, Location of offense
- ✓ Intent and knowledge of victims age
- ✓ Court interpretation of visual evidence
- **Proactive & Reactive** Investigations
 - ✓ Commercial Web Sites
 - ✓ Child Sex Tourism
 - ✓ Peer to Peer
 - \checkmark On-line enticement
 - \checkmark Traveler cases
 - ✓ Citizen complaints
 - ✓ Cybertipline referrals
 - \checkmark TF Referrals
 - ✓ Requests from other LE units
 - AMBER, CAE, Narcotics, etc.

• Child Pornography Defenses

- ✓ Are They Real Children?
- ✓ Morphing?
- ✓ Photo shopping?
- ✓ Pseudo Photo?

• Child Erotica

- ✓ Any material, relating to children, that serves a sexual purpose for a given individual
- ✓ Includes such things as fantasy writings, letters, diaries, books, sexual aids, souvenirs, toys, costumes, drawings, and non-sexually explicit visual images
- ✓ This type of material is usually not illegal to possess and distribute

Child Modeling

Internet child modeling is a variation of child modeling in which the resulting photos or other works are displayed primarily (if not exclusively) on the Internet.

This tends to take three forms:

- \checkmark Child pornography that uses the Internet as a medium for publication and distribution.
- ✓ **Erotic child modeling** in which children pose in suggestive apparel or positions, possibly including lingerie, bikini, or up- skirt photos.
- Conventional photos in which the children are generally portrayed in child-appropriate clothing and activities.

• Child Victims - Children are not only victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, but are PERFECT VICTIMS

- ✓ Crimes against children are committed because of desire and opportunity
- ✓ These incidents can be targeted or incidental
- \checkmark The vast majority of these crimes go unreported
- ✓ Victims come from:
- ✓ Both genders (male& female)
- ✓ All socio-economic levels
- ✓ All races
- ✓ All religions
- ✓ All ages
- ✓ All types of families and backgrounds
- \checkmark May not know that a crime has occurred
- ✓ Offender and child may be related
- ✓ Offender may live with the child
- ✓ Offender may have legal access to the child
- ✓ Offender has lured the child into "wanting to be with the offender"
- ✓ Lack of recall
- ✓ Easily drug dependant
- ✓ Overpowered or intimidated easily

• Issues surrounding the Outcry of the Child Victim

- ✓ Offender transfers blame
- ✓ Peer Pressure
- ✓ Parental Pressure
- ✓ Jurisdictional Issues
- ✓ Financially dependant on the offender
- ✓ Lack of Supportive Evidence

Child Sexual Exploitation

- ✓ Child Molestation
- ✓ Child Sex Rings
- ✓ Child Pornography
- \checkmark Prostitution
- ✓ Computer Related Offenses
- ✓ Serial Rape
- ✓ Serial Murder

• What Are the Effects of Child Pornography?

- ✓ Physical injuries they can suffer in the course of their molestation, such as genital bruising, lacerations, or exposure to sexually transmitted diseases
- ✓ Child victims can also experience depression, withdrawal, anger, and other psychological disorders.
- ✓ Such effects may continue into adulthood. Women abused as children have statistically significant higher rates of nightmares, back pain, headaches, pelvic pain, eating binges, and other similar symptoms.
- Child victims also frequently experience feelings of guilt and responsibility for the abuse and betrayal, a sense of powerlessness, and feelings of worthlessness and low selfesteem.
- ✓ These feelings are often expressed through increased fearfulness and changes in sleep patterns including re-occurring memories, flashbacks, dreams, and nightmares associated with posttraumatic stress.

- ✓ Younger children tend to externalize stress by re-enacting sexual activities through play, while adolescents may experience negative effects on their growing sexuality as a result of inappropriate early sexual experiences.
- ✓ The lives of children featured in these illegal images are forever altered, not only by the molestation but by the permanent record of the exploitation.
- ✓ Once sexual exploitation takes place, the molester may document these encounters on film or video.
- ✓ This documentation can then become the "ammunition" needed to blackmail the child into further submission, which is necessary to continue the relationship and maintain its secrecy.
- ✓ When these images reach cyberspace, they are irretrievable and can continue to circulate forever. Thus the child is revictimized as the images are viewed again and again.

The Reality of Sexual Abuse

- \checkmark 1 in 4 girls are sexually abused before age 18
- \checkmark 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before age 18
- ✓ Most never tell
- \checkmark 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in the U.S.
- ✓ 67+% of all sexual assault victims are under 18
- ✓ Median age is 9 years old
- \checkmark 1 or 7 victims of sexual assault reported to law enforcement agencies is under 6
- ✓ Girls who reported childhood rape were <u>three times more likely</u> to become pregnant before age 18!

An estimated 1.3 million children go missing every year

- ✓ Runaways/Throwaways 682,900 per year
- ✓ The Runaway Definition Runaways usually a teenager who leaves home voluntarily for a variety of reasons
- ✓ The Throwaway Definition Throwaways a child who is deserted or abandoned; the child's caretaker may not report the child as missing or make any effort to recover.
- ✓ The sad fact is <u>350,400</u> Children had been physically or sexually abused at home in the year prior to the episode or was afraid of abuse upon return
- ✓ One third of abused and neglected children will later abuse their own children, continuing the horrible cycle of violence!

The importance of Early Childhood Sexual Abuse Education

Additional information:

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

www.missingkids.com