Request for Literature: 'What is known about the characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online-facilitated child sexual abuse and exploitation?'

Final closing date for receipt of materials: **28th April 2017**

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) has commissioned the Department of Sociology at Lancaster University to undertake a rapid evidence assessment of academic and unpublished (grey) literature.

This is an evolving area of research and IICSA wish to obtain the most up to date data on **characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online-facilitated child sexual abuse (CSA) and exploitation (CSE)**.

The findings will provide direction to further research and IICSA investigations, as well as potentially informing policy and practice recommendations.

Areas of particular interest to us include:

- transnational online CSA / CSE (where either the victim or perpetrator is based in England or Wales)
- risk and resilience factors to online victimisation
- online CSA / CSE perpetrated by peers
- typologies of victim characteristics or behaviours
- the relationship between victims' online and offline behaviours
- the relationship between self-generated sexual material (ie. 'sexting') and risk of experiencing online victimisation

How your materials will be used

All materials received as part of this request for literature will be available in full to both IICSA and Lancaster University. All submissions which meet thresholds for quality assurance and relevance to the research questions will be synthesised into a final report, which will be published in due course. Any literature used in the final report will be appropriately referenced.

If you have any queries about IICSA or Lancaster University information security procedures, or how your data will be used, please do not hesitate to contact one of the project leads.

How to share your materials

We would appreciate it if you could send us, or direct us to, any material produced by yourself, colleagues or affiliates, which is either unpublished, in press, or published in non-academic sources. This would include, but is not limited to: emerging findings, research briefings or reports, presentations, or website content.

NOTE: Please <u>do not</u> send any confidential data in which individuals can be identified. If you are concerned that the data you wish to send may be sensitive, please contact one of the project leads to discuss <u>before</u> submitting it.

Where possible, materials should be sent by email to Emma Palmer at Lancaster University (e.palmer1@lancaster.ac.uk). If you wish to protect your materials, please contact Emma Palmer in the first instance to arrange transfer via a secure FTP (File Transfer Protocol) system. If you are unable to attach a copy of the material, please provide a link or reference to its location.

If you only have hard copies, please send them to Emma Palmer, Lancaster University, Dept. of Sociology, Bowland North, Lancaster University, LA1 4YW. You must ensure that any materials sent in hard copy are compliant with copyright law.

We are working to a very short timescale, so would appreciate receiving all materials as soon as possible with a fixed deadline of **28th April 2017** please.

Thank you in advance for your help with this important project and please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team with comments or questions.

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