

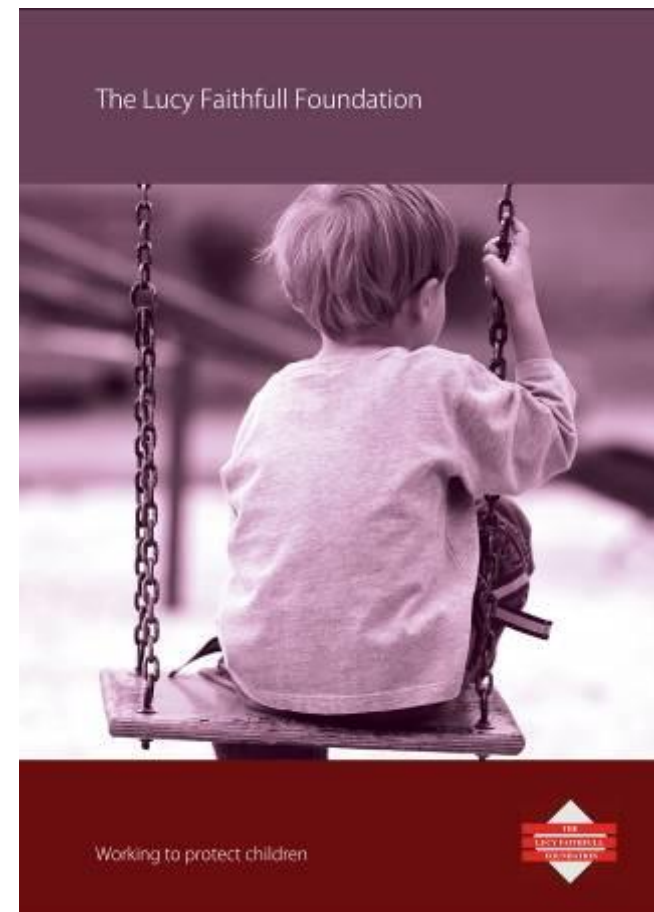


Working to Protect Children

# **Bristol Safeguarding Children's Board The Reactive Agenda The Preventative Agenda**

**Michael Sheath**

**Lucy Faithfull Foundation**



The only UK-wide charity dedicated solely to  
tackling child sexual abuse

# I hope to....

- Consider the 'Reactive' Agenda in sexual abuse
- Consider the 'Prevention' Agenda in sexual abuse
- Run a quiz

# Let's Have a Quiz!



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# Question 1

- What proportion of recorded sexual offences against children take place in the home of the perpetrator or the home of the child?
  1. 80%
  2. 66%
  3. 42%
  4. 25%

## Question 2

- What proportion of sexual abuse against children is perpetrated by other children?
  1. 40%
  2. 30%
  3. 22%
  4. 12%

## Question 3

- What proportion of men does the NCA estimate have 'paedophile tendencies.' ?
  1. 1 in 1000
  2. 1 in 100
  3. 1 in 50
  4. 1 in 35
  5. 1 in 10

## Question 4

- How many individuals does the United Nations estimate are viewing Indecent Images of children at any one time?
  1. 250,000..ish
  2. 100,000..ish
  3. 75,000..ish
  4. 45,000..ish

## Question 5

- What proportion of men convicted of contact sexual offences are deemed to have a 'recurrent and intense' sexual interest in children?
  1. 80 to 100%
  2. 60 to 80%
  3. 40 to 60%
  4. 25 to 40%



## Question 6

- Which of the following persons was not born in or near Bristol?
1. Maisie Williams, actress and serial killer in Game of Thrones
  2. Damien Hurst, top artist and shark botherer
  3. Amelia Dyer, 19<sup>th</sup> C baby farmer and serial killer
  4. Dave Prowse, the body, if not the voice of Darth Vader
  5. Benny Hill, hilarious comedian

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- Grubin: Home Office research papers 1999

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## **What the scores mean..**

- 6: Well done, have a kip, and a valuable prize.**
- 5: Nice try, but no valuable prize.**
- 4: You are above average, no shame in that.**
- 3: Oh dear, now pay attention.**
- 2: What were you thinking?**
- 1: Very poor, see me later.**
- 0: Taxi!**



# Are we playing 'Whack a Mole?'



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# Going upstream..... vs reactive practice



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# **The 'Reactive' agenda**

**An experience of sexual abuse, for a child:**

- A) Tends to be traumatic, intrusive, and shameful**
- B) Tends to be an experience beyond the child's understanding and recall**
- C) In most cases, will have followed a process of grooming**

## **Grooming includes:**

- **The provision of gifts, attention, love, affection.**
- **The creation of secrets, dependency, confusion, and ambivalence**
- **The use of seduction**
- **The goal of compliance and inhibition**
- **The sharing and transmission of distortions and blame, resulting in implanted thinking errors**

# Finkelhor: 'Traumagenic Dynamics'

- **Premature Sexualisation**

*The victim learns to associate sex (and possibly arousal) with fear, reward, shame, care, love, punishment, etc, Confusion may follow around the meaning and purpose of sex: associations with further abuse, risk taking, arousal problems.*

- **Stigma**

*The victim, rather than the perpetrator, carries the shame and guilt, and feels 'dirty.'*

# Finkelhor: 'Traumagenic Dynamics'

- **Betrayal**

*The victim feels an acute sense of betrayal at having a loved and trusted person take advantage of them. Trust in intimate relationships or in 'the authorities' will be diminished.*

- **Powerlessness**

*The victim feels an acute sense of their own lack of potency and efficacy, their will has been overcome or subverted. Depression, fatalism, lowered self esteem may follow.*

# **Disclosure is more easily contemplated than done:**

- **How does a child disclose to a parent who is married to the perpetrator ?**
- **How does a child disclose to a parent who is the parent of the perpetrator ?**
- **How does a child disclose against a perpetrator the parents are in awe of ?**

# **Disclosure is more easily contemplated than done:**

- **How does a child disclose against a perpetrator who is loved, feared, or depended upon?**
- **How does a girl or woman disclose when she fears judgements will be made about her 'putting herself at risk?'**
- **How does a boy or man disclose when men who get sexually abused are seen as unmanly, and boys as potential abusers?**



# **With child sexual abuse...**

- **How do we expect traumatised, confused, dependent, fearful, powerless, shamed, untrusting children.....**

**to find the courage and coherence to make and sustain allegations against an adult, or even another child, in the face of predictable denials and predictably unhelpful dynamics?**

# **Why is it, that:**

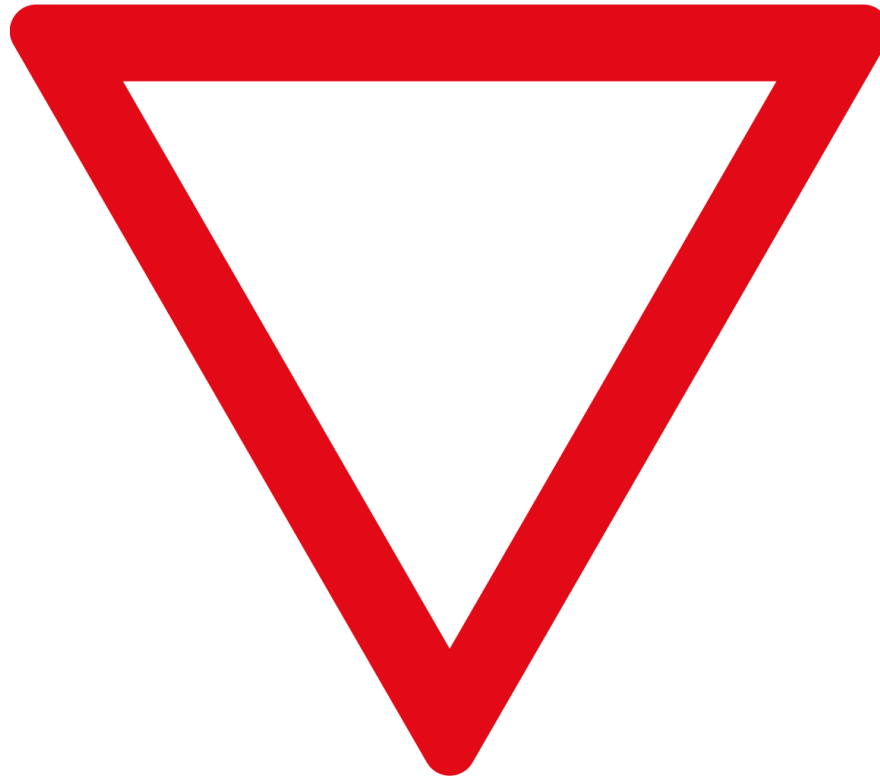
**1 in 6 women, and 1 in 10 men  
experience sexual abuse in childhood?**

**'Typical' sexual abuse takes place over a  
period of more than 12 months?**

**80% of children who are sexually abused  
do not inform the authorities?**

**95% of allegations made to the  
authorities do not result in criminal  
convictions?**

# Children trigger our reactive system:



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# Issues

- Global, national, and personal **ignorance** about the nature of sexual offending against children
- **Denial**, and what flows from it
- **'Noise', and trauma** in the communities and organisations we work with and are part of

# Ignorance

- **We persist in the notion that children are molested by strangers, and that their molestation is invariably violent**
- **We fail to register the proportion of children who are abused by their peers**
- **We remain oblivious to the nature of molestation by women**
- **We stereotype child molesters as 'paedophiles' and monsters, and rapists as strangers.**

**In doing so we leave children and women vulnerable to assaults by friends and family, children and adolescents, women, and nice heterosexual men**

# **Denial: a definition**

**“ A normal and functional defence mechanism that allows us to protect ourselves against something that is painful and distressing”**

(American Psychiatric Association, 1994)

# **Denial**

**Confronting the reality of child molestation requires us to accept some painful home truths :**

- the domestic nature of our abuse**
- the difficulties in identifying and prosecuting offenders**
- the commoditisation of sex, and the objectification of women and children**
- the sexualisation of youth, 'pre grooming.'**
- the ubiquity of pornography and abusive imagery**

# **Trauma, and 'noise'**

**Significant proportions of the people we work with have experience of:**

- **Childhood abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, and neglect**
- **Residential care**
- **Attachment difficulties**
- **Learning difficulties**
- **Domestic and sexual violence**

**We need 'trauma informed' interventions**



# ACE, not quite 'Ace.'



Conception  
**Working to Protect Children**

# Ten Adverse Childhood Experiences

- **Physical abuse**
- **Sexual abuse**
- **Emotional abuse**
- **Physical neglect**
- **Emotional neglect**
- **Mother treated violently**
- **Household substance abuse**
- **Household mental illness**
- **Parental separation or divorce**
- **Incarcerated household member**

# Impacts of high 'ACE' score

- **Strong association between high 'ACE' score and adult health and social problems: smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, promiscuity, obesity, depression, cancer, early death.**
- **30 X prospect of suicide with ACE above 6.**
- **7 X prospect of alcoholism with ACE above 4.**
- **Very strong association between ACE and brain chemistry/development and PTSD.**
- **Children with high ACE exposure are in a constant state of anxiety: fight or flight.**

# **Trauma and 'noise'**

- **'Noise' consists of pre existing views, schema and prejudices, which act as a filter upon 'new' information and perspectives.**
- **The manifestations of noise are often seen as deliberate resistance, or ignorance, although it usually operates and influences at a pre conscious level.**
- **The origins of noise usually reside in trauma: trauma does not necessarily lead to insight.**

## **Examples or 'noise.'**

- **Our global notions of children are fraught with contradictions: they are both precious and worthless, innocent and sexualised, fetishised and feared.**
- **On an individual 'client' level:**
- **Someone who experiences severe sexual abuse in childhood may look upon less intrusive sexual abuse as trivial or inconsequential**
- **Someone who has been successfully groomed will have adopted a number of distortions about their own responsibility for the abuse: they 'deserved', 'wanted', 'enjoyed' it: they may well ascribe these ideas to other victims.**

# Accommodation Syndrome

- 1. Secrecy.** Sexual abuse takes place in conditions of secrecy and shame. The silence of the victim is ensured through fear, obligation, affection, self blame.
- 2. Helplessness.** Victims feel impotent, that they cannot manage the environment or their relationships, and therefore lack efficacy
- 3. Entrapment and Accommodation.** The child begins to adopt and accept the schema and point of view of the perpetrator

# Accommodation Syndrome

4. **Delayed, conflicted, or unconvincing disclosure.** The child offers an incoherent or implausible account of abuse, fraught with anxiety and inconsistency.

5. **Retraction.** The process of disclosure is fraught with guilt, anxiety and ambivalence. Reactions by 'the system', including the family and the safeguarding apparatus can lead to a retraction and denial of the original claim.

# **Accommodation Syndrome in 'professionals.'**

- 1. Workers feel tainted by dealing with sexual abuse, may have affectionate or power relationships with perpetrators, and may feel guilty about keeping secrets or failing to act.**
- 2. Workers may feel it is 'too difficult' to challenge perpetrators or 'cultures' because of the struggle and denials they know will follow.**



# **Accommodation Syndrome in 'professionals.'**

**3. Workers may adopt the schema of perpetrators, feel fear or admiration for perpetrators, or 'blame the victim.'**

**4. Challenging perpetrators, 'cultures', incidents, failures, incompetence, lazy, corrupt or inept practices is anxiety provoking....**

**5. The reactions of those in power, or the implications of whistle blowing, may result in retraction, denial, withdrawal of complaints or initiatives.**

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# **Implications**

- **Sophisticated perpetrators are often extremely astute in respect of their ability to identify and exploit trauma and noise in the organisations, women and families they target**
- **They often create dependency and confusion in organisations, mothers and children, including targeted and non targeted children and adults**
- **Societal responses to sexual abuse and rape are often based on prejudice, denial, and distortion**

# **So...**

- **If our society remains ignorant about the realities of child sexual abuse**
- **If we remain in denial about the true nature of our offenders**
- **If our prejudices and personal feelings interfere with a meaningful engagement with the problem**

**We will leave responsibility for reporting, identifying and apprehending abusers with the children who are abused by them: this is at the heart of the reactive agenda**



**PLEASE CLAP**

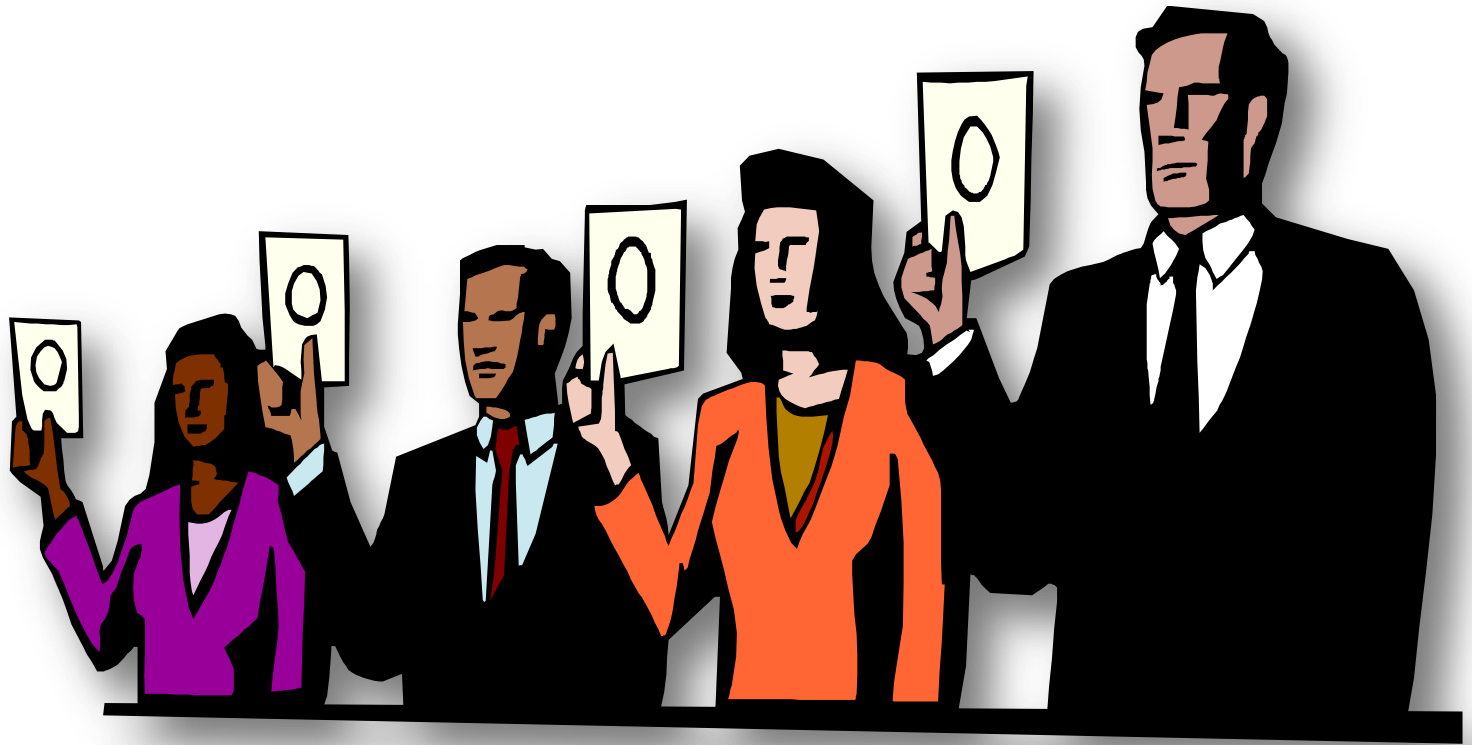
memegenerator.net

**[msheath@lucyfaithfull.org.uk](mailto:msheath@lucyfaithfull.org.uk)**

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# Thank you, for your attention



- [msheath@lucyfaithfull.org.uk](mailto:msheath@lucyfaithfull.org.uk)

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# Sexual Perpetrators in Positions of trust.



*DC John Pattison  
Police Interview Adviser.*



# Objectives –

Sex offender / Sexual deviant / Paedophile.

Masking Behaviour.

Verbalisation of the Circling Behaviour.

Trying to Understanding and Analyse What we see and Hear.

Possible Grooming Stages.

Interviewing Sex offenders.

From Practitioner to Practitioner .

# Sex Offender.

“A person who forces a child or other person  
To take part in sexual activity with them often  
Over a period of time....”

Collins English Dictionary

“A sex offender is a person who has been found guilty  
Of a sexual crime such as rape or sexual assault....”

Cobuild English Advanced Dictionary

“Sex offender” is one of the 30000 most commonly  
used words in the Collins dictionary.



# Sex Offender.

General term.

Contains the details of every person  
Convicted, cautioned or released from  
Prison for a sexual offence since  
September 1997

Sex Offenders Register.

49466 Registered Sex offenders – March 2015

Indecent Exposure

This label is too general!

Sexual Psychopath



# Sexual Deviant.

As a practitioner in this world identifying the difference is essential.

Man.

Woman.

Child.

Dog.

Hole in the wall.

**Raping daughters because  
I made you, I will have sex with you.**

**Farther who rape sons  
As a power display.**

**Using sex as control.**

**Using sex as power.**

# Paedophile.

Can struggle to exist properly in adult world.

Persuasive and gifted speakers.

Very Patent.

Look for an interpretation to do what they want to do.

Knowledge that what they do is not normal.

Normalise behaviour.

“It is not normal for a man aged between 18 and 30yrs  
To want to have sex with a girl aged 12 to 15yrs....”

Increase of 60% over the last four years.

Causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity.

Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child.

Causing a child to watch a sexual act.

Arranging or facilitating commission of a child sexual offence.

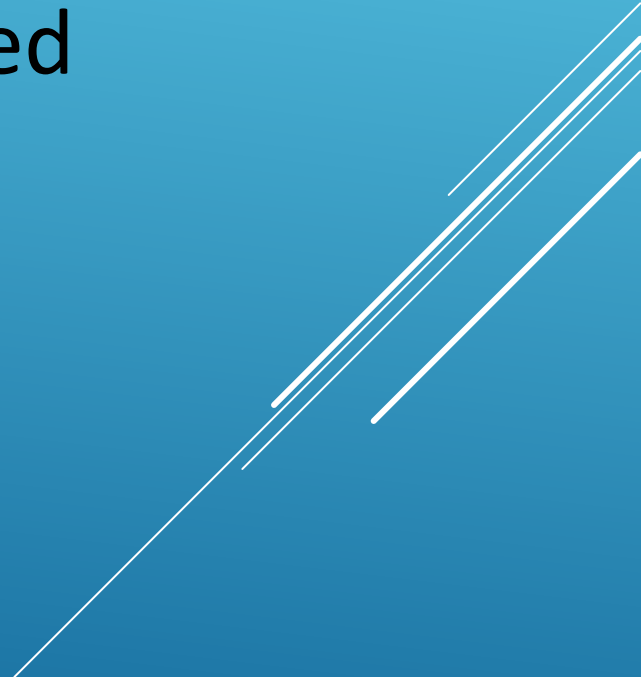
Grooming a child.

Human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

**Abuse of position  
Of trust.**


Some Facts to consider.

Over 90% of abused children between 2015 - 2017  
Were abused by someone they trusted  
Or a person in a position of trust  
Over them.

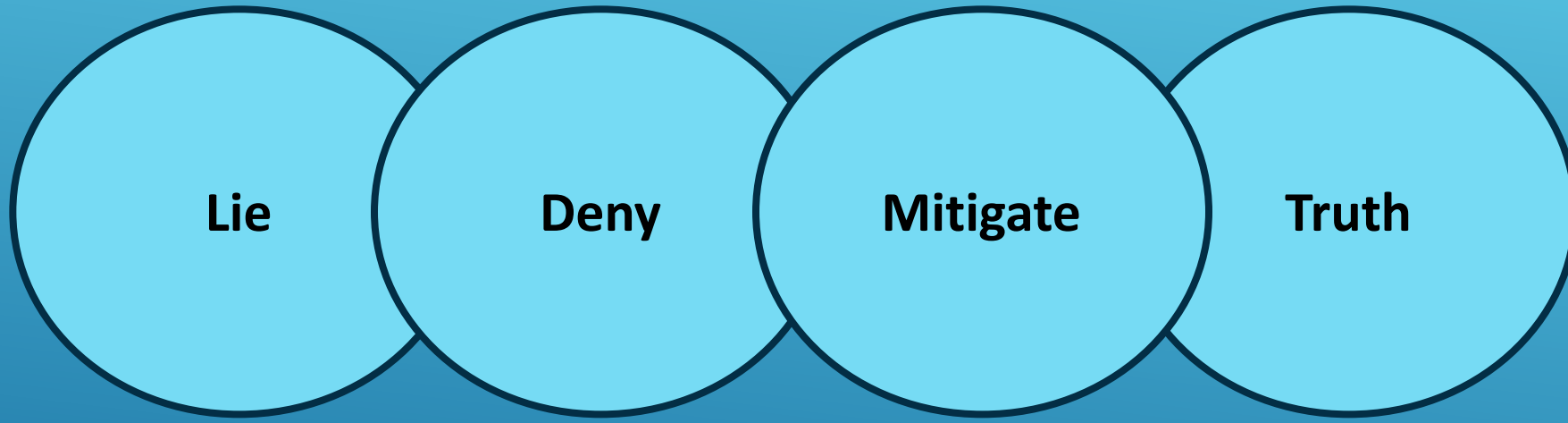
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Some Facts to consider.

Sex Crimes Committed by People in a  
Position of Trust have increased by  
80% Since 2014.

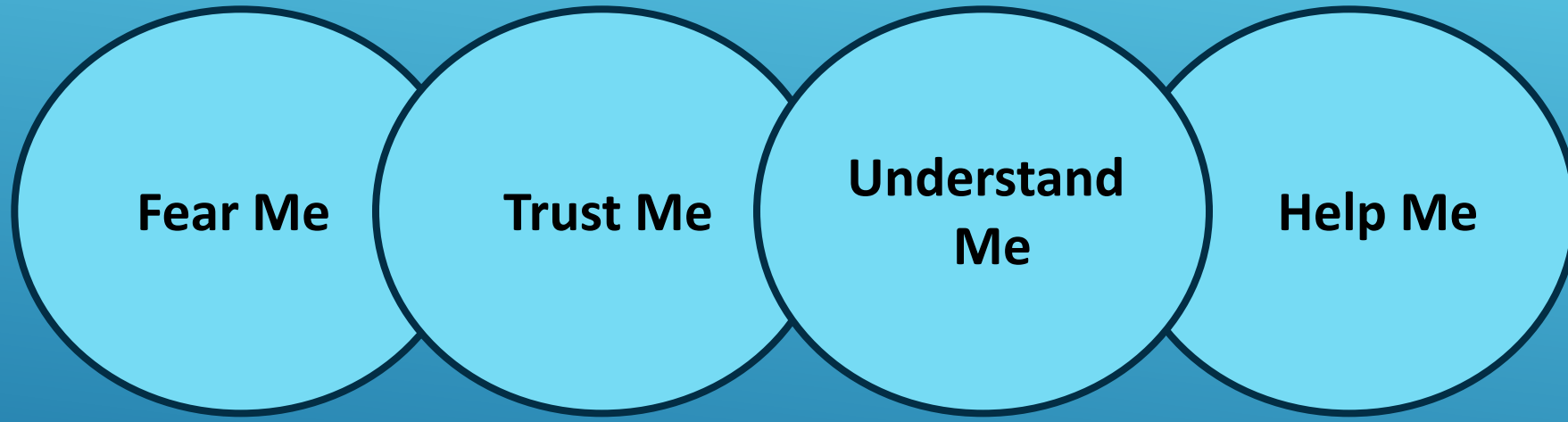
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# The masking of behaviour



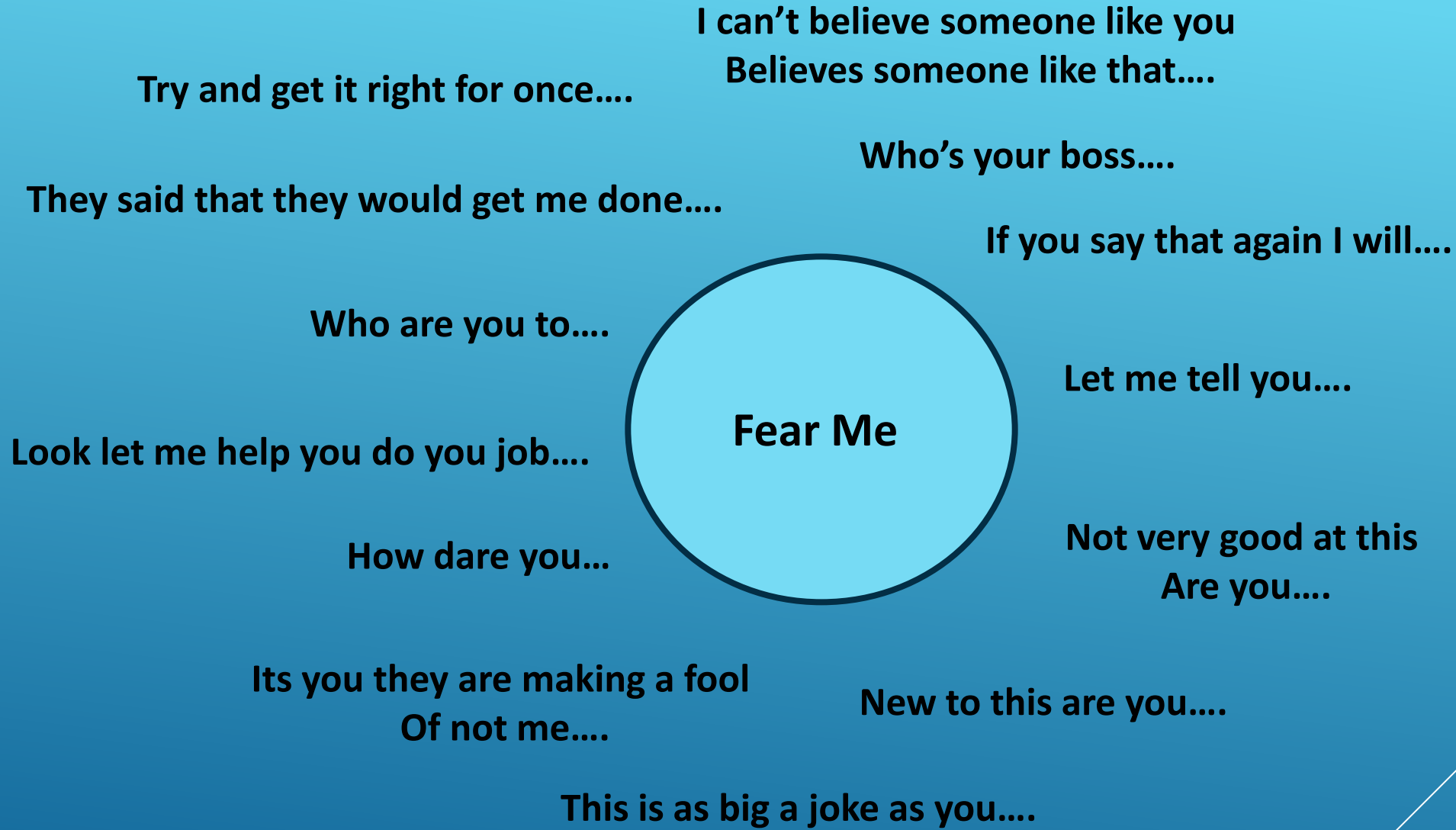
Offender Conversation Circling

# The masking of behaviour



Offender Verbalisation Circling





Deflective, often containing a personal attack on you with / without threat.

**They've made similar occasions before you know....**

**Do you know how long I  
Have done this role....**

**I knew they would be trouble....**

**I knew this would happen....**

**They like the attention....**

**I can't believe they have done this  
To me....**

**A friend made a similar  
Accusation you know....**

**I am innocent but if my partner finds out  
About this complaint....**

**I would never do anything to  
Risk my family....**

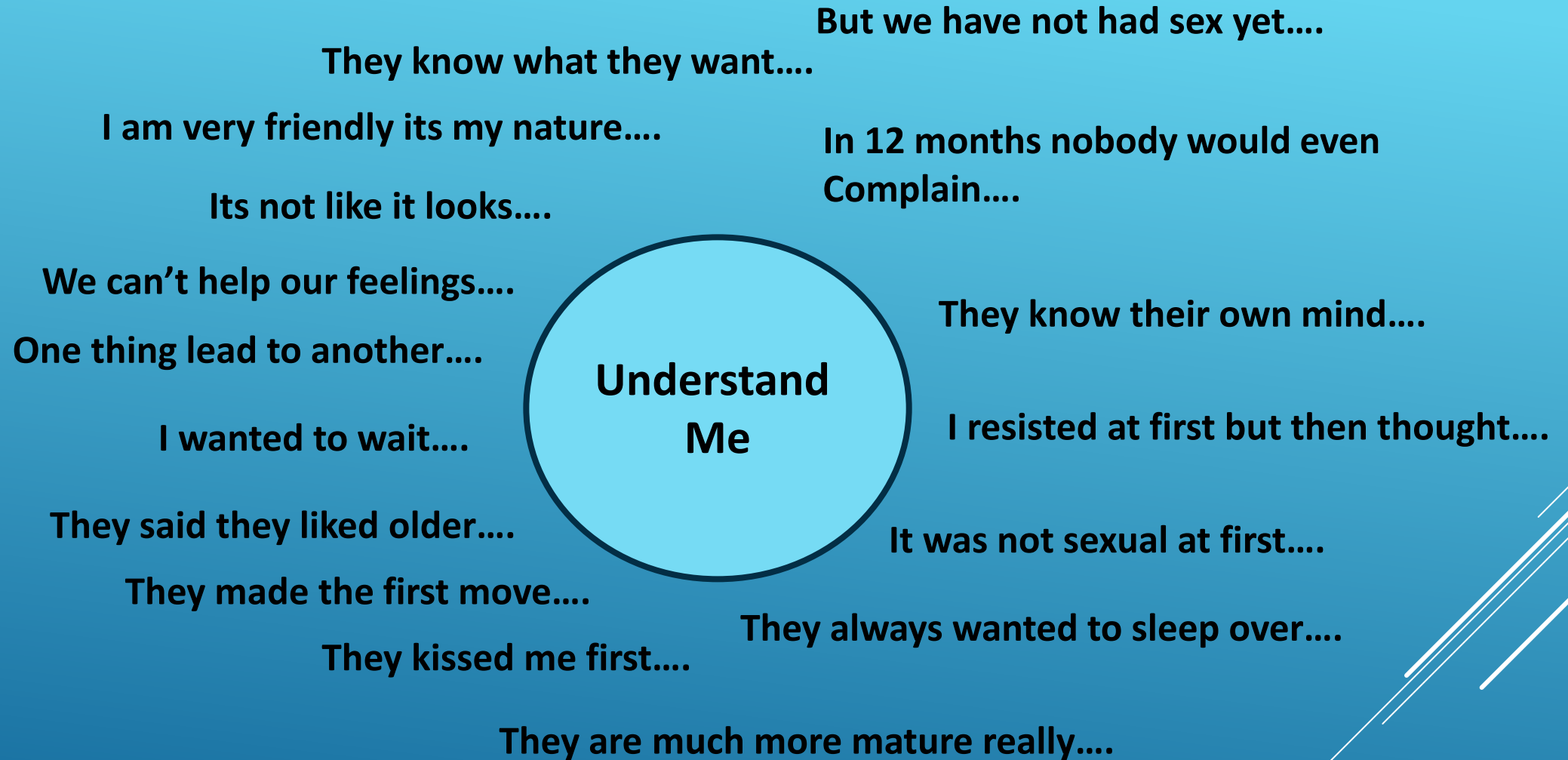
**What do you think I should do....  
With your experience you know what its like....**

**Come on you know me....**

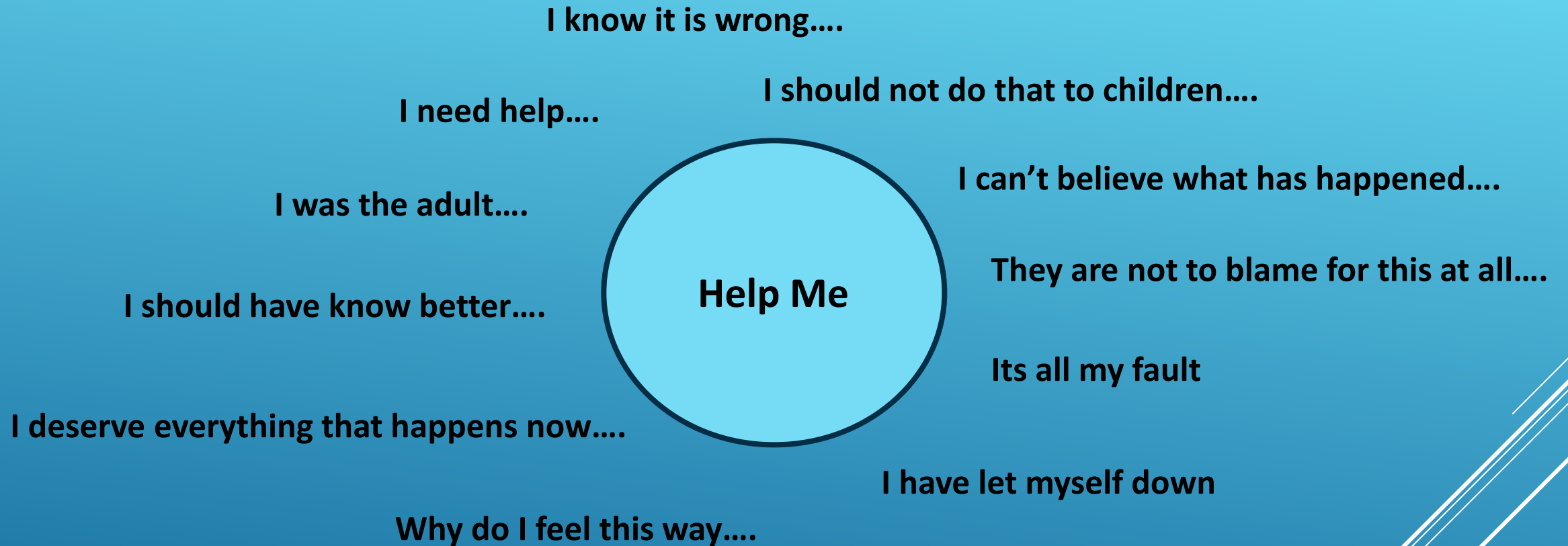
**Reflective, persuasive, appealing and personal .**



**Trust Me**

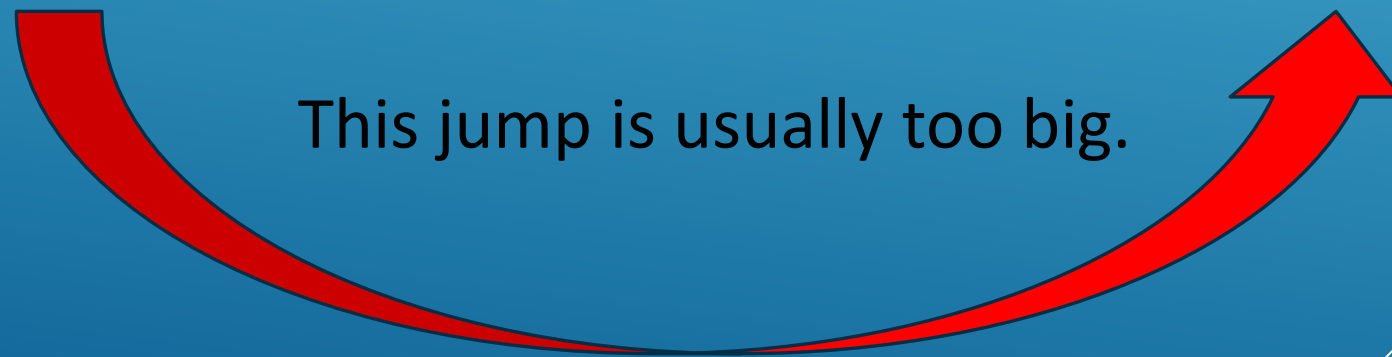


Deflecting, imposing guilt, mitigating, minimising, playing it down.



Accepting, confusion, guilt, crest fallen, reality, self reflecting.

Recognise which circle the person is in....



This jump is usually too big.

Recognise which circle the person is in....



**Fear me**

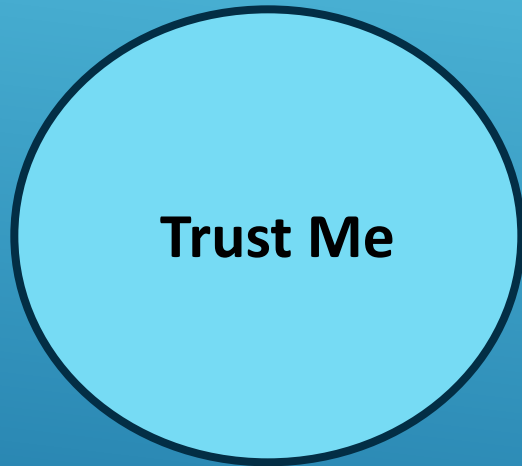
Interviewee lock Down.

Let them talk  
Do not challenge  
Let them verbalise  
The fact that they are  
The victim....

Does not matter how much evidence you now provide.

In this circle More Evidence = More Aggression.

Recognise which circle the person is in....



**Trust Me**

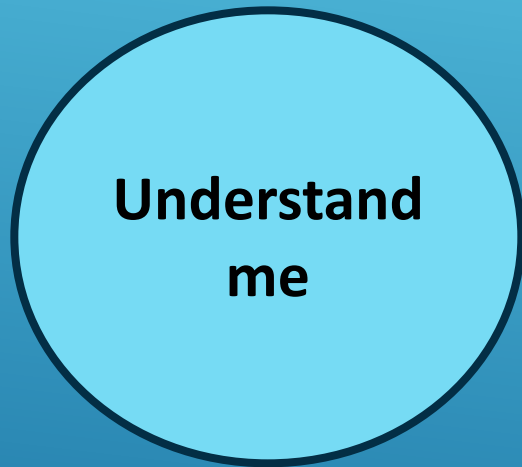
Interviewee full persuasive mode.

Let them talk  
Do not challenge  
Agree before  
You Disagree....

Evidence provide has to be specific and delivered – Help me Out.

In this circle More Evidence = More Extreme methods of persuasion .

# Recognise which circle the person is in....



This is not a what have you done conversation  
It is a why have you done it conversation.

Interviewee full mitigate mode.

Let them talk  
Don't Challenge  
You've told me....  
Tell me more  
About that....

Evidence provided has to be direct little doubt– When you did....

In this circle More Evidence = More Extreme Methods of Normalisation.



# Recognise which circle the person is in....



**Help me**

Interviewee full reality of circumstances.

**Remorse and regret = Stress = Confession.**

Let them talk  
Don't offer understanding  
Don't agree with them  
Don't judge them  
Reassure and listen.

Evidence provided has to directly relate to what they  
Are disclosing to you.

In this circle more evidence can = Less detail or admission.

# Understanding and Analysing Behaviour.

What has the person done that they need not have done?

What have they not done that they could have done?

Several thin, parallel white lines of varying lengths and orientations are positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, creating a modern, abstract graphic element.

# Sexual Offence Crimes are unlike any other Crime....

s1 - SOA 2004 – Rape – Can carry a sentence of life in prison  
Upon conviction.

Having sex is part of a loving relationship between  
Consenting adults. **What other offence carries life in prison that you can consent to?**

Most crimes are committed for money, anger, revenge  
Or a combination of these.

Sex crimes can be as a result of the offenders need to  
Feel good. **Usually only two people involved!**

# Child Sexual Abuse: Stages of Grooming.

Concept of grooming is not new.

1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s – Non-Recent Offences involving neighbours, relatives, family friends.

Grooming is the process by which an offender draws a victim into a sexual relationship and maintains that relationship in secrecy.

Separate Victim

You are special.

Provide 'love'.

**This gradual, calculated process, ensnares child,  
Ultimately to become a willing part in the sexual abuse.**

# Child Sexual Abuse: Stages of Grooming.

Why can some people in positions of trust be more successful at grooming?

Target the Victim.

Establish a void, fill the void, seize vulnerability, access!

Gain Trust.

Watch, gather, trust, thought of as caring by other responsible carers at this stage.

Filling a Need.

More importance in victims life, gifts, extra attention, victim may become jealous.

Isolate Child.

Create reason to be alone with victim, parents / guardian – lifts to from, stay behind, extra one-to-one.

Sexualise the Relationship.

Emotional trust, photographs, self participation, necessity to be naked, exploit natural curiosity.

Maintain Control.

Secrecy and blame, damage destroy items, offender withdraw, humiliate, more unwanted.

# Interviewing Sex offenders....

Non-Compliant – Management of Conversation Techniques.

Fanning and Direct Contact Control Techniques.



**Diminish the severity of the offense.**

**Blame the victim to some degree.**

**Attempt to control the interview.**

**Never give 100% of the information regarding the offense.**

**Never talk about crimes the investigator doesn't already know about.**

Advanced method of reverse recall

# Finally From Practitioner to Practitioner....

Potential offenders who are in a position of control over a victim have Access to many tools to assist them in offending.

In todays day and age all that is needed to start to groom a Vulnerable person is their mobile phone number!

**A person with care or  
Control over a child often has  
A legitimate need to have  
Their mobile phone number.**

With this an offender can Text, Send / Request Pictures, Request access to other Social media platforms, Control and Manipulate.

A young person today has their mobile phone with them 99% of the time.  
80% of this time they can be alone with their mobile phone.





**Text then Facebook**



**Facebook**



**Facebook**



**Skype / Facebook**



**X-Box Live**



**Text**



**Chat Room**



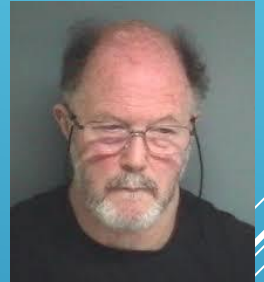
**Text then Snapchat**



**Facebook**



**Facebook**



**Facebook**



**PlayStation**



**LiveMe**



**Facebook**



**Facebook**



**Text SMS**



Watch for the signs in a victim....

Look for the behaviour in a suspect....

Remember if in doubt – Ask yourself the detectives motto....

**What has the person done that they need not have done?**

**What have they not done that they could have done?**

Thank you for Listening.



*DC John Pattison  
Police Interview Adviser.*

