What is CSEC?
The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child, for the financial benefit of any person, or in exchange for anything of value, including monetary and non-monetary benefits. All commercially sexually exploited minors are victims, regardless of the presence of force, fraud, or coercion.

CSEC includes, but is not limited to:
- Child Sex Trafficking
- Child Sexual Abuse Material
- Child Sex Tourism Involving Commercial Sexual Activity
- Online Transmission of Live Video of Child Sexual Abuse

Identifying CSEC
- In possession of clothing, jewelry, or electronics they cannot afford
- Unable or unwilling to give local address or info about caregiver
- Gives scripted or defensive answers, overly protective or vague about their “boyfriend”
- Irregular school attendance, change in grades, inability to concentrate, extreme exhaustion
- Angry, aggressive, or fearful
- Withdrawal from friends/family
- Chronic runaway
- Sudden change in demeanor
- Atypical promiscuous behavior

Sex Trafficking
Hotel keys, rolls of cash, multiple phones, or refillable gift cards
- Unexplained Injuries
- Sexually provocative clothing, inappropriate for weather or situation
- Branding or Tattoos
- Unable to make decisions without approval
- Claim of older boyfriend or girlfriend

Exploiter

The demand funnels the supply
Youth: Vulnerable children lured into slavery.
Buyer: People who purchase sex with children.
Risk Factors

All children are at risk for CSEC; however, exploiters are master manipulators and engage in purposeful and premeditated targeting of vulnerability.

History of abuse
- Undocumented citizenship status
- Family or personal substance abuse
- Unaccepted/rejected LGBTQ+ youth
- Low self-esteem or self-worth
- Physical or developmental disabilities
- Low socio-economic status
- Unstable/unsafe home environment
- Trauma-related mental health issues
- Lack of support system & basic needs
- Gang association or involvement
- Lack of physical or online supervision
- Using words like “Daddy,” “The Life,” “Trick/Date,” “Track/Blade,” “Wifey”
- Involvement with foster care, probation, etc.

Pathways of Entry

- Seduction or coercion
- Peer recruitment
- Parents selling their children
- False advertising for employment, including sales, modeling, or acting
- Chat rooms and social media
- Gang-related exploitation
- Kidnapping, violence and force

Recruitment

Exploiters oftentimes use the following tactics to recruit, groom, and control victims:

- Warmth, affection, gifts, intimacy, & compliments
- Elaborate promises of a better life, fast $$$, & future luxuries
- Physical and sexual abuse, with intermittent affection
- Fear, threats, intimidation

Common Recruitment Locations

- Shelters
- Schools
- Parties
- Libraries
- Social Media
- Gas Stations
- Juvenile Detention Facilities
- Public Transportation Systems
- Parks
- After School Activities
- National Human Trafficking Hotline
  Call 1.888.373.7888 or text “HELP” to BEFREE (233733)

How to Report

If you have knowledge of, or a suspicion that a child may be a victim of CSEC, please contact the 24-hr. Placer County Child Welfare Hotline 1.866.293.1940

Information provided in part by:

www.kidsfirstnow.org