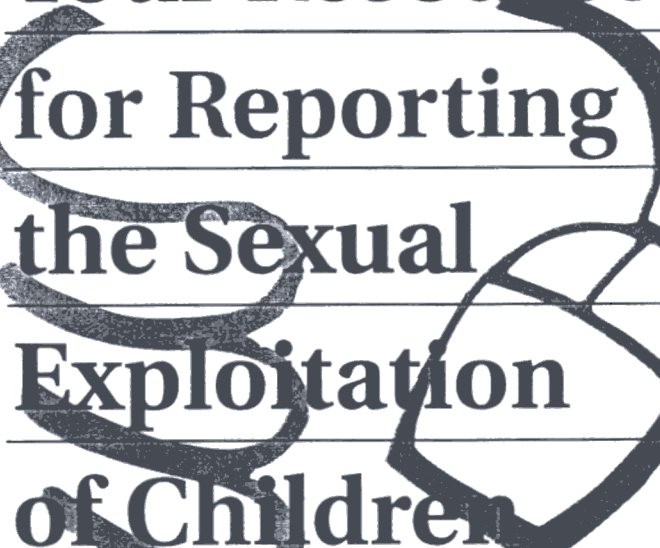


The CyberTipline:

Your Resource for Reporting the Sexual Exploitation of Children



THE INTERNET HAS CREATED AN EXCITING new world of information and communication for anyone with access to online services. While this world offers

unparalleled opportunities for children and adults to learn about the universe we live in, some risks and dangers exist for children as they travel through Cyberspace. This may include access to illegal content on the web or receiving inappropriate and unsolicited E-mail or chat messages. In addition, individuals who prey on children have quickly adapted to the online community of the Information Age and often use computer technology to seek unsupervised access to and contact with children.

To better safeguard children while online, key public- and private-sector leaders joined with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) on March 9, 1998, to launch the CyberTipline. The CyberTipline was created for individuals to report incidents of child-sexual exploitation including

- Possession, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography
- Online enticement of children for sexual acts
- Child prostitution
- Child-sex tourism
- Child-sexual molestation (not in the family)

SEVEN DAYS PER WEEK, 24 HOURS PER DAY, NCMEC IS FULLY STAFFED TO HANDLE LEADS AND THEN DISTRIBUTE THOSE LEADS TO THE APPROPRIATE LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

HOW DOES THE CYBERTIPLINE WORK?

- When children believe that someone is trying to entice them for sexual or illegal purposes or that they have found child pornography online, they tell their parents.
- The parents and child link to the CyberTipline, www.cybertipline.com, and fill out an online report form for child-sexual exploitation.
- NCMEC CyberTipline Operators retrieve and prioritize each lead. Then the report is immediately reviewed and analyzed by NCMEC's Exploited Child Unit (ECU). This may include visiting a reported web site or newsgroup posting, contacting the complainant to gather additional information, and conducting searches using various Internet tools. The report is made available online to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; U.S. Customs Service; U.S. Postal Inspection Service; and, when known, forwarded to the state and local law-enforcement agency where the incident occurred.

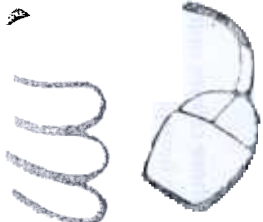


TO REMOVE BOOKMARK, TEAR OR CUT HERE

CYBERTIPLINE

www.cybertipline.com

The Public's Resource for Protecting Children Online



YOU CAN HELP

Cyberspace is being used in a number of ways to target and sexually victimize children. The best way to reduce the risks in Cyberspace is to understand the potential dangers, watch for abuses, and immediately report them. Using the CyberTipline will help tremendously in the fight against child-sexual exploitation on the Internet.

SUCCESS STORIES

The CyberTipline has received thousands of leads from parents, teachers, clergy, law enforcement, and many other concerned people who want to better safeguard children while they are exploring on the Internet. Many of those leads have taken children out of harm's way.

- The CyberTipline received a lead about the location of a runaway who was involved in child prostitution. The lead was forwarded to local law enforcement in Des Moines, Iowa, and the child was recovered.
- NCMEC credited a local resident and law enforcement in Orange County, Florida, for their quick response and resourcefulness in reporting information to the CyberTipline that resulted in the recent arrest of a 63-year-old Bithlo, Florida, man who was charged with 50 counts of sexual activity with a minor.
- The CyberTipline received a report from a mother in Helena, Montana, whose 16-year-old daughter ran away from home. The mother suspected that her daughter had taken a bus to Kansas City, Missouri, to visit with an adult she "met" via the Internet. NCMEC's ECU contacted the FBI, which in turn contacted its Kansas City field office. The child arrived in Kansas City and was greeted by federal agents. The suspect—a divorced male in his thirties—was also apprehended.
- The CyberTipline received a report regarding a web site that contained hundreds of images of child pornography. NCMEC's ECU contacted the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and they worked with local law enforcement who made an arrest in the case.

WHO WE ARE

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children was established in 1984 as a private, nonprofit organization and serves as a clearinghouse of information on missing and exploited children per federal statutes 42 USC § 5771 and 42 USC § 5780. The 24-hour, toll-free Hotline and CyberTipline are open for those who have information on missing and exploited children at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) and www.cybertipline.com.

In 1996 the U.S. Congress established the Exploited Child Unit within NCMEC. ECU is not an investigative agency, but rather a resource center and clearinghouse for parents, law enforcement, public and private agencies, legislators, and other professionals offering services including

- Public awareness and prevention materials for law enforcement and parents on Internet safety and the issue of child-sexual exploitation
- Queries and database searches for law enforcement on cases of child-sexual exploitation
- Publications, training, and technical assistance for law enforcement on cases of child-sexual exploitation

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SERVICES AND RESOURCES OFFERED BY NCMEC'S EXPLOITED CHILD UNIT, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CYBERTIPLINE.COM OR CALL 1-800-843-5678.



NCMEC is the national clearinghouse and resource center funded under cooperative agreement 98-MC-CX-K002 from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Points of view or opinions in this work are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice nor the U.S. Department of Treasury.

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NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN
CYBER TIPLINE
www.cybertipline.com
1-800-843-5678

The CyberTipline handles leads concerning

- Possession, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography
 - Online enticement of children for sexual acts
 - Child prostitution
 - Child-sex tourism
 - Child-sexual molestation (not in the family)
- in partnership with



Report these crimes online at www.cybertipline.com or by calling 1-800-843-5678.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on child-safety issues, please visit NCMEC's web site at www.missingkids.com.