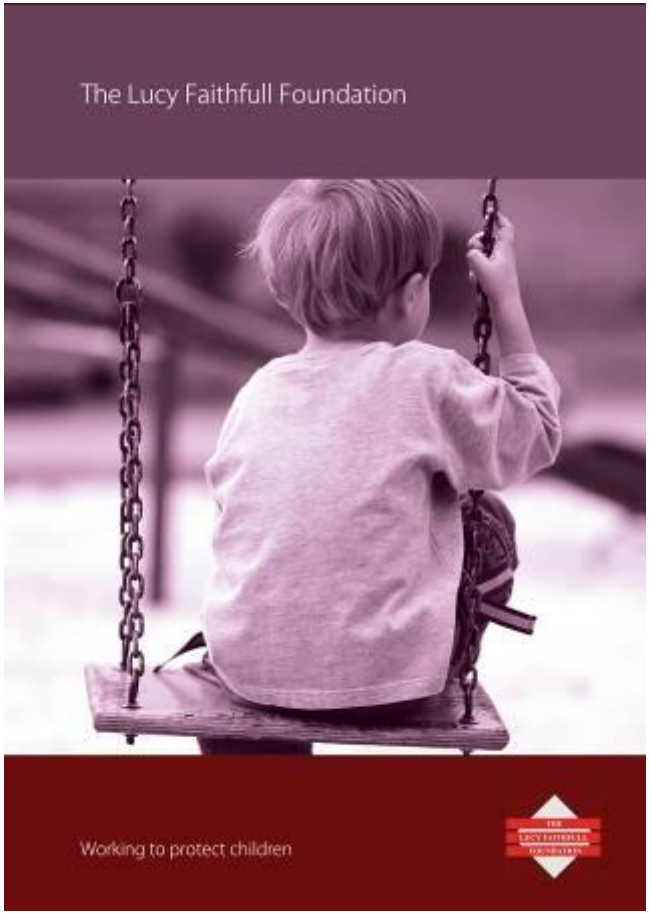
Preventing Child Sexual Abuse

Donald Findlater



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

stop it now! UK & Ireland

Together we can prevent child sexual abuse

Stop it Now! UK and Ireland

The only UK-wide Helpline and Campaign
dedicated solely to tackling
child sexual abuse

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse by

-known offenders
-unknown offenders
-those at risk of offending

Working to Protect Children

What do you want them to do?

What do they need to know?

The way we see the problem

IS

the problem

S. Covey "7 Habits of Highly Effective People"

Things I thought I knew….

- Risk to children is small
- Sex offenders are:-
- male
- adult
- strangers

Things I thought I knew….

- Fathers
- Don’t want to/can’t stop
- We catch the majority
- Treatment can achieve little
- Internet offenders – just the same as contact offenders?

Some things to consider….

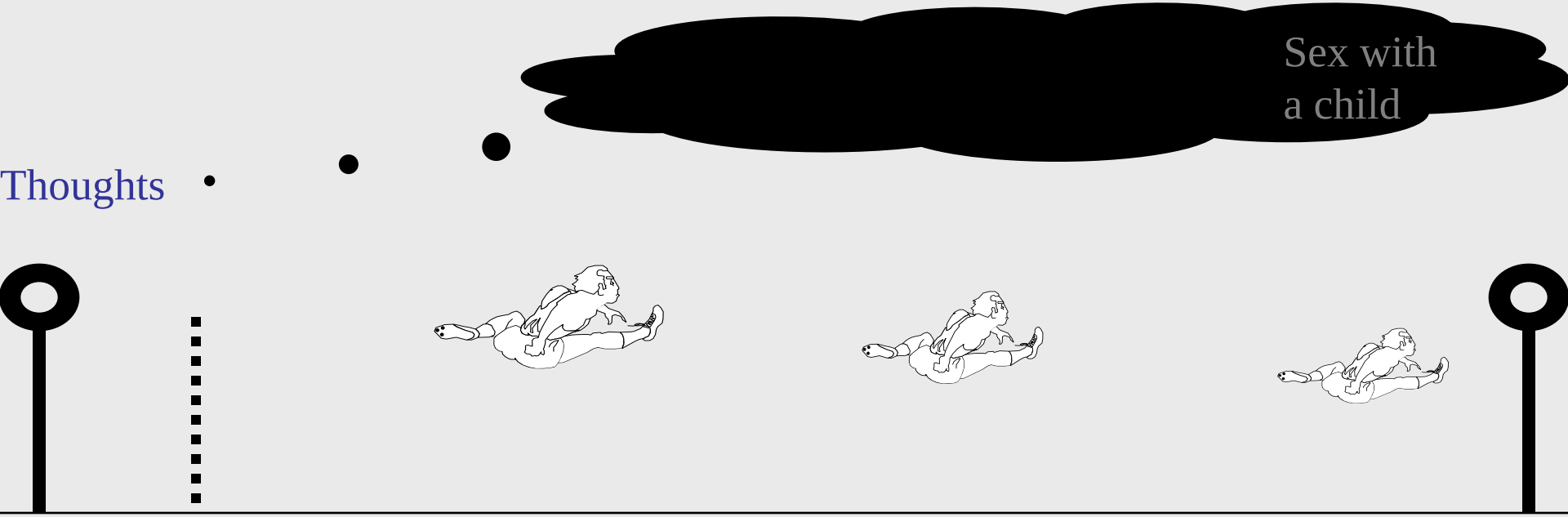
- Some 1 in 6 children have been sexually abused by age 18
- 8/9 out of 10 children know their abusers
- The vast majority of abuse is not reported to the Police

Ref: Radford 2011; Cawson 2000; Grubin 1998

How does it happen?

Four pre-conditions to child sexual abuse

Adapted from: D Finkelhor Child Sexual Abuse: New Theory & Research 1984



MOTIVATION
'Wanting to'

INTERNAL INHIBITORS
'Conscience'

EXTERNAL INHIBITORS
'Others'
(Creating Opportunity)

OVERCOME VICTIM RESISTANCE
'Doing it and getting away with it'

A Comprehensive Framework for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Treatment programmes for convicted sex offenders

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Awareness-raising prevention education programmes for all parents and carers

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Primary school programme of personal safety and sex education for all 10 year olds

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Internet safety and responsibility lessons for a year group in a school where sexting has been identified as a problem

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Protective parenting work with young single mums

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Where on the framework?

Safer Recruitment training for Heads and Governors in schools

Prevention Targets

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders (Potential)			
Victims (Children)			
Families/ Communities			
Situations			

Lucy Faithfull Foundation Prevention Activities

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Abusers or potential abusers	•Hedgehogs	• Stop it Now! Helpline •Stop! Scotland Prison Project	•Stop! Helpline •Sex Offender Treatment (inc YOI) •Circles of Support and Accountability •Inform + •Securus Monitoring •CROGA
Children and Young People	•Internet Safety Classes •Hedgehogs	•Internet Safety classes for at risk groups •Inform YP	•Therapeutic work (Family Courts/Social Services)
Communities/ Families	•Parents Protect •Internet Safety Seminars (Prim'y) •Stop it Now! Materials •BAMER (Somali, Pakistani, Jewish communities)	• Parents Protect + • Stop it Now! Helpline •Inform YP •Internet Safety seminars (Secondary)	•Inform •Stop it Now! Helpline •Family Court Assessment/Int

Lucy Faithfull Foundation Prevention Activity

	Primary prevention	Secondary prevention	Tertiary prevention
Offenders			
Victims			
Families/Communities			
Situations	**Safer Recruitment** **Code of Practice** **Leisurewatch**	**Specialist Training (eg Churches, Scouts etc)**	**Reviews of institutions (Situational Prevention Audits)**

Free Hotmail Web Slice Gallery
n and pre...

Parents Protect!

Together we can prevent child sexual abuse

For confidential information and advice contact the Stop it Now! helpline on

0808 1000 900

LEARNING PROGRAMME

Quick Navigation

- What is child sexual abuse?
- Quick Facts
- Warning signs - What to look for in children and adults
- Creating a family safety plan
- Police disclosure scheme
- What to do if a child tells about abuse
- Get Help
- Child sexual abuse survivor services
- FAQ

Everyone has a part to play in preventing child sexual abuse

Welcome

...to Parents Protect, your online information and resources website. Here, we aim to raise your awareness about child sexual abuse, answer any questions you may have and give you the information you need to help to protect children.

Our Aim...

Working to Protect Children

Traffic lights flyer

2. UNDERSTAND

What the behaviour is telling you

Children show their needs and wants through their behaviours. Understanding the reason behind a child's sexual behaviour is important. When children or young people do not have the language, experience or ability to seek help, adults must look carefully at the behaviour to interpret it.

When sexual behaviours are identified as concerning or harmful, it is essential to think about why the child or young person is exhibiting the behaviour. Reviewing the behaviour and the way it happens will help you understand what is going on for the child and indicate what is needed.

Q1. What are the issues or concerns regarding the child or young person and their behaviour?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Q2. What might these concerns indicate?

- ☐ lack of accurate sexuality information
- ☐ boredom or loneliness
- ☐ curiosity
- ☐ sexual excitement
- ☐ lack of social skills
- ☐ medical needs
- ☐ conflict in relationships
- ☐ confusion about sexuality, relationships and sexual activities
- ☐ lack of rules and consequences
- ☐ lack of information about the risks of the behaviour
- ☐ overexposure to explicit sexual activity and materials
- ☐ lack of adult supervision and support
- ☐ experience of physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect
- ☐ lack of consistency across environments
- ☐ anxiety about adult or family relationships

Understanding the child or young person and the issues that may be contributing to the behaviour guides the planning of effective responses.

Expressing sexuality through sexual behaviour is natural, healthy and a basic aspect of being human. Sexual behaviour which makes children or young people vulnerable or causes harm to another requires adult intervention to provide support and protection.

All children and young people have the right to be safe.

RED

Sexual behaviours which indicate or cause harm because they are:

- excessive, compulsive, coercive, forceful, degrading or threatening
- secretive, manipulative or involve bribery or trickery
- not appropriate for the age and stage of development
- between children with a significant difference in age, developmental ability or power

These behaviours signal the need to provide immediate protection and follow up support.

0 to 4 years

- compulsive masturbation which may be self injurious, of a persistent nature or duration
- persistent explicit sexual themes in talk, art or play
- disclosure of sexual abuse
- simulation of sexual touch or sexual activity
- persistently touching the genitals/private parts of others
- forcing other children to engage in sexual activity
- sexual behaviour between young children involving penetration with objects, masturbation of others, oral sex
- presence of a sexually transmitted infection

5 to 9 years

- compulsive masturbation e.g. self injuring, self harming, seeking an audience
- disclosure of sexual abuse
- persistent bullying involving sexual aggression e.g. pulling/lifting/removing other children's clothing, sexually threatening notes, drawing, text messages
- sexual behaviour with significantly younger or less able children
- accessing the rooms of sleeping children to touch or engage in sexual activity
- simulation of, or participation in, sexual activities e.g. oral sex, sexual intercourse
- presence of a sexually transmitted infection
- persistent sexual activity with animals
- using mobile phones and internet which includes giving out identifying details or sexual images

10 to 13 years

- compulsive masturbation e.g. self harming, seeking an audience
- engaging vulnerable others in a process to gain sexual activity by using grooming techniques e.g. gifts, lies, flattery
- force or coercion of others into sexual activity
- oral sex and/or intercourse with a person of different age, developmental ability and/or peer grouping
- presence of sexually transmitted infection or pregnancy
- deliberately sending and/or publishing sexual images of self or another person
- arranging a face to face meeting with an online acquaintance
- sexual contact with animals
- sexual activity in exchange for money or goods
- possessing, accessing or sending child exploitation materials e.g. photos of children naked or in sexual activities

14 to 17 years

- compulsive masturbation e.g. self harming, in public, seeking an audience
- preoccupation with sexually aggressive and/or illegal pornography
- sexual contact with others of significant age and/or developmental difference
- engaging others in a process to gain sexual activity by using grooming techniques e.g. gifts, manipulation, lies
- deliberately sending and/or publishing sexual images of another person without their consent
- arranging a meeting with an online acquaintance without the knowledge of a peer or known adult
- sexual contact with animals
- sexual activity in exchange for money, goods, accommodation, drugs or alcohol
- forcing or manipulating others into sexual activity
- possessing, accessing or sending child exploitation materials

ORANGE

Sexual behaviours which cause concern because of:

- persistence, intensity, frequency or duration of behaviours
- the type of activity or knowledge for the age and stage of development
- inequality in age, size, power or developmental ability
- risk to the health and safety of the child or others
- unusual changes in a child's behaviour

These behaviours signal the need to monitor and provide extra support.

0 to 4 years

- masturbation in preference to other activities
- preoccupation with sexual behaviours
- persistently watching others in sexual activity, toileting or when nude
- explicit sexual talk, art or play
- following others into private spaces e.g. toilets, bathrooms to look at them or touch them
- pulling other children's pants down or skirts up against their will
- touching the genitals/private parts of other children in preference to other activities
- attempting to touch or touching adults on the breasts, bottom, or genitals in ways that are persistent and/or invasive
- touching the genitals/private parts of animals after redirection

5 to 9 years

- masturbation in preference to other activities, in public, with others and/or causing self injury
- explicit talk, art or play of sexual nature
- persistent questions about sexuality despite being answered
- persistent nudity and/or exposing private parts in public places
- persistently watching or following others to look at or touch them
- pulling other children's pants down or skirts up against their will
- persistently mimicking sexual flirting behaviour too advanced for age, with other children or adults
- touching genitals/private parts of animals after redirection
- use of mobile phone and internet with known and unknown people which may include giving out identifying details

10 to 13 years

- masturbation in preference to other activities, in public and/or causing self injury
- persistent explicit talk, art or play which is sexual or sexually intimidating
- accessing age restricted materials e.g. movies, games, internet with sexually explicit content
- persistent expression of fear of sexually transmitted infection or pregnancy
- marked changes to behaviour e.g. older or adult flirting behaviours, seeking relationships with older children or adults in preference to peers
- engaging in sexual activities with an unknown peer e.g. deep kissing, mutual masturbation
- oral sex and/or intercourse with a known partner of similar age and developmental ability
- using mobile phones and internet with unknown people which may include giving out identifying details

14 to 17 years

- sexual preoccupation which interferes with daily function
- intentional spying on others while they are engaged in sexual activity or nudity
- explicit communications, art or actions which are obscene or sexually intimidating
- repeated exposure of private parts in a public place with peers e.g. flashing
- unsafe sexual behaviour, including unprotected sex, sexual activity while intoxicated, multiple partners and/or frequent change of partner
- presence of sexually transmitted infection or unplanned pregnancy
- oral sex and/or intercourse with known partner of more than two years age difference or with significant difference in development
- arranging a meeting with an online acquaintance accompanied by a peer or known adult
- using mobile phones and internet to send or receive sexual images of another person with their consent

GREEN

Sexual behaviours which are part of normal and healthy development and are:

- spontaneous, curious, light hearted, easily diverted, enjoyable, mutual and consensual
- appropriate to the child's age and development
- activities or play among equals in terms of age, size and ability levels
- about understanding and gathering information, balanced with curiosity about other parts of life

These behaviours provide opportunities to talk, explain and support.

0 to 4 years

- comfort in being nude
- body touching and holding own genitals
- unselfconscious masturbation
- interest in body parts and functions
- wanting to touch familiar children's genitals during play, toilet or bath times
- participation in make believe games involving looking at and/or touching the bodies of familiar children e.g. "show me yours and I'll show you mine", playing 'family'
- asking about or wanting to touch the breasts, bottoms or genitals of familiar adults e.g. when in the bath

5 to 9 years

- increased sense of privacy about bodies
- body touching and holding own genitals
- masturbation, usually with awareness of privacy
- curiosity about other children's genitals involving looking at and/or touching the bodies of familiar children e.g. "show me yours and I'll show you mine", playing 'family'
- curiosity about sexuality e.g. questions about babies, gender, relationships, sexual activity
- telling stories or asking questions, using swear words, 'toilet' words or names for private parts
- use of mobile phones and internet in relationships with known peers

10 to 13 years

- growing need for privacy
- masturbation in private
- curiosity and seeking information about sexuality
- use of sexual language
- interest and/or participation in girlfriend or boyfriend relationships
- hugging, kissing, touching with known peers
- exhibitionism amongst same age peers within the context of play e.g. occasional flashing or mooning
- use of mobile phones and internet in relationships with known peers

14 to 17 years

- need for privacy
- masturbation in private
- accessing information about sexuality
- viewing materials for sexual arousal e.g. music videos, magazines, movies
- sexually explicit mutual conversations and/or use of humour and obscenities with peers
- interest and/or participation in a one on one relationship with someone of the same or other sex
- sexual activity with a partner of similar age and developmental ability (ability to consent must be considered)
- use of mobile phones and internet in relationships with peers

Traffic lights adapted from the Child at Risk Assessment Unit. (2000). Age Appropriate Sexual Play and Behaviour in Children. Canberra: Australian Capital Territory Government Community Care. 5-11.

For further information or to download the flyer please visit - http://www.fpq.com.au/publications/fsBrochures/Br_Sexual_Behaviours.php

Stop it Now! UK and Ireland

The Only UK-wide Campaign and Helpline Dedicated Solely to Tackling Child Sexual Abuse

Campaign

Helpline

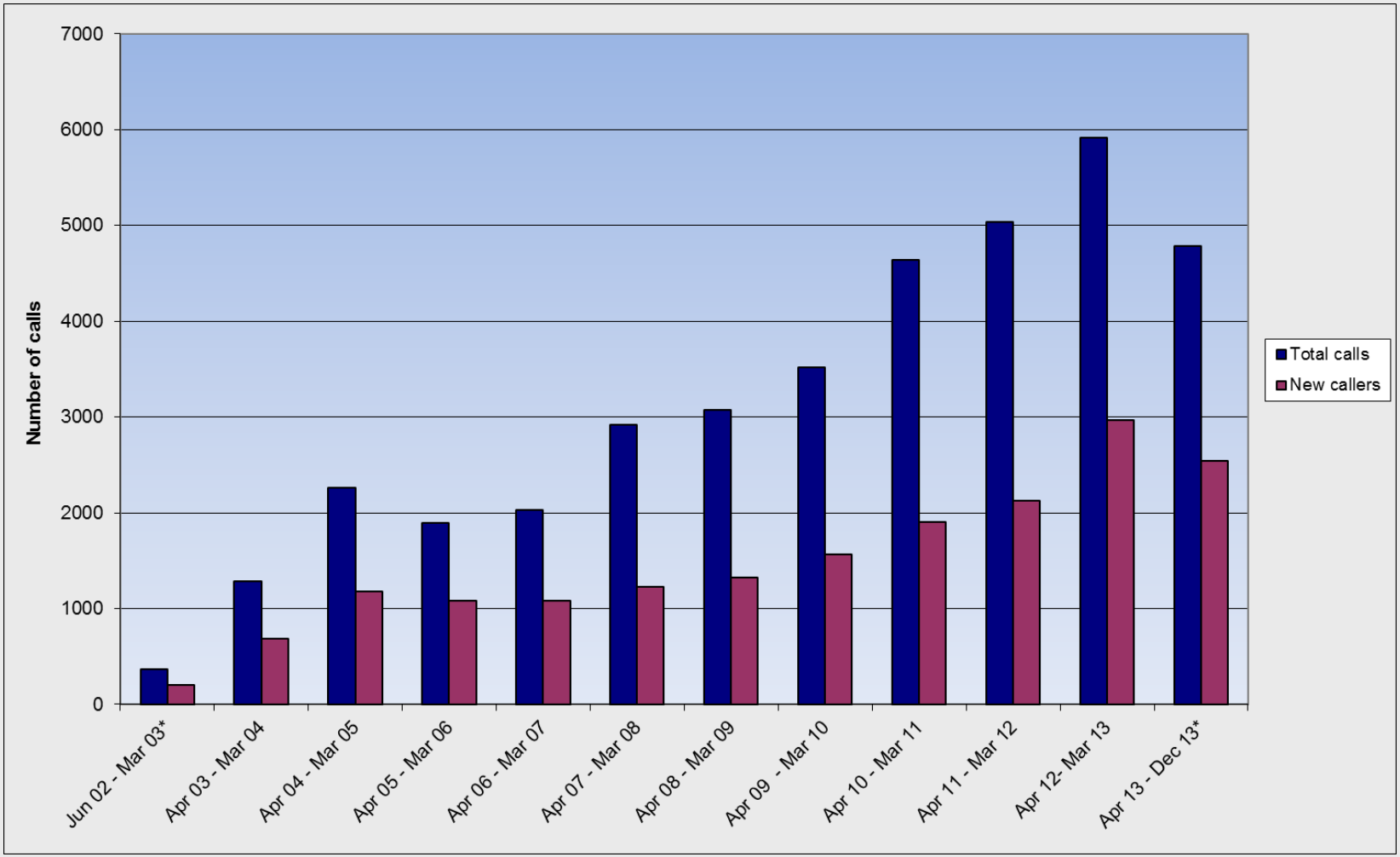
Based on work of Fran Henry and colleagues in Stop it Now! US

Stop It Now! Helpline

Principal Target Groups:-

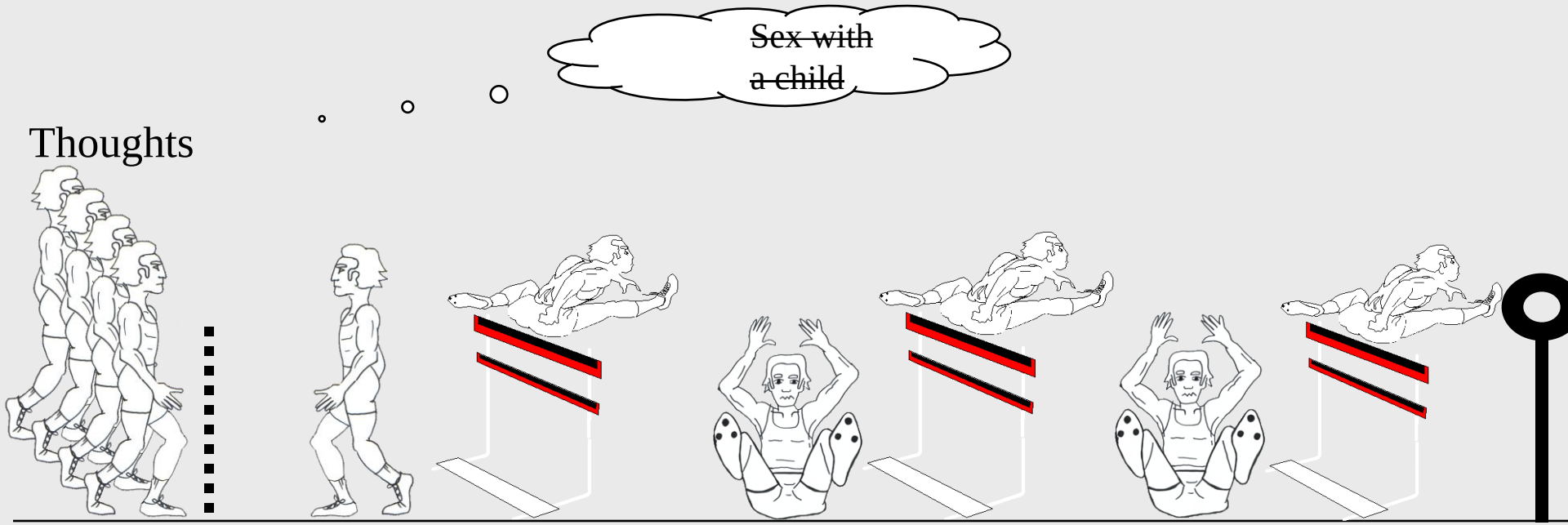
- Adult abusers and potential abusers: to encourage them to recognise their behaviour as abusive and seek help to change.
- Family and friends: to encourage them to recognise the signs of abusive behaviour in those close to them and to seek advice about what action to take.
- Parents and carers of young people with worrying sexual behaviour: to encourage them to recognise signs of abusive behaviour in their children and seek advice about what to do.

Stop it Now! Helpline 2002 - 2014



‘Steps towards prevention’

Adapted by Donald Findlater from D Finkelhor *Child Sexual Abuse: New Theory & Research 1984*



Reduce MOTIVATION

Strengthen INTERNAL INHIBITORS Increase Perceived RISK

Strengthen EXTERNAL INHIBITORS (Capable Guardians)

Increase Children’s Resilience and Resistance

Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse (ECSA)

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation is currently running a major project to identify effecti
sexual abuse from around the world with the aim of helping nations implement effe
from sexual harm.

Child sexual abuse is estimated to impact between one in four and one in ten children worldwide. Across the globe,
recognising and responding to such abuse. The *'Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse'* (ECSA) project involves developing
tackle child sexual abuse to develop a considered and credible strategy for its prevention.

What this project involves

The ECSA project will draw on the expertise of practitioners, academics and frontline workers responding to child s
toolkit for people of all nations to use when looking to address child sexual abuse. We will run an online forum, co
with a view to:

- Creating a comprehensive list of different 'types' of child sexual abuse, with definitions
- Creating a representative list of brief, accessible summaries of effective or promising primary, secondary and
  child sexual abuse
- Creating and trialling a step-by-step process for the design of a comprehensive strategy for the prevention o
  nation/area/region
- Disseminating the prevention toolkit to organisations across the globe.

Across all our activities we will be using the 'Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Framework' developed by Prof Stephen
supported by Oak Foundation.

View the responses to child sexual abuse using our online presentation an

We have ambitious targets of collecting over 200 examples of accessible summaries of effective or promising
primary, secondary and tertiary prevention responses to child sexual abuse

Child sexual abuse –

preventable, not inevitable!

THE LUCY FAITHFULL FOUNDATION

Thank you!

Don’t forget the leaflets!

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