

Manipulation / Grooming in Child Abuse Investigations

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Agenda

- ✓ Identify the dynamics involved in grooming behaviors
- ✓ Identify the effect of grooming on both victims and families
- ✓ Develop strategies to present grooming dynamics in court



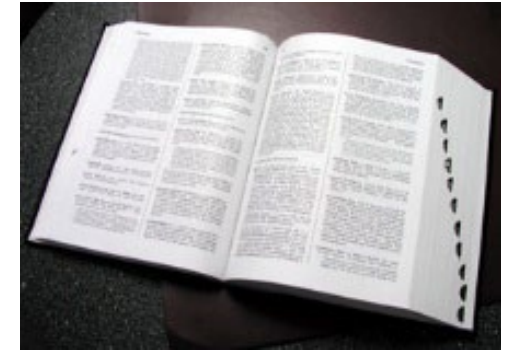
Understanding Grooming

Dynamics of manipulation

Grooming vs. Manipulation



Grooming Defined:



A pattern of activity employed by preferential child sex offenders to gain access, authority and control over children for sexual purposes, to ensure their silence, and to keep them in a position where they can be repeatedly victimized

Jim Clemente, FBI (Ret)- *Child Sexual Victimization (2017)*

Using a series of otherwise innocent (legal) behaviors designed to secure cooperation and trust

How to practice child love

Presented by The Mule



| Child love explained by professionals |

WARNING!

If you get offended or disturbed by sexual relationships between adults and children, you should not proceed any further with this presentation

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This is an education and a step-by-step guide for adults to engage and practice sexual relationships with underage children

The purpose of this guide is to teach adults how to safely and harmlessly practice sex with children, without hurting the child, by using advanced and well researched child psychology and pedagogy

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MAIN INDEX

BEFORE YOU BEGIN ON THE EDUCATION

- **Important info** (5)

THEORY BEFORE PRACTISE

- **Child sexuality** (6)
- **Taboos and shame** (8)
- **Risks involved** (11)
- **When to start – what age?** (16)

WHERE DO I FIND A CHILD?

- **Introduction** (19)
- **Having own children or family equal access** (21)
- **Single parents and moms with kids** (23)
- **Babysitting, daycare and schools** (26)
- **Children out in the wide open world** (37)
- **Other creative methods and some final words** (45)
- **The 4 important advantages** (48)
- **Survey, approach and create a relationship** (57)

THE PRACTICAL STEPS

- **Introduction** (76)
- **Step 1 (The first physical contact)** (80)
- **Step 2 (The second physical contact)** (94)
- **Step 3 (Exploring the child's genital)** (105)
- **Step 4 (Exploring the adult's genital)** (130)
- **Step 5 (Making love for the first time)** (146)

ENCLOSURE AND FINAL INFORMATION

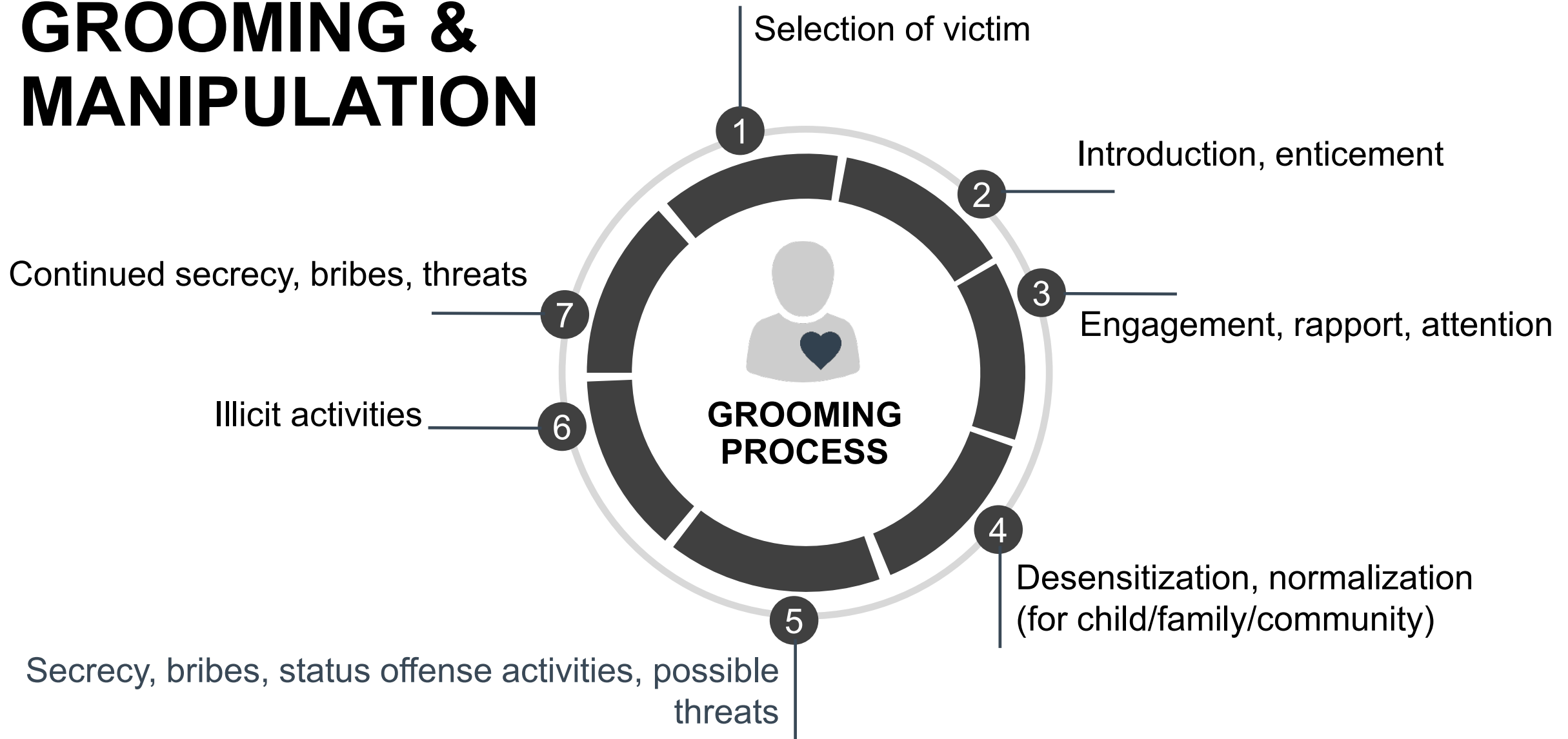
- **Before you actually begin** (162)
- **Credits** (170)



Excerpts...

- All children are capable of reaching a sexual climax during exploration & feeling of their own genitals – what is considered as an orgasm.
- Some kids do not get any orgasms at all without help or guidance from adults
- Why can not the adults educate the children about sexuality while at the same time enjoying it enormously and building rally strong, special, close and secure bonds together?
- As every parent already should know, you do not give your children alcohol – you give them milk. In the same way, you do not put an adult penis inside a four-year-old's vagina with brute force – you only play gently until it is properly developed.

GROOMING & MANIPULATION



Grooming / Manipulation

On-going process - not an “event”

Use of Force?



No Overt Force Doesn't Mean Safe

What are the risks of getting caught?

Prison
Registered Sex Offender
Social Status Destroyed
Loss of Family
Physically Assaulted

A lot to lose



Offender Thinking -

- Sex play isn't harmful if done with respect and love
- Safe and harmless sexual relationship
- Building close and secure bonds
- Educational duty
- Becomes a mutual admiration – it is a relationship

“The real problem is an uneducated public. They just don't understand.”

How to Practice Child Love

Grooming Process

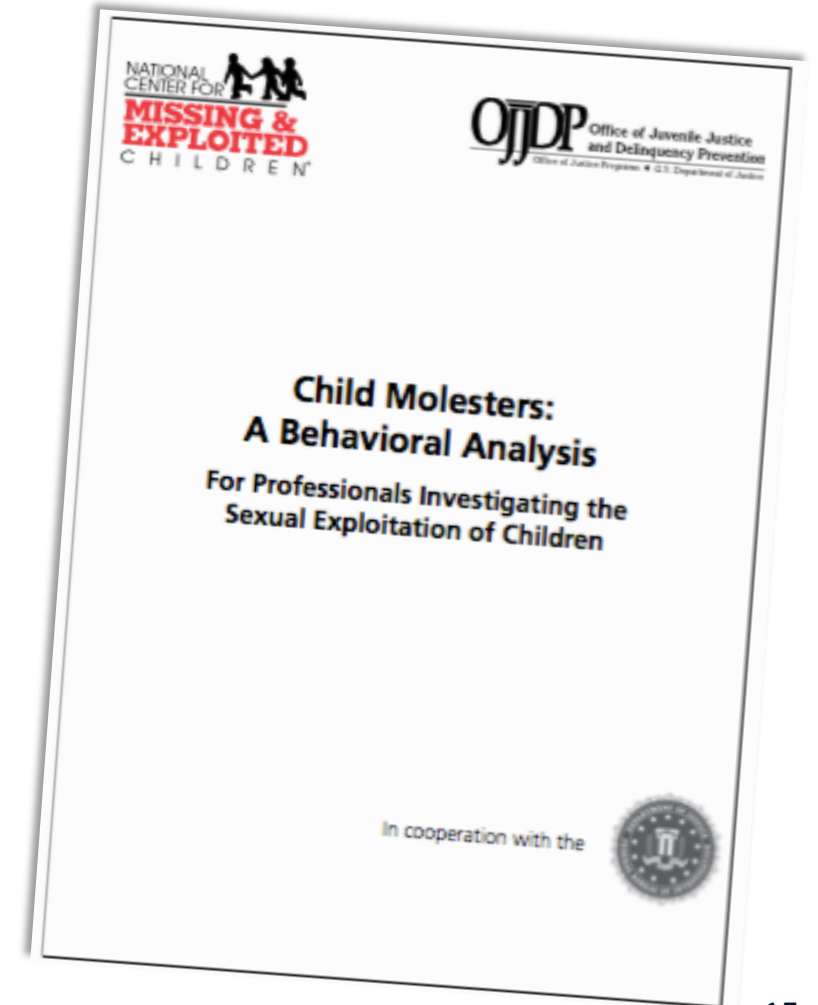
Manipulating both children and caretakers

CHILD MOLESTERS: A BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS

5th Edition, 2010

- Ken Lanning, Retired FBI
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

<https://www.missingkids.org/content/dam/missingkids/pdfs/publications/nc70.pdf>



EXERPT FROM CMBA (pg. 27)

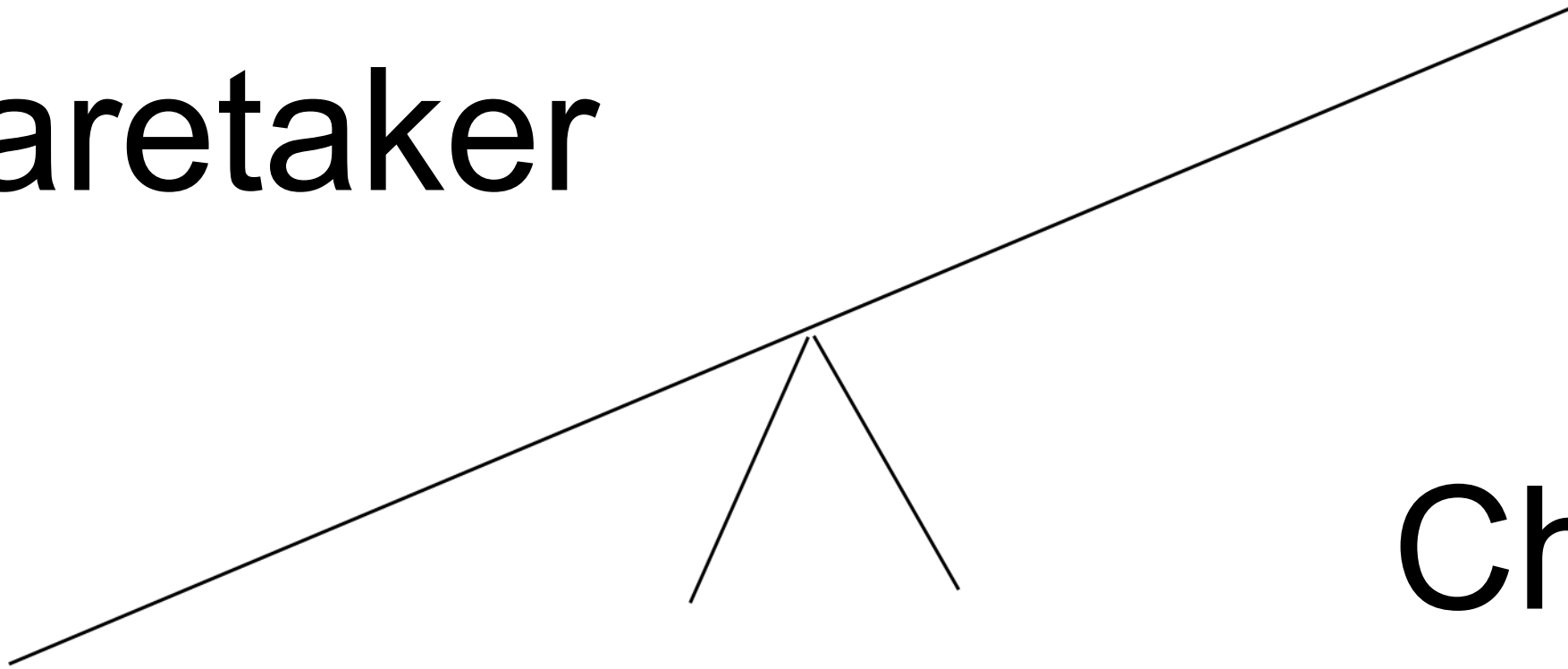
As used in this publication, grooming/ seduction is defined as a variety of techniques used by a sex offender to access and control potential and actual child victims. This process takes access, time, and interpersonal skill. How much time depends on the needs of the child and skills of the adult. If done well the process not only gains the victim's initial cooperation, but also decreases the likelihood of disclosure by the victim and increases the likelihood of ongoing, repeated access.

The greater the skill of the offender in selecting and seducing vulnerable victims, the more successful the acquaintance molester is and the longer he avoids discovery. How long such offenders get away with this type of victimization is usually determined by how well they select their victims, how good they are at identifying and filling their victims' needs, how much time they have to invest in the process, how proficient they are at seducing and controlling their victims, and how proficient others who might observe the process are at recognizing and responding to it.



Grooming/Manipulation is Two-Fold

Caretaker



Child

Caretaker Grooming

- Adult Skills
- Building a Reputation
- Slow Integration
- Demonstrating a Need / Self Promotion



Caretaker Grooming

Going out with caretaker

Spending time with caretaker and child together

Make the offer

Institutional Grooming

- Institutional Investment / Reputation
 - Schools/Universities
 - Churches
 - Sporting Organizations
- Institutional/Community Push-back
 - Circle the Wagons

Child Grooming

- Make the connection
- Identify the need
- Treating as an adult/equal
- Building a “relationship”



Child Grooming

- Normalize touching in front of caretaker
- First solo touching – gradual
- Adult benefits
- Gifts
 - Normal but sexual
- Trust messages



Isolating and Insulating

- Isolating the communications
- Isolating the child from parents/caretakers
- Blurring or Eroding the boundaries

The Threat.....

You'll get in trouble if your parents find out

You could be arrested

You could be kicked off the team / lose scholarship

Life-long dream.....





WHEN CONDUCTING CHILD FORENSIC INTERVIEWS....

Forensic interviewers should focus on details beyond the allegation. Going beyond the details of abuse provides **context**, grooming behaviors, relationship, etc. This helps the trier of fact understand how the abuse was possible.

Disclosure Obstacles

Typical

- Fear of not being believed; fear of suspect
- Guilt for “letting it happen”
- Embarrassment or shame of reaction by family/friends/community

Grooming Effect

- Relationship
- In Love
- Don't want to hurt him

Consider

- Didn't ask to be rescued
- Not immediately contradicting victim
- Can't discount their feelings and expect cooperation

Disclosure Obstacles – the Caretakers

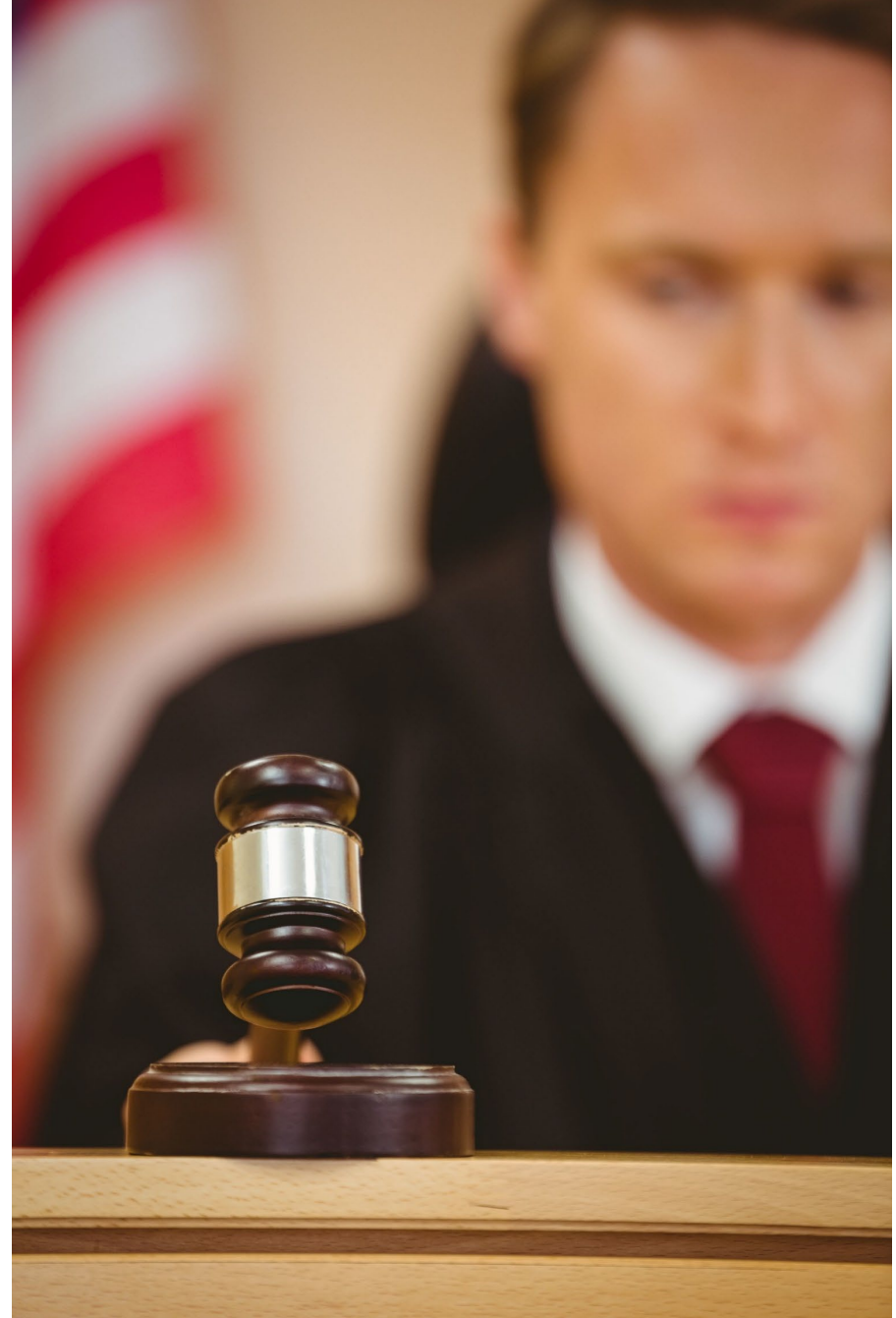


Typical

Grooming
Effect

Consider

Getting it in at trial.....



Expert Testimony

(well, if you got one...)

- Special knowledge to assist the jury in resolving questions of fact at issue
 - Knowledge – Skill – Experience – Training – Education
- Grooming Process
 - Techniques/behaviors that molesters typically use...
- Implying Guilt

“That is an issue that is for expert testimony”

WA State COA – Division II (2017)

Explaining what “grooming” is to a jury

- Understanding the effects
- Credibility of the victim
- Credibility of the caretakers

Investigation vs. Psychology

- Profiling – Big Picture
 - Typical behaviors
 - Commonalities
- Action / Reaction
 - This Offender – This Victim



Not Evidence of Guilt

Testimony on grooming/manipulation tactics is NOT designed to prove the crime occurred

Explains the actions (or lack of actions) on the part of the victim and family

The opportunity to offend

Symptoms – Not Diagnosis

- Document it – don't diagnosis it
 - Tell me all about what (suspect) did.
 - Gave me gifts/time/attention/respect/etc...
- How did that make you feel?
 - Like he loved me/like I was wanted/like I was somebody/like I was heard...

This is the grooming “process” explained

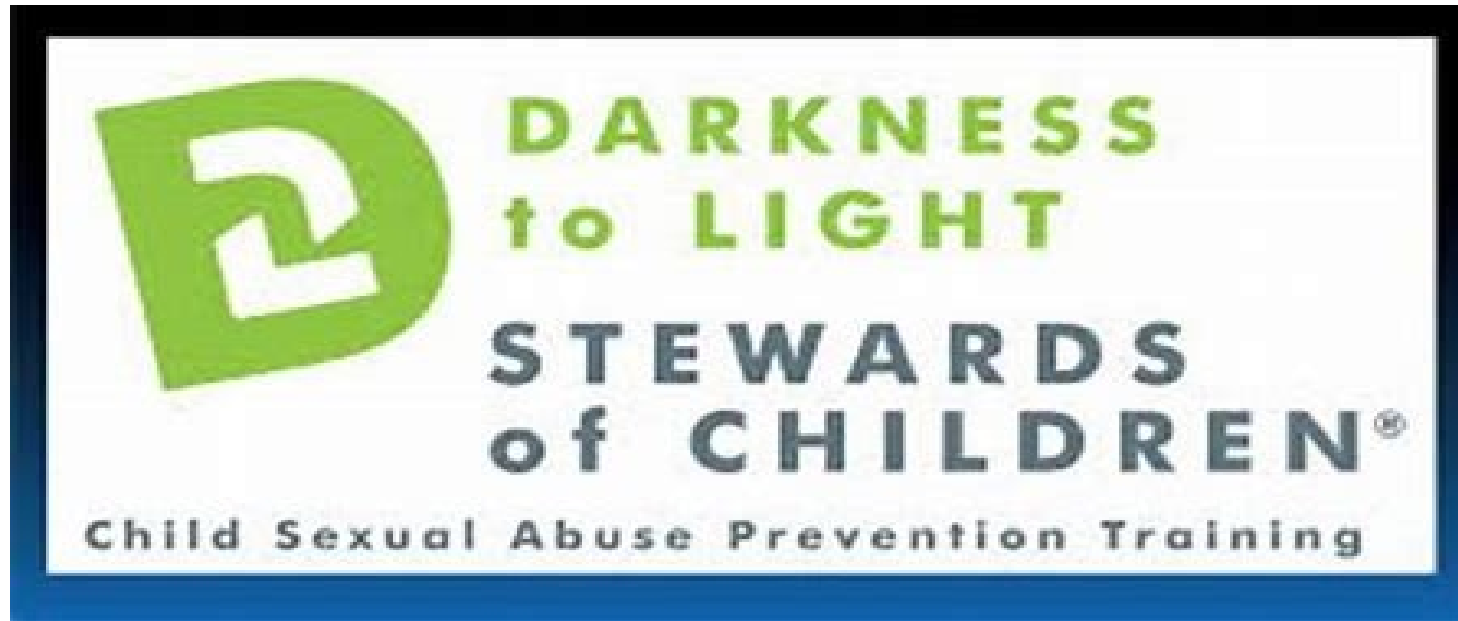
Working with Parents

- Encouraging healthy talk
- Correct names for body parts
- Listen and Believe



National Children's Advocacy Center

Prevention Programs





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