

# Responses to peer on peer abuse– domestic abuse, CSE and teenage relationships

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# Types of Abuse Activity

# What do Young People experience?

- One in five girls in England suffered physical violence from their boyfriend
- More than four in ten teenage schoolgirls aged between 13 and 17 in England have experienced sexual coercion.
- The rates of violence were higher for girls in England than in other countries.
- Nearly half-48% of girls reported instances of emotional and online abuse from their partners.
- Over a third of young boys in England admitted watching porn and held negative attitudes towards women

(University of Bristol and University of Central Lancashire, 2015)

- Two thirds (65.9%) of contact sexual abuse experienced by children up to age-17 was perpetrated by someone under-18 (Radford et al 2011)
- ¼ Barnardo's service users were sexually exploited by their peers (Barnardo's 2011)
- Almost a third of 16-18-year-old girls say they've been subjected to unwanted sexual touching in UK schools (EVAW 2010)



# Sexual Harassment and Violence in Schools (2016)

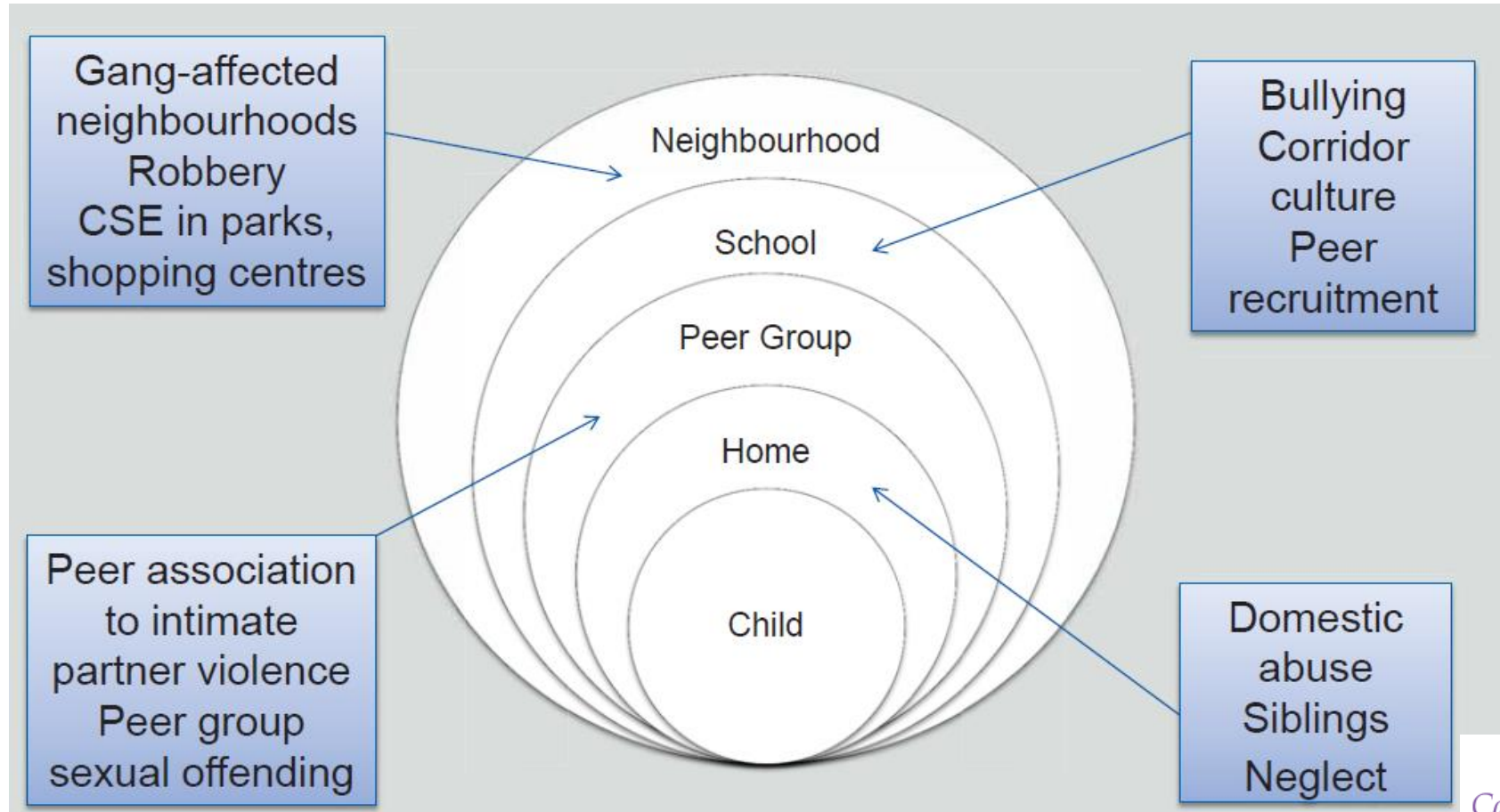
- 5,500 sexual offences were recorded in UK schools over a three-year period, including 600 rapes (September 2015)
- A 2010 YouGov poll of 16–18 year olds found 29% of girls experienced unwanted sexual touching at school
- Research with 13–18 year olds suggests that young people trivialise and justify violence against women and girls, view some forms of sexual harassment as normal and even inevitable and excuse rape. Teenagers excuse sexual assault and rape in certain circumstances, including when girls/women are viewed as having behaved ‘inappropriately’ in relation to a male friend, acquaintance, partner or ex-partner



# Peer Abuse



# Young People's Social Fields



# What is Contextual Safeguarding?

- [What is Contextual Safeguarding? | Contextual Safeguarding Network](#)





# Domestic Abuse

- The definition for domestic abuse (Home Office 2013) relates to young people aged 16 and 17 who experience physical, emotional, sexual and/or financial abuse, and coercive control, in their intimate relationships



# Child Sexual Exploitation

- The definition for child sexual exploitation (DCSF 2009) captures young people aged under-18 who are sexually abused in the context of exploitative relationships, contexts and situations by a person of any age – including another young person



# Serious Youth Violence

- Serious youth violence is defined with reference to offences (as opposed to relationships/contexts) and captures all those of the most serious in nature including murder, rape and GBH between young people under-18 (London Safeguarding Children Board 2009)



# Sexually Harmful Behaviour

- The definition for young people who display harmful sexual behaviour refers to any young person, under the age of 18, who demonstrates behaviour outside of their normative parameters of development (this includes, but is not exclusive to abusive behaviours) (Hackett 2011, NICE 2014)



# Bullying

- Bullying is behaviour that hurts someone else – such as name calling, hitting, pushing, spreading rumours, threatening or undermining someone.
- It can happen anywhere – at school, at home or online. It's usually repeated over a long period of time and can hurt a child both physically and emotionally.
- Bullying that happens online, using social networks, games and mobile phones, is often called cyberbullying



# Substance Misuse

- Rates of substance use among survivors of domestic and sexual violence are considerably higher than in the general population
- Why is this?
  - Peer pressure to use substances
  - Use of substances to groom young people
  - Use of substances to control victims
  - Co-morbidity of substance use and mental health



# Impact of Peer on Peer abuse

- Physical (including sexual) and mental health and well-being;
- Education and training and therefore future employment prospects;
- Family relationships;
- Friends and social relationships, current and as adults; and
- Their relationship with their own children in the future.



# Who is affected by peer to peer abuse?

- Age 10 upwards
- Gendered
- Minority groups are underrepresented
- History of inter-familial abuse
- Living with domestic abuse
- Looked after Children
- Suffered a bereavement
- Mental health
- Learning needs and disability





# What are we already doing to address peer on peer abuse?

- Early referrals
- Not victimising victims
- Sharing intelligence
- Multi-agency working
- Review meetings
- Peer mentors
- Youth groups and programmes
- Relationships work in schools, etc
- Tough Love/Chelsea's Choice
- Safeguarding leads in school
- CAMH and CASUS
- Centre 33 counselling
- Diverse



# Young People's DASH Risk Assessment

## Cambridgeshire Young People's IDVA Referral Form and Dash Risk Indicator Checklist.

Please forward the completed referral to e-mail: [IDVAReferrals@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:IDVAReferrals@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

Enquiries tel. 01480 847718

For guidance on completing the Risk Assessment Checklist click [here](#)

The Young People's IDVA accepts referrals at all risk levels.

Current threshold for Cambs MARAC referrals: 14 or above or on evidenced Professional judgement.

Victim name:

DOB:

Ethnicity:

Address of Victim:

Safe Contact Details:

Perpetrator: Name and DOB:

Address of Perpetrator:

Ethnicity of Perpetrator:

Relationship of perpetrator to victim:

Current or past sexual partner?



# The Role of the Young People's IDVA

- **Purpose of Young People's IDVA role:**
- To reduce harm to young people caused through intimate partner abuse and violence.
- To address the immediate risk to young victims of intimate partner abuse and violence.
- Ongoing assessment of risk and amending safety plans as necessary.



# Young People's ISVA

- The **Children and Young Person's ISVA** works with children aged 0-19 (and their families) who are victims of sexual abuse or sexual violence.
- Referral can be made via [isvas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:isvas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)



# CSE Referrals



## Referral form to Cambridgeshire or Peterborough Children's Social Care

To be used by all agencies that wish to report concerns about a risk



### BEFORE YOU MAKE A REFERRAL

**IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN REGARDING A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON AND WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS IT FURTHER YOU SHOULD CONSULT THE SAFEGUARDING LEAD OR A SAFEGUARDING PROFESSIONAL WITHIN YOUR ORGANISATION.**

**IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE AND A CHILD COULD BE AT IMMEDIATE RISK DO NOT DELAY: MAKE A REFERRAL.**

DATA PROTECTION LAW APPLIES WHEN MAKING A REFERRAL. THE PARENTS/CARERS OF A CHILD SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE REFERRAL AND THE INFORMATION IT CONTAINS UNLESS INFORMING THEM PLACES THE CHILD OR ANOTHER AT A SUBSTANTIVE LEVEL OF RISK. PARENTAL CONSENT TO SHARE THEIR INFORMATION AND SEEK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES IS REQUIRED UNLESS A CHILD IS AT RISK OF SERIOUS HARM.

### MAKING A REFERRAL

**IF YOU THINK THAT A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK OF SERIOUS HARM, CALL THE POLICE (999) OR THE SOCIAL CARE CONTACT CENTRE:**

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE TELEPHONE 0345 045 5203 – (8am to 6pm Mon – Fri)**  
**PETERBOROUGH TELEPHONE 01733 864170 – (9am to 5pm Mon – Fri).**



# Sources of Support

- Young People's IDVA
- Young People's ISVA
- [www.cambsdasv.org.uk](http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk)
- Cambridge Rape Crisis
- SARC – Sexual Assault Referral Centre
- Disrespect Nobody

