

TRUST Why it's important to tell someone you TRUST?

Sexual exploitation is about taking away your power and control. One way to get this back is by trusting your instincts and telling a safe person. This could be a -

- Teacher
- Youth Worker
- Police Officer
- Friend

“Remember you are **not** into trouble”

TALK It can be hard for males to talk about this for lots of reasons but:

- Whoever you are, whatever your background, there's someone to listen and help. Remember you are not the only one this is happening to
- Nothing about this is your fault
- A young male said:
 - “If you bottle it up it will eat away at you”
 - “If you talk about it, it gets easier”
 - “It's not weak to show emotion”

WHERE? It can happen anywhere:

- At parties
- At a friend's house
- On the street
- In your own home
- In hotels
- On-line

You could be offered something in return for sexual activity such as:

- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Somewhere to stay over
- Money
- Someone to hang out with
- A sense of love or belonging

HOW? Will I know if it happens to me?

If someone is...

- Telling lies and keeping secrets (and encouraging you to do the same)
- Being overly friendly when they've not known you for long
- Covering for you if you bunk off school
- Giving you drugs or alcohol
- Buying or loaning you stuff
- Being possessive and always contacting you

Quotes from young males...

“When someone buys you stuff and listens to your problems and tells you it's not your fault - which is what you think - it's very powerful... it swallowed me up. I bought into it”.

“He turned me away from everyone”.

“They said everything I wanted to hear”.

WHO? can this happen to?

Sexual exploitation can happen to ANY boy or young man. It doesn't matter about their:

- Age
- Sexuality
- Religion
- Background

The person exploiting you could be older or the same age, male or female.

We would like to give a big shout out to all the young men who helped with the leaflet and to **Youth Action NI** for making this happen:)

SBNI Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

Believe in children Barnardo's Northern Ireland

SHOUT OUT SPEAK OUT

‘it happens to boys & young men’

Sexual exploitation of boys & young men is abuse and is happening in Northern Ireland...if you've got a feeling something is not right

#shoutoutspeakout



What is happening to me?

Sexual exploitation is abuse that can happen to any young person. It doesn't matter about age, gender, sexuality, where they live or their upbringing.

It happens when someone tricks, persuades or forces a young person into sexual activity by offering something in return; this may be called 'Grooming'. This can be things like money, cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, somewhere to stay or love and attention."

Quotes from young males...

"With the right support, it is possible to move on from sexual exploitation."

"I love that the ones who helped me are still a big part of my life and I'm very optimistic about my future."

HELP is out there, just ask!

PSNI

Immediate danger - 999
Enquiries - 101
Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111

NSPCC CSE Helpline

0800 389 1701

Lifeline

0808 800 800

Barnardo's Safe Choices

028 9065 8511

Social Services Gateway teams:

Belfast HSC Trust
028 9050 7000
Northern HSC Trust
0300 1234 333
South Eastern HSC Trust
0300 1000 300
Southern HSC Trust
0800 783 7745
Western HSC Trust
028 7131 4090



#shoutoutspeakout

For more information and sources of help – www.safertoknow.info