

Protecting Childhood Innocence Against Cybercrimes

(RSLSA in Collaboration with Unicef and State Government)



Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority

S. S. Shinde
Chief Justice



Rajasthan High Court
Patron-in-Chief
Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority




MESSAGE

As a society, we have the responsibility to bring up children in an environment which is conducive to their overall growth. Children who grow in an atmosphere of fear do not grow and develop mentally and emotionally strong. While working to build a 'Heaven of Freedom', 'Where the Mind is Without Fear', our primary focus shall be directed at prevention and control of all types of crime including cyber crime.

Cyber crime has the capacity to stifle the development of the child victim as the offender's accessibility to the victim extends to his home because cyber space would not elude the child therein.

RSLSA's commendable initiative to launch a campaign to 'Protect, Preserve and Nurture Childhood Innocence' signifies undertaking of a serious responsibility to work towards a better tomorrow for our children. I congratulate RSLSA for envisioning a programme of this nature, encompassing the whole state of Rajasthan. It will definitely bring significant change to the affected.


(S.S. Shinde)

Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava



*Judge
Rajasthan High Court
&
Executive Chairman,
Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority
Jaipur*

MESSAGE

Expansion of the internet has resulted in increase of cybercrimethreat which continue to grow and one of the most complicated problem in the cyber world. Children are the latest victims of cybercrime. Violence and harm against children in cyber space and in relation to new technologies include: the production, distribution and use of materials depicting child sexual abuse, online solicitation or grooming.

Online offences against children are covered by a series of legislations under IPC, POSCO and IT Act. While these laws are in place to combat cybercrime against children, awareness amongst key stakeholders including children, teachers and parents is seriously needed to strengthen online child safety with knowledge of the law.

To highlight the importance of this issue and to address the existing problem of cybercrime and fill the gap of knowledge, an initiative of RLSA namely PROTECTING CHILDHOOD INNOCENCE AGAINST CYBERCRIMES is being launched by August, 2022. The purpose of the programme is to increase awareness about the cyber laws and security tips to ensure safe cyberspace for children along with sensitization of concerned stake holders. Activities like awareness programmes in regional language in every school by IT experts, psychiatric counselling, guideline for schools and parents and many other activities shall be carried out.

I wish, this initiative would bring significant increase in awareness and bring all concerned stakeholder at one platform to combat cybercrime against children. I would like to congratulate RLSA for launching such a unique initiative across Rajasthan.

(Manindra Mohan Shrivastava)

A-7, Gandhi Nagar, Jaipur (Raj.) - 302015

Protecting Childhood Innocence Against Cybercrimes

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"Childhood should be carefree, playing in the sun; not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul." - Dave Pelzer, A Child Called "It" (Dave Pelzer,

During the Covid pandemic, measures that had been taken to contain the spread of the pandemic resulted in closure of schools and movement to virtual learning environments. While spending more time on internet for accessing education and other communication purposes, children have become more vulnerable to multiple risks, particularly in the contexts of online sexual abuse, grooming or sexual solicitation, sexting, exposure to pornography, production and circulation of child sexual abuse material, cyber-bullying, online harassment and cyber-victimisation, and many other privacy-related risks. Children also spent more time online for entertainment, social and educational purposes, whilst not necessarily being aware of any associated risks.



Due to lockdown and closure of schools, limited opportunity for socialisation had also affected the psycho-social well-being of children. This led to increased loneliness, mood to conduct disorders, substance abuse or anxiety disorders. This predisposed them to use the internet compulsively, accessing objectionable content or simply be more vulnerable to getting bullied or abused.

According to the UNICEF report (2020), 13 per cent of children and people aged 25 years or less in South Asia accessed the internet at home. The UNICEF (2020) report, however, estimated that during the Covid pandemic around 37.6 million children across 16 states in India

continued education through various remote learning initiatives such as online classrooms and radio programmes.

As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report “Crime in India” 2020, a total of 305 and 1102 cases of cyber crime against children were registered during the year 2019 and 2020 respectively. During the same period, the cyber crimes against women have been registered as 8379 and 10405. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) latest data reveals alarming jump of 400% in cyber-crimes against children in India in 2020 in comparison to the preceding year. Most of the crimes were related to publishing or transmitting materials depicting children in sexually explicit acts.

As per the news story published in the Times of India dated 15th Dec. 2021, the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, a non-profit organisation based in the US, has shared information on 22,000 incidents of child pornography from Rajasthan with state officials. Following this, investigations have begun in approximately 5,000 serious cases.

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), Cases Charge sheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted(CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Charge sheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under Cyber Crimes against Children during 2018-2020



SL	State/UT	2018						2019						2020					
		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	12	2	0	5	4	0	9	5	0	10	6	0	52	5	0	22	6	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	9	0	0	9	0	0	7	2	0	6	3	0	45	6	0	6	10	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	7	7	2	11	8	2	5	5	0	4	5	0	21	17	1	25	25	1
6	Goa	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
7	Gujarat	12	9	0	16	15	0	7	5	0	5	5	0	32	32	0	63	63	0
8	Haryana	1	1	0	1	1	0	5	3	0	13	11	0	33	19	0	24	23	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	0	0	0	0	9	2	0	2	2	0	19	5	0	9	6	0
10	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	2	3	0
11	Karnataka	25	0	0	5	0	0	10	1	0	3	1	0	144	12	0	34	12	0
12	Kerala	25	17	1	24	18	1	30	12	0	28	18	0	126	35	0	121	36	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	15	13	0	15	15	0	20	20	0	37	34	0	39	33	0	55	58	0
14	Maharashtra	57	37	2	67	63	6	70	56	2	82	81	2	207	65	0	101	78	0
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	7	7	0	7	7	0	5	1	0	8	1	0	71	47	0	84	84	0
20	Punjab	5	2	0	9	7	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	10	9	0	9	9	0
21	Rajasthan	2	1	1	2	2	1	9	8	1	13	13	3	24	16	0	22	22	0
22	Sikkim	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	5	3	0	4	3	0	5	2	0	3	3	0	35	5	0	15	5	0
24	Telangana	2	1	0	2	1	0	3	1	0	5	1	0	9	0	0	8	0	0
25	Tripura	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	27	14	0	25	23	0	98	90	1	113	109	1	197	121	0	50	181	0
27	Uttarakhand	2	2	1	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4	0	4	4	0
28	West Bengal	5	2	0	3	2	0	6	4	0	3	7	0	6	1	0	3	1	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	225	119	7	208	174	12	303	221	4	344	304	6	1092	435	1	658	626	1
29	A&N Islands	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	6	3	0	3	3	0	3	2	0	5	5	0	5	2	0	2	2	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
34	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	7	3	0	3	3	0	3	2	0	5	5	0	10	4	0	2	4	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	232	122	7	211	177	12	306	223	4	349	309	6	1102	439	1	660	630	1

Source: Crime in India

Note : '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT during 2018-2019

* Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh during 2018-2019

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), Cases Charge sheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted (CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Charge sheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) for Cyber Pornography/ Hosting or Publishing Obscene Sexual Materials depicting children, under Cyber Crimes against Children during 2018-2020

Sl.	State/UT	2018						2019						2020					
		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	15	0	0	2	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	1	0	0	1	0	0	6	2	0	5	3	0	21	6	0	6	10	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	2	3	0	3	3	0	5	5	0
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	4	0
8	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	5	3	0	16	8	0	11	10	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	1	0	1	1	0	17	5	0	9	6	0
10	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Karnataka	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	9	1	0	122	10	0	31	10	0
12	Kerala	18	8	1	14	8	1	27	9	0	22	14	0	101	26	0	103	27	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0	1	1	0	8	9	0	13	10	0	20	14	0	17	21	0
14	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	0	3	4	0	123	31	0	56	38	0
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	7	7	0	7	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	71	46	0	77	77	0
20	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	8	8	0
21	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	8	8	3	6	4	0	9	9	0
22	Sikkim	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	28	5	0	11	5	0
24	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0
25	Tripura	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	8	4	0	8	7	0	25	23	1	37	37	1	161	99	0	12	147	0
27	Uttarakhand	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4	0	4	4	0
28	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	42	22	1	36	26	1	102	58	2	104	86	4	735	270	0	372	381	0
29	A&N Islands	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	2	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	44	22	1	36	26	1	103	58	2	104	86	4	738	272	0	372	383	0

Source: Crime in India

Note : '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT during 2018-2019

* Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh during 2018-2019



**National Crime Records Bureau
Ministry of Home Affairs**

According to NCRB, 1,304 cases of cybercrimes were recorded in 2017, up from 941 in 2016. Ten cases were registered for “publishing or transmitting of material containing sexually explicit act in electronic form,” in Rajasthan, whereas 12 cases of cyber stalking or bullying of women and children were reported in the same year.

The State also recorded 92 cases of fraud and 29 cases of ATM frauds. While the Rajasthan government had recently announced that Special Operations Group (SOG) will soon have a dedicated team to fight the rising cases of cyber offences, more efforts may require to keep a tab on sharing of pornographic material online. The officials said that cases of OTP frauds have also increased in leaps and bounds in Rajasthan because many gangs have found phishing methods to gain remote accesses in stealth mode of mobile phones. Cyber police stations in Jaipur registered 16 cases where the accused hacked the mobile phones and got accessed to OTPs to drain the victims’ savings accounts.

There are weak points in the understanding of issues concerning this type of crime-perceived risks and children's experiences, among caregivers, educators and society. There is a need to help caregivers, educators and parents to understand what children should know so as to be able to act appropriately and responsibly. The existing awareness building programmes lack common content focus, are fragmented and have limited outreach.

"Abuse manipulates and twists a child's natural sense of trust and love. Her innocent feelings are belittled or mocked and she learns to ignore her feelings. She can't afford to feel the full range of feelings in her body while she's being abused-pain, outrage, hate, vengeance, confusion, arousal. So she short-circuits them and goes numb. For many children, any expression of feelings, even a single tear, is cause for more severe abuse. Again, the only recourse is to shut down. Feelings go underground." -Laura Davis, *Allies in Healing: When the Person You Love Is a Survivor of Child Sexual Abuse*

Types of Cybercrimes Against Children



During the Covid-19 pandemic, while children were engaged on the internet and virtual platform for their educational purposes, they were unaware of its dark side. The parents, teachers, and children had to helplessly rely on these virtual platforms for fulfilling the educational needs of the children but at the same time, children

were being exposed to cybercrime offenders being the easy targets to manipulate and harass. Some of the most common cybercrimes committed against children during the pandemic while they were engaged in educational and entertainment activities are as follow:

- **Sexual Abuse of Children**

This includes child sexual abuse materials such as child pornographic images and videos, online sexual exploitation of children over phone call/video call where children are coerced into performing sexual acts.

- **Pornographic/Sexually Explicit Content for Children**

While using the internet for education and entertainment purposes or going through a social media page, children are being induced to open certain websites which direct them to sexually explicit content and pornographic video/images. This corrupts the mentality of the offender gets views and money.

- **Cyber Trafficking**

Unlike sex trafficking the victim does not come in direct contact with the abuser. In cybersex trafficking, the dealer live-streams, films, or photos of the victim performing sexual/intimate acts from a central



location and sells the material online to sexual predators and buyers. The offenders have been sexually abusing children by making them a part of cybersex trafficking by ways of manipulation and coercion.



• **Cyberbullying**

This includes harsh, mean, abusive, or cruel comments and messages against the child victim (cvc). Children are easy to bully because of their innocent nature & it becomes even much easier for the offenders to bully children on virtual platforms. Cyberbullying causes; avoiding school classes via virtual platforms, suddenly wanting to stop using the internet and computer devices, being secretive about their digital life, distress and emotional instability among children.

• **Child Grooming**

The offender befriends the child victim (cvc) by forming and emotional and fiduciary bond with him/her with the objective of sexual abuse of the child. The children tend to trust easily and hence, it becomes very much easy for the offenders to create such a bond with them. Once the bond is created, the offender start manipulating the child to perform sexual acts. Child grooming via online platforms and social media has been one of the most committed cybercrimes during the pandemic. Child groomers were able to operate and gain children's trust online and it becomes easy for them to do so because of the unawareness of children and parent about the dark side of the internet world.



Above mentioned are some of the infamous cyber - crimes committed against children during the pandemic. The children and parents of such children have been becoming victims of such crimes.

This tells us about the need to educate children as well as parents about the cyber world and how they can protect themselves from cybercrime offenders.

Many abused children cling to the hope that growing up will bring escape and freedom.

But the personality formed in the environment of coercive control is not well adapted to adult life. The survivor is left with fundamental problems in basic trust, autonomy, and initiative. She approaches the task of early adulthood establishing independence and intimacy burdened by major impairments in self-care, in cognition and in memory, in identity, and in the capacity to form stable relationships.

She is still a prisoner of her childhood; attempting to create a new life, she reencounters the trauma.

Judith Lewis Herman, *Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence - From Domestic Abuse to Political Terror*



Legal Protection Against Cyber Crime

A. Information Technology Act, 2000

- **Section 66E: Punishment for violation of privacy**

This section punishes the offender who intentionally or knowingly captures, publishes, or transmits the image of a private area of any person or a person engaged in private activities without the consent of such person.

Punishment: Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years or fine which may extend to two lakh rupees, or with both.

- **Section 67: Punishment for publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form**

This section punishes the cybercrime offender who publishes or transmits in the electronic form, any material which;

1. Is lascivious (capable of arousing sexual desire), or
2. It tends to deprave and corrupt the persons who are likely to read, see or hear the matter contained in it.

Punishment : First conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years and fine which may extend to 5 lakh rupees.

Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 5 years and fine which may extend to 10 lakh rupees.

- **Section 67A: Punishment for publishing or transmitting of material containing the sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form**

This section punishes the offender who publishes/ causes to publish or transmits/causes to transmit in electronic form any material which contains sexually explicit act or conduct.

Punishment : First conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to



5 years and fine which may extend to 10 lakh rupees.

Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 7 years and fine which may extend to 10 lakh rupees.

- **Section 67B :** Punishment for publishing or transmitting of material depicting children in the sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form.

This section punishes the offender who publishes/causes to publish, or transmits/causes to transmit, or creates text or digital images, collects, seeks, browses, downloads, advertise, promotes, exchanges, or distributes any material, in electronic form which depicts children engaged in a sexually explicit act or conduct. It also punishes the offender who cultivates, entices, or induces children to online relationships with one or more children for a sexually explicit act, or who facilitates online abusing of children, or who records in any electronic form abuse or sexually explicit act with children.

Punishment : First conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 5 years and fine which may extend to 10 lakh rupees.

Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 7 years and fine which may extend to 10 lakh rupees.

B. Indian Penal Code, 1860

- Section 354A: Sexual harassment and punishment for sexual harassment



This section punishes the offender who commits any of the following acts-

1. Physical contact and advances involving unwelcome and explicit sexual overtures;
2. A demand or request of sexual favors; or
3. Showing pornography against the will of the woman; or
4. Making sexually colored remarks.

Any of the above-mentioned acts if committed with the use of the

internet, computer device, or computer network, amounts to cybercrime and is punishable under this section.

Punishment : Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years, or fine, or with both.



- **Section 354C: Voyeurism**

This section punishes the offender who watches or captures the image of a woman engaging in a private act when she believes and expects not to be watched or observed by the perpetrator or any other person.

Punishment : First conviction- Imprisonment which shall not be less than one year, but which may extend to 3 years and fine.

Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which shall not be less than 3 years, but which may extend to 7 years and fine.

- **Section 354D: Stalking**

This section punishes the offender who-

1. Follows a woman and contacts/attempts to contact such woman with the intention to establish a personal interaction despite clear indication of disinterest by such woman; or
2. Monitors the use by a woman of the internet, email, of any other form of electronic communication.

Punishment : First conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years and fine.

Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 5 years and fine.

- **Section 503: Criminal intimidation**

This section punishes the offender who threatens another with any



injury to his person, reputation, or property with the intent to cause alarm to that person or to cause that person to do any act which he/she is not legally bound to do or to omit to do any act which that person is legally entitled to do.

Punishment under Section 506: Imprisonment which may extend to 2 years, or with fine, or with both. **Punishment for criminal intimidation by imputing unchastity to a woman:** Imprisonment which may extend to 7 years, or with fine, or with both.

- **Section 509: Word, gesture, or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman**

This section punishes the offender who, intending to insult the modesty of a woman, utters any words, makes any sounds or gesture, or exhibits any object, or intrudes upon the privacy of such woman.

Punishment : Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years and fine.

C. The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986

- **Section 4 :** Prohibition of publication or sending by post of books, pamphlets, etc., containing indecent representation of women.

This section prohibits the production, sale, letting to hire, distribute, or circulation by post any book, pamphlet, paper, slide, film, writing, drawing, painting, photograph, representation, or figure which contains indecent representation of women in any form.

Punishment under Section 5 : First conviction : Imprisonment which may extend to 3 years and fine which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees, but which may extend to one lakh rupees.

Second/subsequent conviction: Imprisonment which shall not be less than 2 years, but which may extend to 7 years and fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees, but which may extend to five lakh rupees.

D. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012

- **Section 11: Sexual harassment of child & punishment therefore**
Under this section, the sexual harassment of children has been

defined. Sexual harassment of a child is said to be committed when the offender-

1. Utters any words, makes any sounds or gesture or exhibits any object or part of the body with the intention harass such child; or
2. Makes a child exhibit his body or any part of his body so as it is seen by such offender or any other person; or
3. Shows any object to a child in any form or media for pornographic purposes; or
4. Repeatedly or constantly follows/watches/contacts a child either directly or through electronic, digital, or any other means; or
5. Threatens to use, in any form of media, a real or fabricated depiction through electronic, film or digital or any other mode of any part of the body of the child or the involvement of the child in a sexual act; or
6. Entices a child for pornographic purposes or gives gratification.

Punishment for sexual harassment of a child under Section 12: Imprisonment which may extend to three years and fine.

- **Section 13 :** Using child for pornographic purposes and punishment therefore

Under this section, the offender who uses a child for sexual gratification, in any form of media (including Advertisement or Programme telecast by TV channels or internet or any other electronic/printed form), shall be guilty of the offense of using the child for pornographic purposes. The use of a child for sexual gratification includes-

1. Representation of sexual organs of a child;
2. Using a child engaged in real or simulated sexual acts (with/without penetration);
3. The indecent or obscene representation of a child.

Punishment under Section 14 : First conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 5 years and fine Second/subsequent conviction- Imprisonment which may extend to 7 years and fine.

RSLSA AT THE HELM OF CHILD RIGHTS PROTECTION

(Protect, Preserve and Nurture Childhood Innocence against Cybercrime)

One only needs to hold a newborn to understand trust. Helpless, equipped only with a voice to cry out, our children enter our lives and give themselves to us. They trust that we will take care of them, feed them, hold them, and love them.

We aren't supposed to drop our babies, starve them, abandon them to their own cries, or withhold our feelings of love for them. And by the same token, we aren't supposed to frighten our children with the travesties of the adult world. Soon enough they will become aware that life presents dangers as well as safety.

The increased online dependency of people around the nation is also creating new opportunities for cyber criminals to harm innocent children. Cyber criminals are developing and boosting their attacks on children at an alarming pace, exploiting the fear and uncertainty caused by the unstable social and economic situation created by COVID – 19. There is need to generate awareness about cyber crime & cyber security amongst vulnerable sections especially innocent children.

Prevention is central to controlling crime. The most effective way to deal with child sexual abuse and exploitation is by strengthening pre-incident preparedness instead of a post incident response. RSLSA believes that to sufficiently protect children we would require more than the existing investment, which should be focussed mostly on cohesion between various departments to control cybercrime against children. RSLSA has been organizing various awareness programmes across Rajasthan for strengthening concerned stakeholders against cybercrimes. RSLSA shall attempt at adopting a coordinated approach for equipping children, caregivers, teachers and the public with skills for safeguarding against online threats and being responsible digital citizens.

In collaboration with UNICEF and the State Government, RLSA is going to launch a campaign to **PROTECT, PRESERVE and NURTURE CHILDHOOD INNOCENCE against CYBERCRIME**

A. Targeted Beneficiaries

- i. Primary Beneficiaries: Children studying in school from class VI to class XII
- ii. Secondary Beneficiaries: parents/guardians and teachers of such children

B. Targeted Area

- i. Across the State
- a. All Schools (Government & Private)
- b. All education institutions (Coaching Institutes, Libraries, training centres etc.)

C. Stake Holders

- i. Department of Education
- ii. Department of Home
- iii. Department of Information and Technology
- iv. Department of Women and Child Development
- v. Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
- vi. Department of Police
- vii. Non Govt. Organisation working in the field of Cyber Safety/ Security
- viii. Volunteers (Who are ready and willing to provide their services under the campaign)

D. Constitution of Committees :-

There is a need for cohesion between forums for internet governance policy and child protection on the existing discourse on children's digital rights.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has a

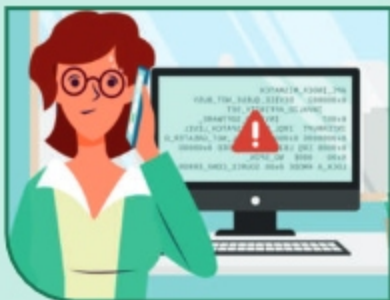
crucial role in facilitating this discourse. This will help in addressing the gaps in legislative and policy measures on several cyber safety issues.

The State level committee shall consist of:-

- i. Member Secretary, RSLSA, Jaipur
- ii. Director, RSLSA, Jaipur
- iii. Joint Secretary, RSLSA (Master trainer, cybercrimes)
- iv. Deputy Secretary-I & II, RSLSA
- v. Director and above level officers nominated by the Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary of Education Department
- vi. Officers nominated by the Home Department
- vii. Representative of the Department of Information and Technology
- viii. Representative of Department of Women and Child Development
- ix. Representative of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
- x. Additional Director General of Police nominated by DGP and trained Police officers for research in cyber crimes
- xi. Representatives of UNICEF
- xii. Secretary, DLSA, Jaipur Metro - First, Second & Jaipur District
- xiii. Assistant Account Officers – I, RSLSA

Role of the Committee

Policy implementation and organisation of state, district and taluka level programmes, cooperation of and coordination with different departments of government engaged in prevention and control of cyber crimes against children Lay down a detailed plan, roadmap and strategy for the organisation of awareness programmes for the targeted beneficiaries.



District Level Committee

The District level committee shall consist of:-

- i. Secretary, DLSA
- ii. Officer nominated by the District Collector
- iii. District Education Officer
- iv. Deputy Superintendent level police officers nominated by the Superintendent of Police

v. System Officer, District Court

The Taluka level committee shall consist of:-

- i. Chairman, Taluka Legal Services Committee
- ii. Sub Divisional Officer or Tehsildar
- iii. Officer nominated by the District Education Officer
- iv. Police Circle Officer
- v. Block Development Officer

The District level and Taluka level committee ensure the implementation of the programme as directed by the State level committee.

E. Activities

I. Special Awareness Drives

The chairmen, DLSAs shall ensure the effective implementation of guidelines of RLSA by organizing various legal awareness camps, workshops, nukkad-natak, skits, story-telling programmes, essay writing, story/poem writing, poster/painting competitions at the School / Taluka/District level. These programmes will be organized in the co-ordination with concerned various government departments, NGOs, school authorities, district authorities, technical & cyber experts. Chairman, DLSA shall also ensure that these



awareness campaigns should reach the farthest. Under the campaign following activities shall be carried out:-

1. **Legal Empowerment :-** Through dissemination of information regarding relevant laws.
2. **Victim Compensation Scheme :-** Awareness as to and implementation of victim compensation scheme to child victim of people (Special focus on persons of scheduled caste and scheduled tribes)
3. Re-admission to school of child victims of cyber crime
4. Awareness and implementation of **witness protection scheme** for the child victims of cybercrimes scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.
5. **Legal Literacy camp :** - All District Legal Services Authorities & Taluka Legal Services Committee organize legal literacy camps under the guidance of RLSA at Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad. In these legal literacy camps legal awareness shall be created among common people regarding safe use of cyber space and cyber crimes.
6. Optimum use of **Mobile vans** for the campaign is to be ensured. Frequent programme to be organise in areas where cybercrimes are rampant.
7. **SHARE AWARE RLSA** is steadfast in its resolve to help parents and teachers keep children safe online. RLSA through DLSA's, TLSC's and in-coordination with department of education and Gram Panchayat ensure that SHARE AWARE programme which is part of the campaign reaches the ultimate primary beneficiaries.

II. Awareness camps to promote cyber security in-coordination with Department of Education / schools

Cyber threats are of various nature and they are on the rise. Some of the cyber threats that affect the education sector include; unsecured wireless connections, Wireless routers, identity theft etc. A solution is

having staff members trained on using (and creating) basic cyber-security practices. Cyber-security awareness programs shall be undertaken in schools with school authorities in coordination with parents to raise awareness.

III. Workshops :

The criminal victimization of children impacts not only the children, but also their families, community and society at large. With a purpose of sensitizing various segments of the society as to vulnerability of the children to cyber crimes, the RSLSA will organize workshops in co-ordination with Judicial Officers,



Departments of Education, Information and Broadcasting, Women and Child Development, Social Justice and Empowerment, Police, representatives of UNICEF, NGOs, Advocates, Special Public Prosecutors, Social Workers, Victims, and PLVs. RSLSA will strive hard to ensure protection to the victims and witnesses so that they can depose before a court of law without any fear.

IV. Psychiatric Counselling

Psycho-social support is more essential to ensure rehabilitation of child victims of cyber offence, therefore, a mechanism of personal or telephonic counselling in collaboration with Non Govt. Organisation or counsellors shall be devised so that counselling support shall be provided to needy victims.

V. Awareness about Cyber Complaint Registration Portal

A few people are aware about the Cyber Complaint Registration Portal, one can register a complaint on the Cyber Crime Portal. Awareness about the portal needs to be generated. Therefore, DLSAs, TLSCs shall disseminate information about this portal through awareness programmes and develop related awareness material.

VI. Free legal aid to child victim of cyber crimes

As per section 12 District Legal Services Authority Act, children and women are eligible to get free legal aid for filing and prosecution of criminal cases. In order to create awareness regarding the rising cyber-crime against children, RLSA targeting children from classes 6 to 12. Free Legal Aid shall be provided through RHCLSC/DLSAs/TLSCs to child victim of cyber-crime cases. Cases are prosecuted by pro-bono senior advocates as per circumstances of the case. Monitoring and Mentoring Committee reviews the progress and prosecution of cases in which free legal aid has been provided.

VII. Publication and distribution of Publicity Materials:

To strengthen the mechanism to deal with cyber crimes including crimes against women and children in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, the Government has taken measures in consultation with various stakeholders. The Government has established Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre under Ministry of Home Affairs, to provide for a framework and ecosystem for Law Enforcement Agencies to deal with the cyber crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. Under the Nirbhaya Fund, the Government implements a project namely, 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)', through which steps for spreading awareness about cyber crimes, issuance of alerts/ advisories, capacity building/ training of law enforcement personnel/ prosecutors/ judicial officers, improving cyber forensic facilities etc. are undertaken. A National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (www.cybercrime.gov.in) has been launched as a part of the project, to enable public to report incidents of cyber crimes, with a special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. A toll free number 1930 (earlier 155260) has been operationalized for providing assistance in lodging online cyber complaints. Incidents reported on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal are routed automatically to the respective States based on information furnished by the applicant in the incident report for further handling. In order to create awareness among the down trodden, the RLSA will publish brochures, posters and other publicity material for distribution among child victims of cyber crimes.

Cyber Crime Complaint Registration

A. Online cyber crime complaint (National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal)

During the time of the pandemic, the most feasible and recommended method to register a cybercrime complaint is the online method via National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal.



Through this method, the victim can register the complaint of the crime committed against him/her at the ease of sitting at home. The victim does not require to visit any police station or cyber crime cell for the formalities or submitting the evidence. The relevant evidence can also be uploaded on the Cybercrime Portal at the time of registering the complaint. Moreover, the victim will have the option of tracking the status of the complaint with the help of registered mobile number. Cyber Crime offenses against women and children such as Child Pornography, Child Sexual Abuse Material containing sexually explicit images/videos of children, sexually explicit content such as rape/gang rape, etc. can be registered by the victim/complainant on the Cyber Crime Portal. The victim doesn't need to register the complaint herself, any person on behalf of the victim can also register the complaint on Cyber Crime Portal. Also, the identity of victim/complainant will not be revealed under this option. To track the status of the complaint in the future, the victim/complainant shall choose the option of "Report and Track" under which he/she will have to register with the mobile number and email ID. Under this option, the victim/complainant will receive a timely update of all the investigations and actions taken by the police officer concerning the complaint registered. While registering the complaint on the portal,

1. The child victim of cyber-crime (CVC)/parent/guardian should write a complaint narrating the whole incident – Brief history is to be mentioned.

2. CVC should register the complaint along with printout of screen shot of the online portal, URL and other required documents.
3. Victim will get the FIR number for registered complaint which he/she should keep safe for future reference.
4. Victim should record all the details about the fraud or crime by taking screen shot of the website screen/page and save it in a USB drive or mail it to their email ID.



5. Required Documents

- (a) Written Complaint
- (b) Complainant's ID proof
- (c) Complainant's Residence proof
- (d) Copy of emails (forwarded mails should be avoided)
- (e) Printout of screenshot showing the alleged transaction/details of crime.
- (f) Printout showing URL
- (g) Copy of stolen data
- (h) Original bank statement to show the amount credited in the complainant's account.
- (i) SMS of the suspected transaction.
- (j) A soft copy of the above online details on a CD or on a USB drive.
- (k) Self declaration
- (l) Aadhaar Card

B. Offline cyber crime complaint in Cyber Crime Cell

Another option that is available to the victim for the registration of the Cyber Crime complaint is the offline method i.e., the victim can make a written complaint to the nearest Cyber Crime cell and such written complaint shall be addressed to the head of the respective cyber crime cell. The complaint application shall be accompanied by the

name, contact details, mailing address, and other relevant documents/evidence of the victim/complainant.

C. FIR (Local Police Station)

In case, the victim/complainant does not have access to any of the Cyber Crime Cells in India or internet services of devices, he/she can file an FIR at a local police station with all the relevant information and evidence.

D. Helpline

A victim of cyber crime can dial 1930 (earlier 155260) and register his/her complaint at cybercrime.gov.in

E. Safeguards against further damage

Here are some actions victim of cyber crime should take to minimise the risk:

1. Disconnect and Detach

In case of an ongoing attack on your computer or IT infrastructure, your first step should be to disconnect the device from the Internet as this is the most effective way to prevent further loss of data.

In case of cyber bullying or cyber stalking, one should simply step away from the screen before proceeding to initiate legal action.

In the event of a successful phishing attack where you are conned into revealing private and confidential information, you should immediately initiate steps like:

- Freeze your bank accounts and credit cards
- Alter your Internet and mobile banking password
- Change your Credit/Debit Card PIN number.
- Change your Net banking password.
- Change your password for your entire login.

2. Take Legal Action

Do not ignore and delay the process, initiate legal action even as you are trying to minimise the negative consequences of the cyber crime. Contact your local Cyber Crime Investigation Cell to file a written complaint against the cyber criminals. Provide detailed information about:

- Nature of the crime
- Extent of damage
- Relevant documents, data, and other information relevant to the compliant

Never make the mistake of presuming that cyber criminals cannot be caught. Provisions under the Information Technology Act and the Indian Penal Code define cyber crime as a punishable offence. Complaint against a crime committed in Delhi can be filed even in Mumbai. Hence, don't delay filing the complaint because the cyber crime occurred when you were out of town.

3. Inform Contacts

Theft of your virtual identity can be misused by the cyber criminals to steal information and data from all your online contacts. Use social media to spread word about the incident. This simple step will minimise risk of your identity being misused to commit further crimes, and will ensure better awareness about cyber crime amongst your friends and relatives.

4. Take Preventive Steps for the Future

Install licensed antivirus software, use a strong password with a combination alpha numeric characters and never disclose your banking details to anyone.

While cyber thefts continue to remain a challenge and no one is immune to it, however the right action at the right time will definitely help reduce the damage.



Response/Responsibility of a Parent

If you are a parent of a young teen, and concerned about his/her wellbeing, here are some ways to protect your child from cybercrime :

1. Recognize the fact that cybercrime exists and your child is the most vulnerable

Shake away that over confidence that nothing is going to happen to your child. Even the most astute cyber specialists have fallen into the honey trap. Whatever is shared online can make its way to data hackers, and malware specialists. There is no such thing as a safe zone, when it comes to online interaction. Check what kind of private information is your child sharing on any online platform, whether social media, ecommerce, or a p2p site.



2. Report cybercrime however big or small

If your child has faced an issue of cyber bullying, for example, it is better to immediately approach the authorities. Cyber bullies prey on the fears and insecurities of people to make sure that their crime is not reported. You can help nab some of the biggest cybercriminals with your alertness and ingenuity.

3. Educate your child to avoid visiting and sharing on sites that have a dubious record

The highlight of the internet is that it offers anonymity. However, that can be a big disadvantage because you don't know who is watching you and what they plan to do. Often students fall into the trap of freebies, easy and free access to files and media, torrent sharing, and other nefarious activities. To save up a little money or simply to have fun, you may end up in a tangle of crime. Avoid file sharing p2p sites that escape the radar of cyber officials. Data hackers can access not just your files in your system, but also the files of people who are connected with you.

4. Educate your ward about cybercrime

While most students are aware of cybercrime, they may not understand its magnitude. As a parent, it is important that you talk to your child as frequently as possible about the nature of cybercrime. Alert them about situations where they can become vulnerable to crime.

5. Keep the conversation easy and flowing

Without invading on your child's privacy, look out for signs that tell you what your child has been doing online. Also, keep the conversation between your child and you easy and flowing. It is important for your child to feel secure enough to confide in you, lest a problem takes place.



6. Vigil By Parents

- Parents should use parental control filters in the end-user machines through message of email, invoices, SMS, website, etc.
- Have an open conversation with your kids about safe browsing and computer use.
- Do not replace physical parental supervision of computer use at home with any safe search engine or any other tool. No search filtering software or tool is perfect.
- Educate yourself also on social media safety and have open discussions with teens about present dangers and long term effects of inappropriate conduct, including posting pictures/videos online.
- Keep computer in an open area. Make a rule that doors are always left open when kids are online.
- Advise your children to immediately exit any site that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried.



- Parent should keep a track of persons with whom their children are talking to and which sites they are browsing. This is NOT invading their privacy at all, rather it is parenting in the digital space.
- If you have found inappropriate content about your child please contact the service provider concerned and/or Police as soon as possible.
- Majority of children would not like to tell their parents if they are bullied or harassed online for fear that they will lose internet access. Make sure that your children understand that they will not get in trouble if they tell you about a problem.
- Children under 13 ARE NOT ALLOWED on Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat, iTunes and many more. Don't support your child to break the rules as they are not be the only one without these accounts.
- Explain it to your child that all Social Networking Profiles MUST BE SET TO PRIVATE. Use all the security settings available to make the site as safe as possible.
- Do not let young children to browse the 'Google' aimlessly with no supervision. Children need to be taught about search engines and how they work.
- Don't allow your child to use Apps like Snap Chat that immediately delete the posts. Apps prevent you from monitoring the child's online experience and you may never know what he/she is being subjected to.
- If you notice a sudden change in your child's behaviour, to check, among other things, his online activity on Facebook, WhatsApp etc.

★★★★★★

Healing Touch-Psychiatric Counselling

Any type of bullying can have physical and psychological effects on a child. Anxiety, fear, depression, low self-esteem, behavioural issues, and academic struggles are just of the few challenges kids may experience if they are targets. Cyberbullying, however, may be particularly damaging.



There are several possible reasons for this. For example, unlike traditional bullying-which is often limited to school and known bullies-cyberbullying can occur at any time, day or night, and be perpetrated by anonymous sources. This makes it more relentless and, often, more cruel.

Even the type of victimization may impact the severity of its consequences. For instance, one study found that online pictures and posts were more damaging than harassment received through text messaging or phone calls.

While cyberbullying can happen in a public digital space, like on social media post, it can also take the form of private messages-leaving some kids managing this secret, and its effect on them, alone.

Emotional Effects of Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is a significant stressor in a child's life.

In addition to feeling distressed, he also may feel embarrassed, hurt, and even fear for their safety. They may even blame themselves for the cyberbullying.

Humiliation

Because cyberbullying occurs in cyberspace, online bullying feels permanent. Kids know that once something is out there, it will always be out there. They can feel exposed, embarrassed, and overwhelmed.

When cyberbullying occurs, the nasty posts, messages, or texts can

be shared with multitudes of people. The sheer volume of people that know about the bullying can lead to intense feelings of humiliation.

Isolation

Cyberbullying sometimes causes kids to be excluded and ostracized at school. Consequently, they often feel alone and isolated. This experience can be particularly painful because friends are crucial at this age. When kids don't have friends, this can lead to more bullying.

When cyberbullying occurs, parents sometimes recommend shutting off the computer or turning off the cell phone. But for many kids, using these devices is considered the most important way they communicate with others. Turning them off often means cutting off their connection with their world, which can make them feel more secluded.

Anger

Many victims of cyberbullying will get angry about what is happening to them. In fact, research indicates that anger is the most common response to Cyberbullying (followed by being upset and worried)

Some kids that are victimized may even plot revenge and engage in retaliation. Aside from the trouble they could get into, this approach is dangerous because it can keep them locked in the bully-victim cycle.

While it's always better to forgive a bully than it is to get even, this is often easier said than done. If a child seems intensely angry over cyberbullying, it is helpful for them to speak with a counselor or therapist who can teach them to channel that anger in productive ways.

Powerlessness

Victims of cyberbullying often find it difficult to feel safe. They may feel vulnerable and powerless. Typically, these feelings surface because the online bullying can invade their home through a computer or cell phone at any time of day. They no longer have a place where they can escape. To a victim, it can feel like cyberbullying is everywhere.

Additionally, because the bullies can remain anonymous, this realization may escalate feelings of fear.

Mental Effects of Cyberbullying

When cyberbullying is ongoing, victims may relate to the world around them differently than others. For many, life can feel hopeless and meaningless.

They may lose interest in things they once enjoyed and spend less time interacting with family and friends. And, in some cases, depression and thoughts of suicide can set in.

Depression and Anxiety

Victims of cyberbullying may succumb to anxiety, depression, and other stress-related conditions. The added stress of coping with cyberbullying on a regular basis can steal their feelings of happiness and contentment. It also can increase feelings of worry and isolation.

Cyberbullying also can erode self-confidence and feelings of self-worth, which can contribute to depression and anxiety.

Research has consistently supported the notion that increasing levels of cyberbullying lead to higher levels of depression. In fact, one study found that 93% of those victimized by cyberbullying reported feelings of sadness, powerlessness, and hopelessness.

Low Self-Esteem

Cyberbullying often zeros in on what already makes victims feel most vulnerable. For example, maybe a child who feels insecure about a birthmark ends up being bullied about just that.

Even when that's not the case, though, online bullying can have an impact on self-esteem. Targets of bullying may begin to feel intense dissatisfaction with who they are. As a result, they can begin to doubt their worth and value.

Researchers speculate that because young people have an intense psychological need to be part of and accepted by a peer group, cyberbullying may cause psychological maladjustment, reduced well-being, and ultimately low self-esteem.

Academic Issues

Kids being victimized by cyberbullying may lose interest in school. As

a result, they often have much higher rates of absenteeism than non-bullied kids. They may skip school to avoid facing the kids cyberbullying them or because they are embarrassed and humiliated by the messages that were shared online.

Their grades may also suffer because they find it difficult to concentrate or study. And in some cases, kids may either drop out of school or lose interest in continuing their education after high school.

Suicidal Thoughts and Self-Harm

Sometimes targets of cyberbullying respond to their intense feelings by harming themselves in some way. For instance, some might engage in self-harm such as cutting or burning themselves. In fact, research has consistently linked bullying and self-harm.

Cyberbullying also increases the risk of suicide. Kids that are constantly tormented by peers through text messages, instant messaging, social media, or apps often begin to feel hopeless and that the only way to relieve the pain is ending their life.

As a result, they may fantasize about dying in order to escape.

Behavioural Effects of Cyberbullying

Kids who are cyberbullied may display the same behavioral changes as those who are bullied in more traditional ways. For example, they exhibit a loss of interest in activities and engage in secretive behavior.

In extreme cases, or when cyberbullying is prolonged, kids sometimes even exhibit more significant behavioral changes. These can include:

Using drugs or alcohol: Kids who are harassed online are more likely to engage in substance abuse. In fact, one study found that targets of cyberbullying were 2.5 times more likely to use marijuana or engage in binge drinking than their peers.

Skipping school: Sometimes when kids are cyberbullied, the thought of going to school is just more than they can handle. Consequently, it's not uncommon for them to skip school or even behave in such a way that results in suspension. In one survey, those who were cyberbullied reported two or more suspensions or detentions in the prior year.

Physical Effects of Cyberbullying

Being targeted by cyberbullies can be crushing, especially if a lot of kids are participating in it.

The feelings of overwhelm and stress can manifest physically, which issues such as:

Gastrointestinal issues: The stress of bullying also can cause or worsen conditions like upset stomach, abdominal pain, and stomach ulcers. Kids may also struggle with frequent nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Disordered eating: Kids who are cyberbullied may experience changes in eating habits like skipping meals or binge eating. Because their lives feel out of control, they look to their eating patterns as something they can control. These efforts may morph into a full-blown eating disorder, especially if the bullying has caused a distorted body image.

Sleep disturbances: Experiencing cyberbullying can impact a person's sleep patterns. They may suffer from sleep issues like insomnia, sleeping more than usual, or nightmares.

If a child become a victim of cybercrime, it's crucial to take security precautions, talk to her loved ones about the experiences, and consider seeking the help of mental health professionals.

"Many abused children cling to the hope that growing up will bring escape and freedom.

But the personality formed in the environment of coercive control is not well adapted to adult life. The survivor is left with fundamental problems in basic trust, autonomy, and initiative. She approaches the task of early adulthood establishing independence and intimacy burdened by major impairments in self-care, in cognition and in memory, in identity, and in the capacity to form stable relationships.

She is still a prisoner of her childhood; attempting to create a new life, she reenounters the trauma."

Judith Lewis Herman, *Trauma and Recovery : The Aftermath of Violence - From Domestic Abuse to Political Terror.*

Online Support Groups

Many online support groups exist to help child victims of cybercrime. They mainly work in the areas:

1. To counsel victims of cyber crime, and to work for the prevention of crime in the cyber space
2. To protect potential victims from cyber crimes.
3. To disseminate the knowledge of Cyber Crime, Laws and to undertake preventive measures.
4. To publish journals, newsletters, books, pamphlets, booklets and other periodicals and also develop audio-visual materials on cyber crime and distribute the same to increase and improve the awareness of cyber crime in India.
5. To hold conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops, & other scientific meetings & dissemination of information on cyber crime and for spreading awareness about cyber crime and preventive measures.
6. To align, associate, network with law firms / colleges / universities / corporations/academics/social workers, who work with a social concern for cyber victims.
7. To offer consultation and other expert services for prevention of cyber crime in India and other countries.
8. To liaise, coordinate, cooperate, network & develop linkages and other suitable mechanisms and protection of cyber victims and spread awareness about cyber crime preventive measures in India and other countries.
9. To start suitable & appropriate measures to control and prevent cyber victimization in India and other countries.

"Childhood should be carefree, playing in the sun; not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul." - Dave Pelzer, A Child Called "It" (Dave Pelzer, #1)

"Abuse manipulates and twists a child's natural sense of trust and love. Her innocent feelings are belittled or mocked and she learns to ignore her feelings. She can't afford to feel the full range of feelings in her body while she's being abused-pain, outrage, hate, vengeance, confusion, arousal. So she short-circuits them and goes numb. For many children, any expression of feelings, even a single tear, is cause for more severe abuse. Again, the only recourse is to shut down. Feelings go underground." -Laura Davis, Allies in Healing: When the Person You Love Is a Survivor of Child Sexual Abuse



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