

# THINK SHEET

## CHILD EXPLOITATION WITHIN THE BME & FAITH COMMUNITIES

Important to gain information on ethnicity, religious beliefs, if the young person or family actively practice any religious beliefs and exactly which beliefs these are. It is very important not to assume.

The CSE Assessment completed by professionals could include some more information about ethnicity, religion, language barriers, good engagement with services should also include faith and voluntary services.

Access to communities should be via a broad range of stakeholders, rather than solely through male religious leaders or self-appointed leaders.

Children and young people can be victims of abuse regardless of their background as evidence shows that abusers target those who are closest to them and most easily accessible.

Victims of sexual exploitation come from all ethnic backgrounds, regardless of how conservative or 'protected' children may appear

Some parents of BME children may appear to not engage with services due to a language barrier, fear of professionals or a lack of understanding about accessing support from outside of their community.

Cultural norms, religious beliefs and language barriers can all stop young people coming forward to disclose abuse.

Cultural and religious views and practices, particularly those that prize a female's virginity or a male's heterosexuality may prevent victims coming forward.

The idea around 'honour' may mean that young people don't come forward when they have been abused as this could affect their safety, whole future and security.

Population information statistics taken from the 2011 census stated that 14.3% of the population of Northamptonshire classified their ethnicity as 'Non White British'.

2016 CSE Report stated that 5.5% of victims of CSE in 2015/2016 in Northamptonshire came from BME communities. This might be higher as 15.6% of the victim's ethnicity was unknown.

Juju (black magic) can be used to stop young people leaving their abusers as they believe that juju is very powerful and something could happen to them or their family if they go against their abusers.