

THINK SHEET

CHILD EXPLOITATION - BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

Fear of being labelled gay, particularly in communities where there is homophobia, can prevent disclosures.

Research has found that services and support for young men who fit into the dual role as perpetrator/victim focuses on their offending rather than their victimisation.

Boys are less likely to be identified as victims of sexual exploitation, although when they are, they have often already been abused, or are at higher risk than girls who may be identified earlier in the grooming process.

There is still the perception of boys having sex with older women should be 'grateful'.

As well as sexual violence the most common form of sexual exploitation and violence was in the form of pressure applied to males to take part in group-based sexual activities.

Sexual double standard where young men are praised for having sex where as young women are judged for doing the same. This could cause anxiety to young men who are not sexually active.

Boys believing that CSE issues only related to girls due to the information given being focused on girls being victims and men being perpetrators.

There is too little recognition of that fact that a male can be both a victim and a perpetrator.

Often young men in a situation where they have been pressured into sexual activity are treated as perpetrators and not victims, and professionals assume that they will re-offend in a sexually harmful manner.

Research found that while most incidents of sexual exploitation and violence were perpetrated by young men in gangs against gang-associated young women, males are also subjected to sexual exploitation, including 'incidents of rape, forced stripping and non-consensual recording of sexual activity, used both as means of initiation into a gang and as a means of humiliating a rival gang member'.