

13th Conference on Child Sexual Abuse Online – Live Stream

September 19, 2023 | 9.20 – 12.30 (CET)

Language: English and Croatian. Moderation and the welcome addresses (starting at 9.00) in **Slovenian.**

Platform: Youtube

Live from: Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

Event moderator: Urša Valentič

Organizers:

Spletno oko, Safer internet centre
Slovenia, UL-FSS

Criminal Police Directorate of the
General Police Directorate

Association of Informatics and
Telecommunications at the
Chamber of Commerce and
Industry of Slovenia

TIMELINE

9.00 – 9.20 CONFERENCE OPENING - WELCOME ADDRESSES (in Slovenian language)

9.20 – 10.20

English language presentation:

ONLINE HARMS, GROOMING, AND EFFECTS OF PORNOGRAPHY ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Dr Elena Martellozzo, Associate Professor in Criminology, Centre for Child Abuse and Trauma Studies, Middlesex University, London, United Kingdom

10.20 – 10.40 PAUSE

10.40 – 11.30

English language presentation:

TRANSACTIONAL SEXTING AND SELF-GENERATED CONTENT

Emilie Coomans, Policy Advisor at Child Focus, the Belgian Foundation for missing and sexually exploited children, Belgium

11.30 – 12.30

Croatian language presentation:

ONLINE SEKSUALNA VIKTIMIZACIJA DJECE I ZDRAVSTVENA KRIZA (COVID 19): ŠTO SMO NAUČILI (Online sexual victimization and the COVID health crisis: Lessons learned)

Doc.dr.sc. Bruna Profaca, Clinical psychologist, Zagreb Child and Youth Protection Center, Croatia

12.30 CONCLUSION OF THE LIVE STREAM

PRESENTATIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESENTATION:

ONLINE HARMS, GROOMING, AND EFFECTS OF PORNOGRAPHY ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Speaker: *Dr Elena Martellozzo*, Associate Professor in Criminology, Centre for Child Abuse and Trauma Studies, Middlesex University, London, United Kingdom

Dr Elena Martellozzo is an Associate Professor in Criminology and Associate Director at the Centre for Child Abuse and Trauma Studies (CATS) at Middlesex University. Elena has been working in the area of cyber violence for 15 years and is now recognised as a world leading expert in the area, focusing primarily on online harms, online safety and is involved in policy debates at the intersection of technology and human behaviour. One of Elena's key focuses is to develop innovative research and sharing her findings in international fora. She continually attracts research funding in highly sensitive areas with government departments including the police, the Internet Watch Foundation, the NSPCC, the Children Commissioner for England, the Home Office. She has acted as an advisor on child online protection and online violence against women and girls to governments and practitioners in Italy (since 2004) and Bahrain (2016) to support the development of national child internet safety policy frameworks. Elena is a lead researcher in the area and has led a number of high impact project, nationally and internationally. As a published peer-reviewed author, and well established national and international Criminologist, she is regularly invited as a speaker by the BBC, New York Post, Sunday Times, The Guardian, Channel 4, Radio 4, ITV, The Times Radio.

Presentation summary

This lecture will address the pressing issue of online harms, with a particular focus on grooming and the effects of pornography on children and young people. Through our comprehensive study, we have examined the impact of pornography consumption on the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of individuals in this vulnerable age group.

Our research sheds light on the alarming consequences of online grooming, where perpetrators exploit digital platforms to manipulate and exploit young individuals. We will discuss the tactics employed by groomers, the warning signs, and strategies for prevention and intervention.

Furthermore, we will present our study's findings on the effects of pornography exposure on children and young people, exploring the potential negative impacts on their attitudes, relationships, and sexual development. By delving into these findings, we aim to raise awareness and promote informed discussions around this sensitive issue.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESENTATION:

TRANSACTIONAL SEXTING AND SELF-GENERATED CONTENT

Speaker: *Emilie Coomans*, Policy Advisor at Child Focus, the Belgian Foundation for missing and sexually exploited children, Belgium

Emilie Coomans works as Policy Advisor at Child Focus, the Belgian Foundation for missing and sexually exploited children. Prior to this, she worked for 5 years as a criminal lawyer in Brussels. She joined

Child Focus in 2020, initially as a case manager, working daily with victims and law enforcement agencies on cases of sexual exploitation.

Presentation summary

Transactional sexting describes the exchange of sexual content for money and has seen a worrying increase in popularity since the beginning of Covid-19.

It is a real societal problem, with deep roots that are closely linked to the state of our media environment: How did we end up here? Is our online world more and more sexualized? What does that mean for young people?

These are just a few of the questions we will try to answer before looking at the structures and operating methods of this phenomenon, based in particular on an undercover investigation carried out by a Belgian journalist, Jeffrey Dujardin.

We'll also look into the role of industry in all this, and propose some lines of thought and possible solutions to tackle this relatively unknown and multi-faceted issue.

CROATIAN LANGUAGE PRESENTATION:

ONLINE SEKSUALNA VIKTIMIZACIJA DJECE I ZDRAVSTVENA KRIZA (COVID 19): ŠTO SMO NAUČILI? (Online sexual victimization and the COVID health crisis: Lessons learned)

Speaker: *Doc.dr.sc. Bruna Profaca*, doc.dr.sc. Bruna Profaca, Clinical psychologist, Zagreb Child and Youth Protection Center, Croatia

Biography in the Croatian language:

Studirala je i doktorirala na Filozofskom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. U nastavno zvanje naslovne docentice u području društvenih znanosti izabrana je 2017. godine na Pravnom fakultetu u Zagrebu (Studijski centar socijalnog rada). Od 2002. godine zaposlena je u Poliklinici za zaštitu djece i mladih Grada Zagreba, ustanovi koja je primarno usmjerena na rad s traumatiziranom djecom i njihovim obiteljima gdje je 15 godina obnašala i dužnost Voditeljice odjela dijagnostike i tretmana. Članica je multidisciplinarnog tima Poliklinike za zaštitu djece i mladih Grada Zagreba koji je 2008. godine dobio nagradu Međunarodnog društva za prevenciju zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja djece (ISPCAN) za značajni doprinos u zaštiti djece.

U kliničkom i istraživačkom radu u središtu interesa su joj područje stresa, traume, krize i gubitaka u dječjoj i adolescentnoj dobi, roditeljstvo i roditeljski stres, podrška djeci i obiteljima tijekom razvoda, psihodijagnostički, tretmanski i savjetodavni rad i dr. Sudjeluje u nastavi i mentorskom radu na diplomskim i poslijediplomskim studijima na više fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. Kontinuirano sudjeluje u edukacijama stručnjaka koji rade s djecom i obiteljima u sustavu zdravstva, socijalne skrbi, obrazovanja, pravosuđa i u civilnom sektoru u Hrvatskoj i u inozemstvu. Objavila je niz znanstvenih i stručnih radova, poglavlja u knjigama te izlagala na više od 40 stručnih i znanstvenih skupova u zemlji i inozemstvu. Godine 2003. dobila je nagradu Hrvatskog psihološkog društva „Marko Marulić“ za osobito vrijedan doprinos primijenjenoj psihologiji.

Presentation summary in the Croatian language:

Online život je za djecu i mlade svakodnevica i svijet prilika. Istovremeno, kao i mnoge druge okolnosti to je i svijet rizika i novih pojava kojima su djeca i mladi izloženi. Jedan od najvećih rizika je uvjeravanje ili mamljenje djece i mladih na uključivanje u seksualne zlostavljačke aktivnosti (grooming). Danas postoji niz istraživanja koja ukazuju na prevalenciju ove pojave, ali i na čimbenike rizika, osobna obilježja uključenih i različite obrasce ponašanja.

U izlaganju će biti prezentirane neke spoznaje vezano za online seksualnu viktimizaciju djece i mladih te razmatrani pokazatelji rizika u vrijeme zdravstvene krize (Covid-19) koja je zbog društvene izolacije povećala rizik za mentalno zdravlje i viktimizaciju djece općenito, pa tako i onu online. Prezentirat će se pokazatelji online seksualne viktimizacije djece u vrijeme zdravstvene krize prikupljeni u sustavu zaštite djece koji nam mogu pomoći u razumijevanju i prevenciji seksualnog zlostavljanja i iskorištavanja djece. Također, u izlaganju će biti prezentirani slučajevi – primjeri iskustava djece i adolescenata dobiveni u kliničkoj praksi.