

This project is co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020) of the European Union



# Welcome to the workshop:

## Cybergrooming: Veiled dynamics of violence

# Quality criteria for dealing with veiled violence dynamics and cybergrooming











# **Procedure and Content**

- 1. Information about the Corkshop
- 2. Case Vignette "A Rendelle and Dior"
- 3. "Caring, Curry combing, preparing" what is Cybergrooming?
- 4. Breakout rooms to chat:
  - Perpetrator Strategic View (Jule Hopf)  $\rightarrow$
  - Survivors Perspective (Maj Walter)  $\rightarrow$
- 5. Consequences for those affected and options for action (nlonany)







## **Speakers**





Jule Hopf

social pedagogue (BA), trauma pedagogue, trauma counsellor counsellor for children and young people, who are affected or threatened by violence

at Kinder- und Jugendschutzdienst Känguru Profamilia



Maj Walter

educational scientist (BA), client-centred counsellor for children and youth child protection specialist counsellor at Wildwasser Marburg e.V. -Fachberatungsstelle zu sexualisierter Gewalt in Kindheit und Jugend







Fachberatungsstelle zu sexualisierter Gewalt in Kindheit und Jugend

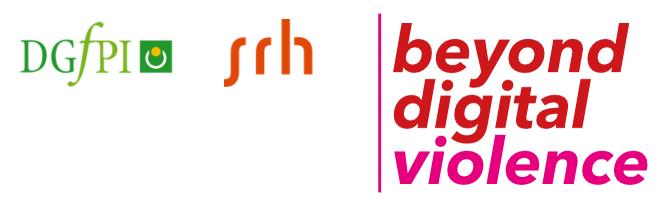


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### Case vignette A\_Rendelle and Dior



Taken from: "Sexualised violence and digital media. Reflective recommendations for professional practice" (Kärgel/ Vobbe 2022)





### Chat History Part 1, 22 August

15:43 A\_Rendelle: Eyyy!!! You're online! I thought you were so busy!!!

### 15:44 A\_Rendelle: Why?

15:46 A\_Rendelle: Yeah. Teachers are annoying. This this. Bla. BUT after school it was raining so much. I "had" to steal another girl's umbrella. Oops. XD

15:47 A\_Rendelle: Hihi. Oops.

15:48 A\_Rendelle: Thank you, darling. But how do you know that so exactly??

15:48 A\_Rendelle: Hihi. Thank you. But you can't see anything there.

15:55 **A\_Rendelle:** Would much rather have you with me and feel you really deep.

15:44 **Dior:** I should have. But I finished work early.

15:46 **Dior:** Too complicated now! How was your day, darling?

15:47 Dior: Ooops like boobs. Oops. ;)

15:47 **Dior:** But I mean it. Your buds are really beautiful already.

15:48 **Dior:** Good eye. Recognise a real wman at a distance of two kilometres. For example, the picture in front of the bridge. Yamyam.

15:49 **Dior:** That's right. Now that you mention it ... Then send a real picture! :-)







(Kärgel, Vobbe 2022)

### Chat History Part 2, 24 August

11:05 **A\_Rendelle:** Why don't you talk to me anymore? Are you mad?

18:07 **A\_Rendelle:** Can we talk right now? I'm in trouble with my mother right now.

18:14 **A\_Rendelle:** What's the matter? Are you angry because of the picture or why?

### 18:32 A\_Rendelle: Why?

22:45 A\_Rendelle: What can I do to make you trust me??? I'll send you a topless picture. Wait.

18:06 **Dior:** I told you: a lot to do.

18:32 **Dior:** Just forget it. You don't trust me. Maybe we'd better leave it.

22:45 **Dior:** First you pretend to be an experienced power woman and then you fumble. I let myself be fooled. I thought you were real.

22:45 **Dior:** Rhubarb. You'll have to come with something better if you want to make up for it. Tip: Sounds a bit like Virginia;-)







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(Kärgel, Vobbe 2022)



# beyond digital violence

### What is Cybergrooming?

to groom = prepare, Care, Curry combe



### What is sexualised mediatised violence?

Acts of violation with which perpetrators deliberately assert their own needs against the sexual selfdetermination and/or consent of children and adolescents and digital media are instrument (initiation) or context (scene) of the acts. (Vobbe&Kärgel 2022)



### Forms of sexualised mediatised violence

### Sexualised address as well as commenting on photo and video recordings

consensual or non-consensual

### Invitation to make their own intimate and sexualised recordings

• incl. nude photos, masturbation or involvement of third parties

### **Production and** dissemination of abuse images, allegations, chat histories

- Private as well as commercial
- Incl. the threat of this

### Embedding sexual abuse in digital communication, silence and threats

• Intra-familial, institutional, other dependency relationships

**Confronting minors with** pornography and sexual abuse material

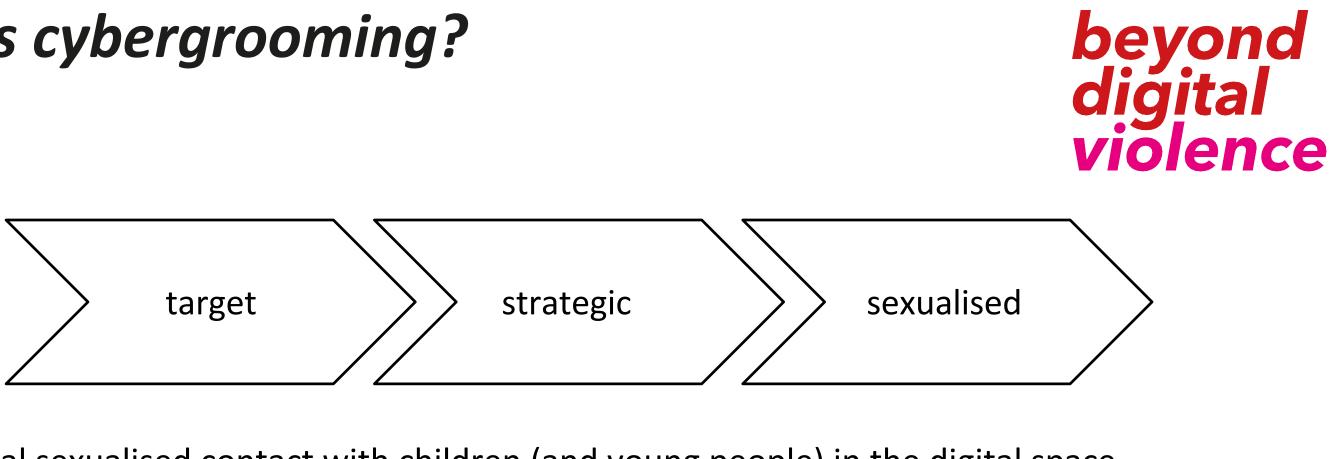


### **Digital surveillance** Victim of violence

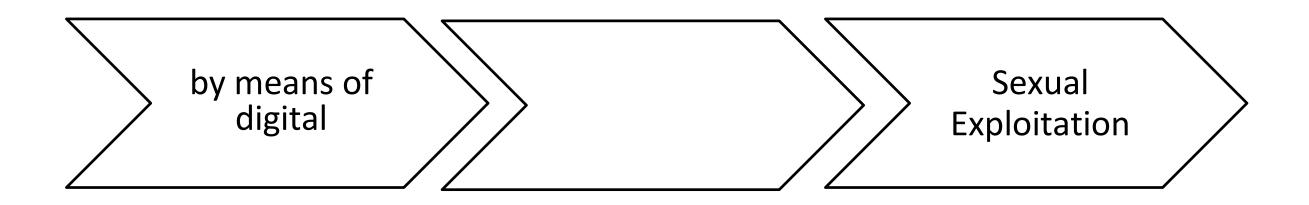
• Ensure secrecy, pressure build-up, feeling of complete control

Sharing pornography and sexual abuse material with minors

# What is cybergrooming?



- Intentional sexualised contact with children (and young people) in the digital space ullet
- Includes various actions via digital media that initiate, prepare and maintain sexualised lacksquareviolence against children and young people (context).
- Covers the offence of sexual abuse without physical contact according to §176a StGB.
- Even the attempt is punishable!



# **Classification criteria**

- Dependence and pressure from Dior ("maybe we'd better leave it")  $\rightarrow$
- heteronormative and hierarchical role expectations ("real woman") and relationship  $\rightarrow$ patterns ("You're a power woman first", "I just let myself be deceived")

 $\rightarrow$ Instrumentalisation of a power imbalance (disregarding A\_Rendelle's resistance/ inhibitions).

- Leveraging self-determination through a concealment of one's own motivations as  $\rightarrow$ well as overtly sexualised commentary ("Ooops like boobs", "buds").
- Targeted abuse of trust, emotional dependence clear  $\rightarrow$

"Because someone else knows exactly when they publish those pictures, those chats, then he puts me under pressure and can [...] damage my reputation, [...], this fear [...] of reading your intimate and private feelings somewhere else again, that is indescribable." Interview, person affected by violence

"I can't estimate if and when the pictures I sent will go around somewhere." Interview, person affected by violence

"It can be assumed that the person seeking advice was emotionally very needy, as she saw a kind of love relationship in this rather loose internet acquaintance at the beginning. This quickly made her susceptible to blackmail - that is our impression. But it could also be that this approach or these types of relationships are very normal among young people. This would be supported by the fact that we encounter this quite often in our work." Colleague, specialised counselling centre



# Consequences of mediatised sexualised violence violence

- A mediatisation of (sexualised) violence intensifies the burdens of those affected.
- Mediatised sexualised violence can happen anywhere and at any time.
- It can be uncovered uncontrollably anywhere and at any time.
- It can be misrepresented anywhere and at any time by perpetrators of violence.
- There is a (random) risk of contact with the perpetrator of violence at any time and in any place.
- Victims can be caught up in their experience of violence at any time and in any place through the publication/dissemination of digital and media testimonies of the abuse.

### beyond digital lence violence

# beyond digital Consequences of mediatised sexualised violenceviolence

- There is a risk of re-victimisation and secondary victimisation. ullet
- Even the knowledge of all this can over years lead to anxieties that lacksquareaccompany everyday life.
- As a result, those affected experience a multiple loss of control and ۲ multiple involvement. (Vobbe & Kärgel 2022)

# **Options for action with mediatised** sexualised violence

### Therefore...

- Develop next steps in dialogue with those affected.
- Act with the consent of those affected. lacksquare
- Make necessary steps transparent and explain them. ullet

### Also...

- Showing the dynamics of mediatised sexual Violence: • Why can it be difficult, especially in the context of digital intimacy, to distance oneself from sexualised demands? Why can it be difficult to perceive one's own boundaries when a "trusted person" exerts pressure?
- Name the other person's behaviour as assaultive. ۲
- Take the ambivalences of those affected seriously.  $\bullet$

### Thereby...

Refrain from blaming and behavioural imperatives. e.g. • "You can't trust anyone on the net" or "Why did you send photos, it's obvious you don't do that!"



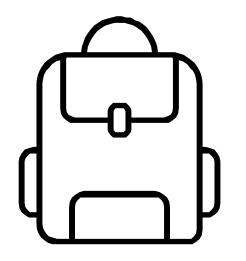
# **Options for action with** mediatised sexualised violence

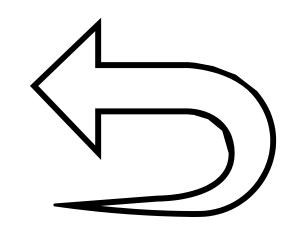
- Needs orientation of those affected as a guiding principle for action 1.
- 2. Collegial counselling, involvement of an external specialist agency, appointment of a person responsible for the case
- 3. Adequately classify the experiences of the person concerned from a professional point of view
- Measures for the protection of the persons concerned 4.
  - comprehensive information, transparency, hazard classification(!), safe space Ο
  - Initiate a (spatial) separation from perpetrators of violence. Ο
- Check whether criminal charges or other interventions (Jugendschutz.net) can be useful. 1. In the context of peers: Hold the perpetrators of violence responsible.











What are you taking with you?

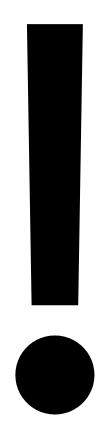
What are you leaving here?





# What demand would you make as a result of today's workshop to the policy-makers?





We need a more sensitive approach to those affected by Cybergrooming in the police investigative context and in criminal law.



### Thank you very much for your attention!

