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## INTERNET GROOMING

### (Techniques perpetrators use on the internet)

Goals for Learning: Help parents understand how perpetrators groom over the Internet. Help parents understand that teens are more vulnerable.

Learner Objectives: Participants will identify steps in the grooming process.

Learner Outcomes: Learners will know how perpetrators groom children via the Internet, especially chat rooms. Learners will know that their teens may be at greater risk.

Target Audience: Parents Large groups up to 40

Target Presenter Persons who have received 20 hours of sexual assault prevention and education training

Session Length: 35 Minutes

Materials Needed: None

Workshop Outline: I. Who is at risk II. Stages of grooming III. Being proactive IV. Internet Crimes V. Resources

Evaluation Question:

Name three ways a perpetrator will groom a child on the Internet.

Identify the child most at risk for perpetration.

#### **Internet grooming follows some general steps:**

**Step One:** The chat room. In the chat room the perpetrator will lie about their age. They will invite youth who appear vulnerable for a private chat.

**Step Two:** An invitation to use instant messaging.

**Step Three:** An invitation to e-mail. The perpetrator has now chosen a potential victim and is beginning to isolate the youth from others.

**Step Four:** Creating trust. They are trying to build a feeling of familiarity or comfort. They are trying to know the child- what will they put up with.

**Step Five:** Violating boundaries. At this time the perpetrator might admit to being older than they originally said (How would you feel if I were more your uncle's age?).

Or they may send pornographic images - Or the perpetrator may ask what kind of sexual experience the youth has. At this point the perpetrator may claim to love the child and push for a private, in person meeting. By this time, the youth may be using a cell phone to communicate with the perpetrator. There is much flattery going on. He may be telling the child things like, 'You are smart.', 'No one appreciates you like I do.' 'Your parents don't understand you like I do.'

NOTE: The information available on this web site is provided as a public service and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Arizona Department of Health Services, or the University of Arizona.