Research Report

Human Rights Commission

Providing measures for the prevention of cyber child pornography

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Introduction

Cyber child pornography has been a mayor arising problem worldwide over the last 20 years, due to the growth in home Personal Computers (also known as PC's) usage and easier, cheaper and faster World Wide Web (www) access.
Using the facilities the internet has, child pornographers have found an easy and convenient way of sharing pictures and videos of children being sexually abused.
As well, police and lawyers worldwide have noted that detecting and prosecuting cyber child pornographers is very difficult, often with a high failure rate.
One of the primary mandates of the international policing organisation Interpol is 'the prevention of crimes against children involving the crossing of international borders, including child pornography and all other forms of exploitation and trafficking of children.'
Interpol plays a major role in detecting and prosecuting child pornographers and works closely together with other organisations, NGOs and governments.
Despite the effort, Interpol statistics conclude that **less than 1 % of children** who appear in pornographic materials are being found.

Only in the United States of America more than 100.000 child pornography sites are on the worldwide web; worldwide, it is not known how many sites there are containing child pornography.

Definition of Key Terms

Children's Rights:

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:

'Children's rights are the human rights of children (<18 years) with particular attention to the rights of special protection and care afforded to the young, including their right to association with both biological parents, human identity as well as the basic needs for food, universal state-paid education, health care and criminal laws appropriate for the age and development of the child.'

Child Pornography (as used by Interpol and various other organisation and institutions):

'Child pornography is the consequence of the exploitation or sexual abuse perpetrated against a child. It can be defined as any means of depicting or promoting sexual abuse of a child, including print and/or audio, centred on sex acts or the genital organs of children.
It may include actual or simulated sexual intercourse involving minors, deviant sexual acts, bestiality, masturbation, sado-masochistic abuse, or the exhibition of genitals in a sexually arousing fashion.'

Paedophilia:

Paedophilia is defined as a psychiatric disorder in adults or late adolescents (persons age 16 or older) typically characterized by sexual interest in prepubescent children. The child must be at least five years younger in the case of adolescent paedophiles (16 or older) to be termed pedophilia.The term has a range of definitions, as found in psychiatry, psychology, the vernacular, and law enforcement.

Main Part

The arrival and development of the internet technology and it's related services, such as , smartphones with internet connection, chat's and webcam's, gives paedophiles new ways to approach children. Children around the world are increasingly exposed to serious violence over the Internet and other communication technologies. Chartrooms are increasingly used to make contact with children. Often children are made to believe that they chat with another child of the same age; this is of course not true, and children are asked to perform sex acts in front of the webcam. As well, child pornographers try to arrange a meeting with the child, in order to get closer contact.
There exist different forms of child pornography; every form is not good and there should be taken measures against child pornography as a whole and not just single areas.
For that particular reason, in 1997, a scale was developed by staff of the 'Combating Paedophile Information Network in Europe' (COPINE) project.
It's goal was to categorize the severity of child abuse images. The 'rating system' is mainly used in the United Kingdom and Ireland, similar scales have been developed in other countries.

COPINE scale:

1	Indicative	Non-erotic and non-sexualised pictures showing children in their underwear, swimming costumes from either commercial sources or family albums. Pictures of children playing in normal settings, in which the context or organisation of pictures by the collector indicates inappropriateness.
2	Nudist	Pictures of naked or semi-naked children in appropriate nudist settings, and from legitimate sources.
3	Erotica	Surreptitiously taken photographs of children in play areas or other safe environments showing either underwear or varying degrees of nakedness.
4	Posing	Deliberately posed pictures of children fully clothed, partially clothed or naked (where the amount, context and organisation suggests sexual interest).
5	Erotic Posing	Deliberately posed pictures of fully, partially clothed or naked children in sexualised or provocative poses.
6	Explicit Erotic Posing	Pictures emphasising genital areas, where the child is either naked, partially clothed or fully clothed.
7	Explicit Sexual Activity	Pictures that depict touching, mutual and self-masturbation, oral sex and intercourse by a child, not involving an adult.
8	Assault	Pictures of children being subject to a sexual assault, involving digital touching, involving an adult.
9	Gross Assault	Grossly obscene pictures of sexual assault, involving penetrative sex, masturbation or oral sex, involving an adult.
10	Sadistic/Bestiality	a. Pictures showing a child being tied, bound, beaten, whipped or otherwise subject to something that implies pain. b. Pictures where an animal is involved in some form of sexual behaviour with a child.

In 2003, it was estimated, that more than 20 % of all pornography on the internet, was child pornography. Since then, this number has grown, due to the accessibility of the internet; nowadays, not only paedophiles have access to child pornography, but as well normal people. Many paedophiles who produce and watch child pornographies, are connected to each other and collect, exchange, trade and organise their pictures and videos. Often child pornographers create so called 'rings', a type of network involving many child pornographers where pictures are being exchanged and even sold.

The child pornographic industry is worth an estimated 3 billion dollar; at the moment, there are 70.000 - 100.000 active paedophiles involved in organised pornography.

Major international organisations such as the United Nations and the European Commission are trying to implement a global criminalization on possessing and distributing pornographic material involving children.

94 of 187 Interpol Member States have passed specific laws to address and combat child pornography. 58 of those 94 countries criminalized both the possession and distribution of child pornography; every Western country has criminalized it.

Major Parties Involved

International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol):

Interpol is the world's largest international police organization, with 188 member countries. Created in 1923, it help and contributes to international police co-operation, and supports and assists all organizations, NGOs and governments whose mission is to prevent or combat international crime.

Developed by Interpol, the International Child Sexual Exploitation image database (ICSE DB) is a powerful intelligence and investigative instrument, which allows other countries to share data with colleagues across the world, regarding child pornography.

Because of Interpols's secure global police communications system (I-247), the ICSE DB uses sophisticated image comparison software to make connections between victims and places.

Cospol Internet Related Child Abusive Material Project (CIRCAM):

CIRCAM is one the many Comprehensive Operational Strategic Planning for the Police (COSPOL) projects initiated by the European Chief of Police Task Force (EPCTF), which aim is to detect and hence stop commercial and organised distribution of child pornography.
It works closely together with other police related organisations such as Interpol and Europol.

United Nations Commission on Human Rights Special Rapporteur:

By 1990, cyber child pornography had gotten at such a level, that the United Nations Commission on Human Rights appointed in it's resolution 1990/68 a 'Special Rapporteur' to investigate the exploitation of children around the world and to send in reports to Human Rights Commission, making recommendations for the protection of the rights of the children concerned.

Timeline of Key Events:

- **29. November 1985**: United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice ('The Beijing Rules')

- **20. November 1989**: Convention on the Rights of the Child

- **14. December 1990**: United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty

- **14. December 1990**: United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency ('The Riyadh Guidelines')

- **25. May 2000**: The Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography

Previous attempts to solve the issue:

Interpol in co-operation with other organisations, have carried out various successful operation in order to combat child pornography; one of these successful operations was 'Operation Cathedral', which finally resulted in multi-national arrests and 7 convictions. Furthermore, 750,000 images with 1,200 unique identifiable faces being distributed over the web were discovered due to 'Operation Cathedral'.
Several countries, such as the United States of America (National Child Victim Identification Program), have databases with millions of pictures containing pornographic material, with the purpose if identifying victims of child abuse. These files are sometimes shared with other governments, in order to trace the origin of pornographic material.

International companies who provide internet services, such as Google, have taken as well measures to combat child pornography on the internet, by having developed video

fingerprinting technologies and software's to automate the review of some 13 million pornographic images and videos that first were scanned by Google workers manually.

Recently, various governments and police organisations such as the FBI and Interpol have started posting links on the Internet that are supposed to be illegal videos of children having sex, and then raiding the homes of anyone willing to click on them.

Appendix:

Useful links:

- http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx
- http://www.ecpat.nl/images/13/705.pdf

Qualityvideo material (**strongly** suggested):

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4MKLsPUcnc

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