



GROWING HEALTHY MINDS

A VIRTUAL LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

Supporting Student Mental Health

Sextortion Prevention and Response

March 25, 2025

Acknowledgements & Disclosures

This Project ECHO® is made possible through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families and collaboration with:



**New Jersey State
School Nurses Association**
Leading, Teaching, Caring.



St. Joseph's Health
ST. JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



None of the faculty, planners, and staff for this educational activity have relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients





NJAAP Accreditation Statement

Accreditation Statement:

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Medical Society of New Jersey. New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics is accredited by the Medical Society of New Jersey to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Designation Statement:

New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics designates this live internet activity for a maximum of 1.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ABP MOC Part II:

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn up to 1.25 MOC points in the American Board of Pediatrics' (ABP) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABP MOC credit.

Continuing Nursing Education Credits

No one with the ability to control content of this activity has a relevant financial relationship with an ineligible company.

Requirements:

- Participation in the full duration of each Growing Healthy Minds session for which you are seeking contact hours
- Completion of a Growing Healthy Minds session evaluation for each session for which you are seeking contact hours, which will be sent to the email you used to register following each session

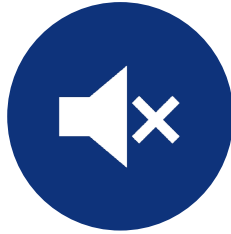
This continuing education activity was approved by the Ohio Nurses Association, an Ohio Board of Nursing approver. (OBN-001-91) Expiration date: 10/1/2026



Housekeeping



We encourage you to turn on your camera while engaging in the session.



Kindly remain on mute to reduce background noise when you are not speaking.



By participating in these ECHO sessions, you are consenting to being recorded.



To protect patient privacy, please refrain from sharing any protected health information (PHI).



Please unmute or use the chat function to engage in discussion with fellow participants and hub faculty.

Meet our Hub Faculty Members

Bert Mandelbaum, MD, FAAP

School Physician for Montgomery, Hillsborough, North Brunswick, Chapin
Chair, Department of Pediatrics, Penn Medicine Princeton Health
Chair, NJAAP Task Force on Adolescent Health and School Start Times



Laura Williams, MA

School Counselor, Deptford Middle School,
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Lecturer, Rutgers School of Nursing- Camden, School Nurse Program
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Guest Speaker



John Pizzuro
CEO Raven

Before we start

A note of caution:

Today's talk will involve frank discussion about sextortion prevention and response. Some of the material – particularly specific language and images - may be potentially triggering for individuals. The presenters ask that screenshots of images are not shared with the public. The content of these slides will be available as a pdf, but the images will be removed upon distribution.

Polling Questions

- What is your school **role**?
- What **age(s)** do you serve?
- What **grade(s) level** do you serve?

Sextortion: What is it?

- When a victim is threatened or blackmailed into providing more sexual imagery; the predator threatens to share their nude or sexual images with the public.
- Financial sextortion occurs when a predator demands money or gift cards in exchange for keeping their sexual images private.

Sextortion

- According to National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, or NCMEC, financial sextortion has risen significantly. Task forces can not keep up with amount of cases.
- Currently, as many as 79% of predators seek money rather than additional sexual imagery.
- There has been a shift from sexual gratification to financial gratification.

Sextortion Scope

- Where does it happen?
- Victim Profile and Evolution.
- Offender Profile and Evolution.

Victim Profile

- Children and Teens
- Young Adults
- Men and Boys
- Women and Girls
- LGBTQ+ Individuals
- Professionals and Public Figures

Offender Profile


- **Anonymous online predators:** Individuals using fake profiles to manipulate victims.
- **Organized crime syndicates:** Groups engaging in mass sextortion for financial gain.
- **Peer perpetrators:** In some cases, offenders may be acquaintances or classmates.
- **Motivations:** Financial extortion, sexual gratification, revenge, or power dynamics.
- **Common tactics:** Social engineering, blackmail, and exploitation of trust.

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Pedo Support community

HOME LOGIN REGISTER Search


News:
Congratulations to A.S.Turnip and OneLove
on becoming the first **Established Members** of the new decade!



PSC is not and never has been a media sharing community.

Please keep your **TBB** package up-to-date.
Current version: 9.0.4

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

 THE NOTICE BOARD
For important board information, support issues and suggestions, and all the latest community news.

3,961 Posts
206 Topics

Last post by Emerald
in Re: Welcome Home to PSC ...
on 08 January 2020, 06:35:16

Overseas Criminal Organizations & Gangs

- **764:** Founded by Bradley Chance Cadenhead, this organization operated as a loosely affiliated network of sub-groups, including CVLT, Court, Kaskar, Harm Nation, and others.
- **Yahoo Boys:** Originating from Nigeria, these cybercriminals specialize in online fraud, including sextortion schemes.
- **Asian Sextortion Syndicate**
- **Nigerian Sextortion Ring:** In a notable case, Nigerian nationals Samuel and Samson Ogoshi were extradited to the United States and sentenced for their involvement in a sextortion scheme that led to the suicide of a Michigan teenager.

How Sextortion Happens

- **Initial contact:** Fake identities, grooming through matching language, interests, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.
- **Escalation:** Threats, manipulation, emotional abuse.
- **Demands:** Additional images, money, or other actions.

Imagine Yourself at Home vs. Being “In the Moment”



So, What About Language?

- What do we like to talk about?
- Words are only 7% of communication, yet they trigger and define
- Speaking other people's language is key to unlocking them
 - You build *rapport*
 - You have the ability to match *key words*
- How an online predator creates a friendship and builds a relationship

Unconscious Language Effects

- Been found to alter decision making and cause emotional responses
- Through language alone, there is no activation of Amygdala, and no danger is seen
- This is how manipulation is conducted

The Role of AI in Sextortion

- AI in detecting and preventing sextortion (content moderation, pattern recognition).
- AI-generated deepfake content used for blackmail.
- The need for stronger regulations and AI-driven investigative tools.

Victim Control Through Technology

GPS Tracking

Texting/Sexting

Video Chat

Blackmail (Sextortion)

If Students Have Been Sextorted, What Should They Do?

- **Do Not Comply with the Demands** – Do not send more images or pay any money. Complying will not stop the threats and often leads to more demands.
- **Preserve Evidence** – Take screenshots of messages, usernames, and any communication with the perpetrator. This will help law enforcement track them down. Do not delete any communication.
- **Stop All Communication** – Block the offender on all platforms. Do not engage further, as it may escalate the situation.
- **Report the Crime.**

Resources & Reporting

- Make a report to NCMEC's Cybertipline at report.cybertip.org.
- Reach out to NCMEC for support at gethelp@ncmec.org or 1-800-THE-LOST.
- Thorn's Stop Sextortion Guide - Offers Guidance for Victims.
- Crisis Text Line - Text "Home" to 741741 for free, confidential crisis counseling.
- RAINN(Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network - Offers support for sexual abuse victims (800-656-4673).

Recent FBI Warning

- See March 6 warning – Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) | Violent Online Networks Target Vulnerable and Underage Populations Across the United States and Around the Globe.
- The FBI is warning the public of a sharp increase in the activity of "764" and other violent online networks which operate within the United States and around the globe. These networks methodically target and exploit minors and other vulnerable individuals, and it is imperative the public be made aware of the risk and the warning signs exhibited by victims. These networks use threats, blackmail, and manipulation to coerce or extort victims into producing, sharing, or live-streaming acts of self-harm, animal cruelty, sexually explicit acts, and/or suicide. The footage is then circulated among members of the network to continue to extort victims and exert control over them.

Mandated Reports to Law Enforcement

- See **NJDOE 12/13/23 Broadcast Email** [Release of the Updated Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement](#)
- CDS, drug paraphernalia
- Firearms, weapons
- Planned or threatened violence
- Sexual offenses
- Assaults on staff, BOE members
- Bias-Related Acts
- Abused, Neglected, Missing Children
 - Dual reporting requirement to DCPD by staff member with knowledge AND by the school district to law enforcement

Age of Consent and Criminal Sexual Contact

- Situations may arise between high school freshmen and seniors.
- Note that children under age 13 cannot consent.
- Students between 13 and 16 cannot consent to anyone who is more than 4 years older.
- No student of any age can consent to sexual relations with school employee.
- Some students with disabilities are incapable of consent.
- Mandated reporting to law enforcement if situation occurs during school hours, on school grounds or at a school function. But critical to report even if it does not meet the mandatory reporting requirements.

Reporting Cyber Issues

- See MOA Section 4.6 Cyber-Harassment
- Revised HIB law, parent may be subject to fines, civil liability
- See MOA Section 4.7 Sexting
- Crime to give, offer to give, transfer, disseminate, distribute, circulate or possess pornography depicting a person under age 18
- Penalties include prison time, sex offender registration
- See MOA Section 4.8 Offenses Involving Computers, the Internet, and Technology
 - E.g. unauthorized access to school networks

Related Instructional Requirements

P.L. 2019, c.185 – Requires school districts to incorporate age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades preschool through 12 as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education. Effective as of the 2020-21 School Year (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.5a).

P.L. 2018, c. 80 - Requires that Middle School curriculum address the social, emotional and legal consequences of distributing and soliciting explicit images through electronic means (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.33).

P.L. 2011, c. 64 - Requires that Dating Violence be addressed in the curriculum from grades 7-12 and that district have a policy to report, investigate and address dating violence (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23a).

P.L. 2011, c. 257 - Requires instruction on responsible use of social media in grades 6-8 (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.27).

P.L. 1998, c.134 Risks of using online services for illegal purposes (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.17)

P.L. 1979, c. 42 Sexual Assault Prevention - Requires NJDOE to establish guidelines for teaching sexual assault prevention techniques to students (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.3).

Eyes Wide Open

...A Cyberbullying & Financial Sextortion Awareness Program



Presented by:

bergenPAC's Performing Arts School & The FBI Newark Citizens Academy Alumni Association

Written by:

Ashley Tobias [ThatGirlTobi]

- Creator of Anti-Bullying Program Bee True To You

The FBI Newark Citizens Academy Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization separate and apart from the FBI.

eyes
wide
open

Preventing
Digital
Exploitation



What is Eyes Wide Open?

"**Eyes Wide Open**" is a school awareness program presented by bergenPAC's Performing Arts School, the FBI Newark Citizens Academy Alumni Association and created by Entertainer and Child Advocate, Ashley Tobias. This educational drama tells the parallel stories of **Emma** and **Jax**, two teenagers facing the serious dangers of online predators, manipulation, and the pressure of living in a digital world.

Our initiative?
Our initiative?
Our initiative?

"To empower students, educators, and communities with the tools to prevent cyberbullying and sextortion."



Helping Students Understand the Risks – The Threats Emma & Jax Face

Emma's Side – The Emotional Manipulation & Sextortion Threat

- Meets someone online who seems trustworthy.
- Gains emotional connection and is pressured into sharing private content.
- The situation escalates into sextortion—threats to expose her unless she complies.

Jax's Side – The Social Pressure & Cyberbullying Threat

- Wants to fit in and gain online recognition.
- Engages in risky online challenges and faces cyberbullying when things go wrong.
- Withdraws, feeling anxious, isolated, and unsure where to turn.

Commonality

Sextortion – Being blackmailed with private content.

Catfishing & Online Predators – People pretending to be someone they're not to gain trust.

Cyberbullying & Harassment – Hurtful comments, rumors, or public humiliation.

Doxxing – Private information being shared publicly.

Social Media Pressure – Feeling forced to follow trends that may be unsafe.



Awareness is **Power.**

Understanding these risks helps students recognize warning signs,
protect themselves, and seek help when needed.



Evaluation

Reminder:

If you are seeking educational credit for your participation in this webinar,

Please be sure to complete the session evaluation at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y3XYX69>



Join us again!

Topic: Artificial intelligence, cell phone use, and social media

Cost: FREE! There is no cost to participate in this series.

When: Tuesday, April 30th from 4:00-5:15 pm

Where: All sessions are hosted virtually via Zoom.

Presented by:



Iqra Baig, MD, MS



David Nash, Esq



Kwame Morton, PhD

