



Practice Brief: Adult Exploitation



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Types of Abuse

The [Care and support statutory guidance](#) identifies ten types of abuse listed below:

- [Physical abuse](#)
- [Domestic violence or abuse](#)
- [Sexual abuse and exploitation](#)
- [Psychological or emotional abuse](#)
- [Financial or material abuse](#)
- [Modern slavery](#)
- [Discriminatory abuse](#)
- [Organisational or institutional abuse](#)
- [Neglect or Acts of Omission](#)
- [Self-neglect](#)
- Other forms of exploitation can also take place such as County Lines, Cuckooing and Grooming

Although these do not appear in their own right within the Care Act 2014, they are often linked to other forms of abuse or neglect and it is important to report any suspected activity to the Police or the Local Authority

This is not an exclusive list but illustrates the sorts of behaviour that could give rise to a safeguarding concern.

What is exploitation?

Exploitation is a form of abuse where someone is forced or coerced into doing things for the benefit of others.

- Exploitation is often a gradual process
- People are groomed and introduced to new ideas, behaviours and activities, making these appear normal and acceptable
- These behaviours and activities may seem exciting or give someone something they are looking for – including money, gifts or a sense of belonging
- People may not recognise that they are being exploited until their situation becomes very serious
- Exploitation can take many forms, can take place in a range of situations, and can involve many groups of people
- Exploitation is a hidden and complex crime which abuses the basic human rights and dignity of victims who are subject to it

What does exploitation look like?

Exploitation may be taking place even if someone seems to be making their own choices or the activity they are taking part in appears consensual.

Exploitation can....

- Affect any child, young person or adult, regardless of age, ethnicity, nationality, gender identity and sexuality
- be carried out by individuals or groups
- involve force, control, coercion and intimidation
- involve people being forced to take part in the exploitation of others
- involve people being forced to take part in criminal activity
- involve control and coercion – this could be psychological or physical.

Some different ways in which adults can be exploited

- **Sexual exploitation** - Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from sexual exploitation of another, including commercial sexual exploitation into prostitution.
- **Labour exploitation** – Servitude and forced/compulsory labour are forms of ‘modern slavery’.
- **Human trafficking** – Action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another, typically for the purposes of forced labour or commercial sexual exploitation.
- **Material exploitation** – A form of crime in which exploiters take over the home of a vulnerable person, in order to use it as a base for a number of areas of criminality. This may also be referred to as ‘cuckooing’.
- **Organised forced criminality** – Victims may be forced into criminal activities by gangs such as drug cultivation, organised begging or benefit fraud e.g. extra tax credits, housing benefit.
- **Forced or sham marriages** – A forced marriage is where one or both people do not, or cannot, consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. A sham marriage is where the marriage or civil partnership is contracted for immigration advantage by a couple who are not in a genuine relationship.

Common features or tactics used by perpetrators in exploitative situations

This is not an exhaustive list but may include:

- ✓ **Controlling** - through violence, threats of violence, humiliation, intimidation or controlling the victim's everyday activity.
- ✓ **Depriving** - a victim of their ability to resist the controlling behaviour, their ability to escape.
- ✓ **Removing** - a victim's independence, freedom of choice and access to their support network.
- ✓ **Gaining** – the exploiter gains personally, financially or materially as a result of the exploitative conduct.
- ✓ **Grooming/befriending** - establishing an emotional connection with a victim, and sometimes the family, to lower their inhibitions with the ultimate outcome of exploitation.

Where Exploitation can occur...

Exploitation can occur in any location but key potential **settings** have been identified:

- ✓ **Home** – victims may be targeted within their own home – with it being taken over by criminals who use it for criminal purposes such as drugs or brothels or who may use it to benefit financially or materially by taking control of the victims money and household.
- ✓ **Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's)** may present a risk as there's a high turn over of occupants and some properties may be of a low standard, which can increase vulnerability.
- ✓ **Sexual Establishment venues** – may be a sham or disguise for sexual exploitation or slavery with people being forced to work in them against their informed consent.
- ✓ **Street** – offenders may identify potential victims to target through their ongoing presence in public spaces such as town centres, licensed premises or parades of shops.
- ✓ **Commercial sexual exploitation** can take place through off and on-street transactions.
- ✓ **Businesses** – national examples demonstrate that slavery takes place in a variety of business locations – from factories & fields to beauty salons and builder's yards.
- ✓ **Online** – victims may be targeted online by offenders who are seeking vulnerable people to exploit.
- ✓ **Homelessness** – not having access to suitable and stable safe accommodation provides an overarching setting in which people become vulnerable to exploiters.

Victims

- Victims may be subject to one or more of these at the same time – for example being sexually exploited into prostitution alongside organised criminal exploitation.
- Trading people as commodities and exploiting them for profit or personal gain has long lasting psychological and physical impact on victims
- Victims endure horrifying experiences and protecting them from harm and supporting them to escape is central to our approach to exploitation.
- Victims are often hidden – raising awareness and identification are key to safeguarding.
- Exploitation can take many forms and professionals may need to respond to different and emerging types of behaviour.

This next section will focus on the following types of exploitation:

[Grooming](#)

[Mate Crime](#)

[County Lines and Local Lines](#)

[Cuckooing](#)

[Adult Sexual Exploitation](#)

[Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking](#)

[Predatory Marriage](#)

[Radicalisation](#)

Click on the hyperlink to navigate to the relevant section

Grooming

What is Grooming?

- Grooming is when someone builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child or adult at risk so they can manipulate, exploit and abuse them.
- People who are groomed can be sexually abused, exploited or trafficked.
- Groomers may also build a relationship with the person's family or friends to make them seem trustworthy.

Spotting the Signs

- Being secretive about how they spend their time, including when online
- Having an older boyfriend or girlfriend
- Having money or new things like clothes and mobile phones that they can't or won't explain
- Drinking or taking drugs
- Spending more or less time online or on their mobile phones
- Being upset, withdrawn or distressed
- Sexual behaviour, language or an understanding of sex that does not seem appropriate
- Spending more time away from home or going missing for periods of time.
- Victims are not always aware that they are being exploited.
- Young people are generally targeted because of their vulnerable environment or situation, however adults can also be targeted for similar reasons.
- Children who are groomed can grow into adults who become more at risk of ongoing exploitation.
- Being groomed can cause long term [psychological](#) damage

To find out more

TRICKY FRIENDS



Tricky Friends is a short animation (3 minutes duration) developed to raise awareness of 'mate crime', exploitation, cuckooing and county lines.

To access click on the link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOwNTd1lvMY&t=175s>

Some useful
information/websites

- ✓ [Signs of Grooming in Adults - What to Watch Out For - Ann Craft Trust](#)
- ✓ [What is Adult Grooming? – CAAGe: The Campaign Against Adult Grooming](#)
- ✓ [SurvivorsUK | Grooming](#)
- ✓ [Grooming | Wiltshire Police](#)

Mate Crime
Friend or Fake?

Mate Crime

- Mate Crime is a form of hate crime and can become a very serious form of abuse.
- Mate Crime is defined as the exploitation, abuse or theft from any person at risk from those they consider to be their friends. Those that commit such abuse or theft are often referred to as 'fake friends'.
- People with disabilities, particularly those with learning disabilities, are often the targets of this type of crime. In some cases victims of mate crime have been badly harmed or even killed.

Further information about mate crime: <https://arcuk.org.uk/safetynet/examples-of-mate-crime/>

Further information about hate incidents and hate crimes can be found on Wiltshire Police website - <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/hco/hate-crime/what-is-hate-crime/>

Forms of Mate Crime

There are different forms of mate crime, for example:

- Theft/financial abuse:
 - the abuser might demand or ask to be lent money and then not pay it back
 - the perpetrator might misuse the property of the adult.
- Physical assault/abuse:
 - the abuser might hurt or injure the adult.
- Harassment or emotional abuse:
 - the abuser might manipulate, mislead and make the person feel worthless.
- Sexual assault/abuse:
 - the abuser might harm or take advantage of the person sexually.

Learning disability and mate crime

- People who have a learning disability may be more vulnerable to mate crimes. Like everyone they need human connection and friendship, but this need can be easily exploited.
- In addition, many people who have a learning disability may not have had the usual opportunities to become 'streetwise' when growing up. Incidents can therefore be more likely to take place when they are in the community, on public transport or using services without support.

Features of and identifying Mate Crime

Features of mate crime

- Mate crimes are likely to happen in private, often in the victim's own accommodation. They can also happen via social media, where victims are financially or sexually exploited after being befriended online.
- Mate crimes often occur within long-term relationships, which may have started out as genuine friendships. They can appear to be real friendships to many observers. Practitioners and family can be so delighted that a person with learning disabilities has a 'friend' that they don't question the relationship any further.

Identifying mate crime

- Indicators of mate crime can be similar to other forms of abuse.
- Potential signs include:
 - bills not being paid, a sudden lack of money, losing possessions, suddenly changing their will
 - changes in routine, behaviour, appearance, finances or household (new people visiting or staying over, lots of new 'friends', lots more noise or rubbish than normal)
 - cutting themselves off from established networks of friends/family and support, missing weekly activities
 - secretive internet or mobile phone use.



County Lines/Local Lines

County Lines and Local Lines

County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs.

The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend
[National Crime Agency](#)

Local lines replicate the 'County Lines' model, but operate at a local level, within a community.

This means it will be local adults or young people grooming and coercing other local children and young people, and vulnerable adults, into criminal activity.

The operating model itself would be very similar in terms of chain of command, drug supply and associated criminal activity and behaviour.



Common features and signs to look out for

- A common feature in county lines drug supply is the exploitation of young people and adults who as a result of their circumstances are vulnerable.
- Dealers will frequently target children and adults - often with mental health or addiction problems - to act as drug runners or move cash so they can stay under the radar of law enforcement.
- Sometimes dealers will take over a local property, normally belonging to a person who appears vulnerable, and use it to operate their criminal activity from. This is known as [cuckooing](#).
- People exploited in this way will quite often be exposed to physical, mental and sexual abuse, and in some instances will be trafficked to areas a long way from home as part of the network's drug dealing business.
- Children and adults often don't see themselves as victims or realise they have been groomed to get involved in criminality.

Some signs to look out for include:

- An increase in visitors/cars or new faces appearing at the house/flat
- New and regularly changing residents (e.g. different accents compared to local accent)
- Change in resident's mood and/or demeanour (e.g. secretive/ withdrawn/ aggressive/ emotional)
- Substance misuse and/or drug paraphernalia
- Changes in the way young people you might know dress
- Unexplained, sometimes unaffordable new things (e.g. clothes, jewellery, cars etc.)
- Residents or young people you know going missing, maybe for long periods of time
- Young people seen in different cars/taxis driven by unknown adults
- Young people seeming unfamiliar with your community or where they are
- Truancy, exclusion, disengagement from school
- An increase in anti-social behaviour in the community
- Unexplained injuries



Cuckooing

Cuckooing

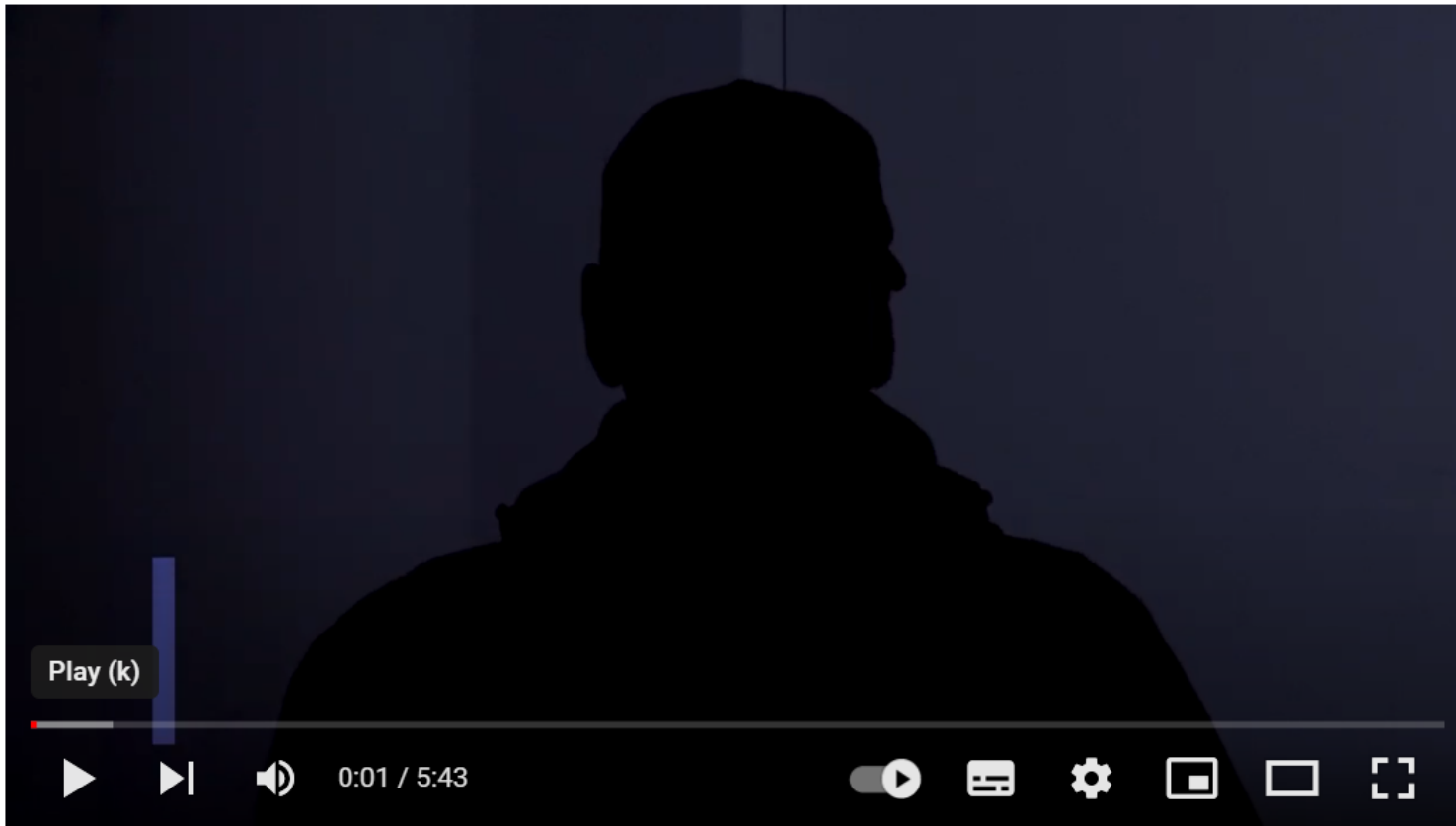


- A practice where people take over a person's home and use the property to facilitate exploitation. It takes the name from cuckoos who take over the nests of other birds.
- There are different types of cuckooing:
 - Using the property to deal, store or take drugs
 - Using the property to sex work
 - Taking over the property as a place for them to live
 - Taking over the property to financially abuse the tenant
- The most common form of cuckooing is where drug dealers take over a person's home and use it to store or distribute drugs.
- People who choose to exploit will often target the most vulnerable in society. They establish a relationship with the vulnerable person to access their home.
- Once they gain control over the victim - whether through drug dependency, debt or as part of their relationship – larger groups will sometimes move in.
- Threats are often used to control the victim.
- It is common for the drug dealers to have access to several cuckooed addresses at once, and to move quickly between them to evade detection.
- The victims of cuckooing are often people who misuse substances such as drugs or alcohol, but there are cases of victims with learning difficulties, mental health issues, physical disabilities or socially isolated.

Signs that cuckooing may be happening at a property...

These include but are not limited to:

- An increase in people entering and leaving
- An increase in cars or bikes outside
- An increase in anti-social behaviour
- Increasing litter outside
- People coming and going at strange times
- Damage to the door/the door propped open
- Unknown people pressing buzzers to gain access to the building
- You haven't seen the person who lives there recently or, when you have, they have been anxious or distracted.



Cuckooing in Oxford | Mark's story

This short clip (duration 5 minutes) is Mark's story of Cuckooing
https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20101/community_safety/1308/cuckooing

Adult Sexual Exploitation

Adult Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation occurs when someone is **deceived, coerced or forced** to take part in sexual activity. Ways in which someone could be sexually exploited include but aren't limited to:

- ✓ prostitution
- ✓ brothels
- ✓ escort agencies
- ✓ pole/lap dancing
- ✓ forced marriage
- ✓ webcamming
- ✓ phone sex lines
- ✓ internet chat rooms
- ✓ mail order brides
- ✓ pornography
- ✓ sex tourism

Multi-Agency Approach

The Wiltshire and Swindon Adult Sexual Exploitation Practitioners Group have the safety and wellbeing of Wiltshire's sex working population (on and off street) and their dependants as its primary focus.

The specific focus of this panel is to assess and reduce or remove risk factors that contribute to the sexual exploitation of sex workers within Wiltshire and Swindon.

The meeting provides a forum to share information, co-ordinate resources, reduce harm and manage risk.

It is the knowledge of the partner agencies within the practitioners group which is the key to understanding the wider picture as it is agreed that no single agency working alone will have the full insight, nor be able to provide a full range of protective factors



Thanks to Detective Inspector Eirin Martin, Wiltshire Police for use of this slide.

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

What is Modern Slavery?

Modern slavery is a serious crime that violates human rights. Victims are forced, threatened or deceived into situations of subjugation, degradation and control which undermine their personal identity and sense of self.

Key points:

- Modern slavery encompasses:
 - human trafficking and slavery
 - servitude and forced or compulsory labour
- Human trafficking consists of three basic components: action, means and purpose of exploitation. All three components must be present in an adult trafficking case. For child trafficking the 'means' component is not required.
- In human trafficking cases, exploitation can take many forms, including:
 - sexual exploitation
 - forced labour
 - slavery
 - servitude
 - forced criminality
 - removal of organs
- Some people may not be victims of human trafficking but still victims of modern slavery if they have been subject to slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.
- Human trafficking is not the same as human smuggling. There are common myths about modern slavery, such as misconceptions that UK nationals cannot be victims and that a person cannot be a victim if they reject offers of help.

Source: Further information can be found in chapters 1 and 2:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-how-to-identify-and-support-victims/modern-slavery-statutory-guidance-for-england-and-wales-under-s49-of-the-modern-slavery-act-2015-and-non-statutory-guidance-for-scotland-and-northe#what-is-modern-slavery>

Some examples

Labour exploitation

- Working for offenders, someone other than offenders or in isolated environments

Domestic servitude

- Exploited by partner, relatives or someone not related to them

Sexual exploitation

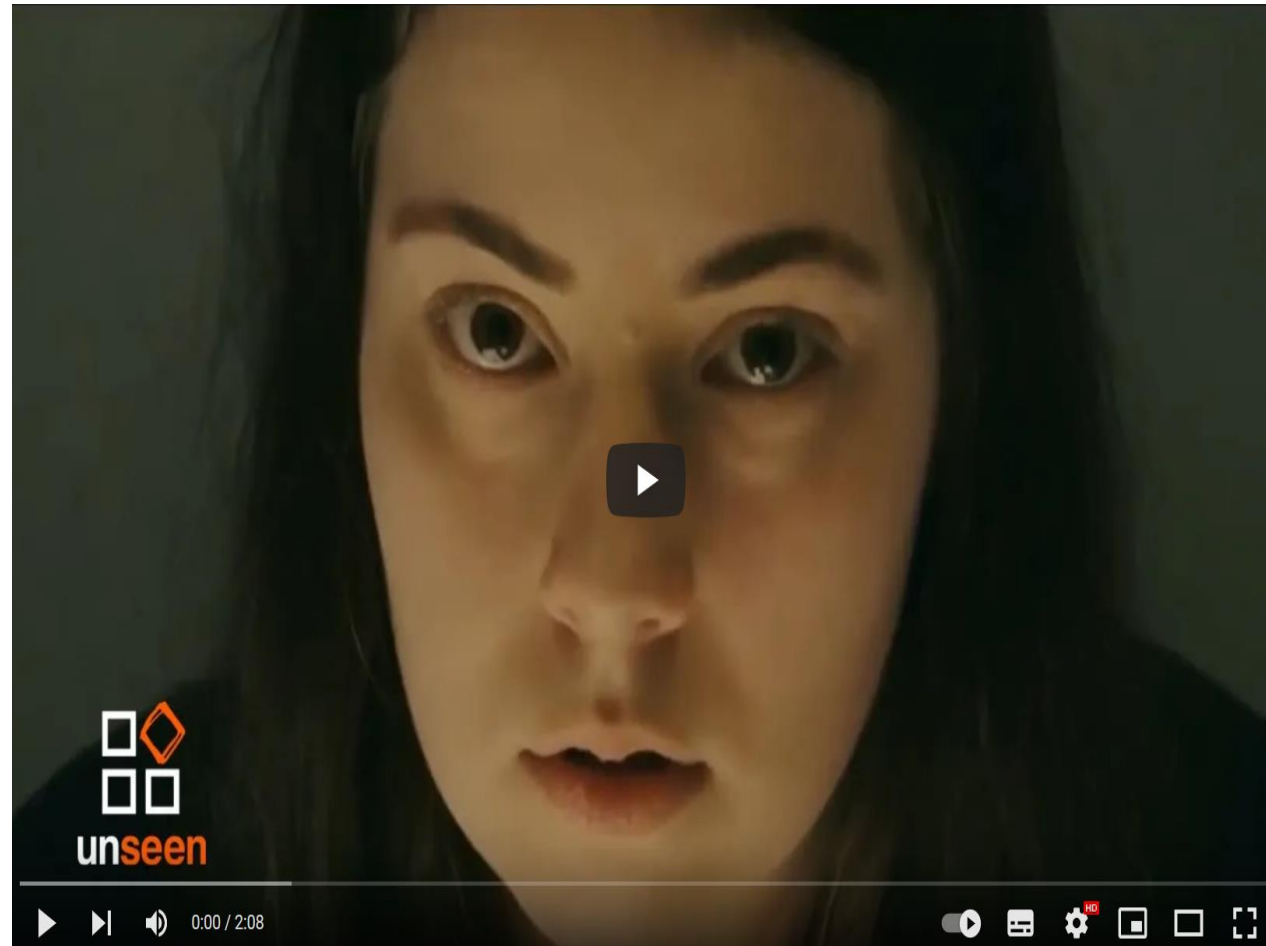
- sexual exploitation by group or individual, sex work in fixed or changing location, trafficking for personal gratification

Criminal exploitation

- Forced gang-related activity, forced labour in illegal activities, forced acquisitive crime/begging
- [Financial exploitation](#)
- [Sham marriage](#)
- [Forced marriages](#)

See [SSP practice brief - Modern slavery human trafficking national referral mechanism \(NRM\) - October 2022 - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)





This short clip by the UK charity Unseen (2021) give a brief overview of modern slavery and the impact on victims (duration 2 minute) Link :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mBT7qiJzQo>

See also [SSP practice brief - Modern slavery human trafficking national referral mechanism \(NRM\) - October 2022 - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Predatory Marriage

With thanks to North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board for use of the information on their 7 minute brief.

Predatory Marriage

- ✓ Predatory Marriage is the practice of intentionally targeting and marrying a vulnerable (often older) person in order to gain access to their estate and assets upon their death.
- ✓ Predatory Marriage relies on grooming and coercion to exert control over another person to persuade them to marry for financial, material or other gain.

Legislation

- ✓ In UK law, marriage and civil partnerships rely on consent.
- ✓ The Marriage Act 1989 requires that two adult parties agree to a marriage, it is implicit that they understand and agree to marry by giving informed consent which is dependent on capacity to make decisions as determined by the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
- ✓ The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 created the criminal offence of forced marriage.
- ✓ It is a criminal offence to marry a person who lacks the mental capacity to consent to the marriage, regardless of any pressure. It is also a crime to pressure someone to marry by any means.

With thanks to North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board for use of the information on their 7 minute brief.

What Does Predatory Marriage Look Like?

- ✓ **Grooming:** Predators may identify a vulnerable target and spend time “grooming” them to persuade them that they hold them in high esteem and to make them feel valued and loved. Predators often describe themselves as the victims carer. The predator may move into the home
- ✓ **Isolation:** Predators may spend time creating physical and emotional divisions between the individual and their friends and family to ensure only their voice is heard in isolation.
- ✓ **Harassment:** Predators may stimulate or create conflict and division within families & friendship networks

Signs, Indicators, and examples

- ✓ The signs and indicators are similar to other types of abuse, the person may appear isolated, withdrawn, fearful or unsure about their relationship or the people around them.
- ✓ When dementia is present, the victim may not be confused or fearful. Presenting as ‘pleasantly confused’ should not be interpreted as consenting

With thanks to North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board for use of the information on their 7 minute brief.

Joan's Story

Joan was targeted in Leeds by a younger man and covertly married in November 2015, this predatory marriage only came to light following her death in March 2016.

To read more about Joan's story click on this link [Our Story – Predatory Marriage UK](#)

Further information about predatory marriage can be found on the website [Predatory Marriage UK – Reforming marriage laws and procedures to protect people with dementia](#)

With thanks to North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board for use of the information on their 7 minute brief.

Some things to consider and actions to take

Things to consider

- ✓ The registrar should interview adults separately to ascertain capacity and consent, and stop any marriages where concerns are raised.
- ✓ Legally in the UK a marriage will always revoke a Will so anyone who marries (or who re-marries) would need to make a new Will to be clear about their wishes upon death.
- ✓ Once married, the predator is entitled to make decisions regarding funeral arrangements which may eclipse any decisions made with family members prior to the marriage taking place.
- ✓ Predatory Marriage relies on coercive control and is a form of forced marriage. Further information on [Forced marriage - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/forced-marriage).
- ✓ Lasting Power of Attorney does not protect against a coercive predatory marriage.

What to do

- ✓ Raise concerns with the registrar.
- ✓ Concerns should be reported to the police and local authority.
- ✓ Discuss the case with the Forced Marriage Unit - [Forced marriage - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/forced-marriage-unit).
- ✓ Advise the family to seek specialist legal advice.
- ✓ Consider applying for a Forced Marriage Protection Order. Guidance on [Forced marriage protection orders - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/forced-marriage-protection-orders).
- ✓ Consider a 'caveatin expectation of marriage' via a specialist solicitor.

With thanks to North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board for use of the information on their 7 minute brief.

Further information and resources

- ✓ [Predatory marriage - Ann Craft Trust](#)
- ✓ [Choice & decision making in Marriage](#)
- ✓ [Predatory marriage: what is it and what you can do](#)
- ✓ [Predatory Marriage UK](#) is an organisation campaigning to reform marriage laws and procedures to protect people with dementia
- ✓ [Forced Marriage Awareness E-Learning](#). The modules aim to enable professionals to recognise the warning signs and ensure that appropriate action is taken to help protect and support all those at risk.
 - ✓ [Forced Marriage guidance](#) from the UK Government and includes resources from the Forced Marriage Unit:
 - ✓ [Forced Marriage: A Survivor's Handbook](#)
 - ✓ [What is a forced marriage? leaflet](#)
- ✓ Selection of posters:
 - ✓ [I know where to go if I need help \(poster\)](#)
 - ✓ [I don't have to say yes to please anyone \(poster\)](#)
 - ✓ [I believe marriage is a choice \(poster\)](#)
 - ✓ [I'm not ready to get married \(poster\)](#)
- ✓ [Hourglass Predatory Marriage Policy Brief](#)
- ✓ [Predatory Marriage UK – Reforming marriage laws and procedures to protect people with dementia](#)
- ✓ [Predatory marriage: what is it and what you can do \(penningtonslaw.com\)](#)

Radicalisation

Radicalisation

- Radicalisation means someone is being encouraged to develop extreme views or beliefs in support of terrorist groups and activities.
- There are different types of terrorism, and Prevent deals with all of them. The most common types of terrorism in the UK are extreme right-wing terrorism and Islamist terrorism.

Further information can be found on the following:

- [what terrorism means.](#)
- [Get help for radicalisation concerns - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [ACT Early website](#)
- [Educate Against Hate website](#)
- Free eLearning - [Prevent duty training: Learn how to support people vulnerable to radicalisation - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- SSP 7 minute brief Prevent Duty [Prevent duty - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Spot the signs of radicalisation

- Radicalisation can happen both face to face or online. It is easier than ever to be groomed by terrorist recruiters on the internet and to find extremist materials.
- Everyone is different, and there is no checklist that can tell us if someone is being radicalised or becoming involved in terrorism. But these common signs may mean someone is being radicalised:
 - expressing an obsessive or angry sense of injustice about a situation, and blaming this on others
 - expressing anger or extreme views towards a particular group – such as a different race or religion
 - suggesting that violent action is the only way to solve an issue
 - sharing extreme views or hatred on social media

Source: [Get help for radicalisation concerns - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-help-for-radicalisation-concerns)

How might I identify vulnerability to/signs of radicalisation?

Key Points:

- There isn't a single profile of radicalisation.
- It is unlikely to be just one factor but a combination, understanding context is part of the Channel process in assessing level of risk.
- Radicalisation can occur regardless of age, gender, lifestyle, beliefs or religion.

Possession of extreme materials or symbols e.g. swastikas	'Them' and 'Us' thinking
Change in language to include racist, offensive words	Isolation from family / friendship group
Talking about / planning violent action	Watching, sharing, or creating films online linked to religious, political, or racial hate
Feelings of grievance or injustice	Being at a transitional time of life or personal crisis
Need for identity, status or a sense of belonging	Family or friends holding or being involved with extremist ideas
Desire for political, social or moral change	Being influenced or controlled by a group

Language is Powerful

Words Matter

Use of Language

- The way we use language influences our thinking. Recent serious case reviews in other areas have highlighted this as a significant issue which contributed to systemic failure to protect.
- Any language implying that a child/adult are complicit in or responsible for the harm they experience, negatively influences the lens by which we assess their needs and offer support.
- Victim blaming language may reinforce messages from perpetrators around shame and guilt. This in turn may prevent the person from disclosing their abuse as they may feel fear of being blamed by professionals.
- If we use inappropriate language what the adult and other professionals may hear is that they are in some way responsible for what is happening to them and therefore less deserving of our support.

The Role of Language and The Process of Dehumanisation

- Theory exploring dehumanisation sets its foundation in the use of dehumanising language.
- The process of seeing an individual as less than human is initiated through the narratives developed about them (Luna, 2015).
- These narratives retold become the norm of what we hear about these groups and become parameters to justify how an individual is to be judged (Tran et al., 2018).
- Dehumanisation serves the function of inhibiting our moral compass whereby we are able to sit comfortably with judgements and actions which we otherwise would not reach if the whole person was seen (Goff, Jackson, Di Leone, Culotta & DiTomasso, 2014).
- The process of dehumanising is slow and insidious and a process that begins usually through the use of short-hand terms, labels and discourses when communicating about children/young people/adults.
- Refer to SSP Practice Briefs for more information and suggested alternative language to be used [Language practice briefs for those at risk of exploitation - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Other resources to find out more



Source: Waltham Forest Council - Victim Blaming Language Clip
Duration 1:46.

Link - [Victim blaming language - YouTube](#)

- SSP Practice Brief - [Practice brief: exploitation and language - words matter - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- [Using appropriate language for those subject to or at risk of exploitation - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership \(children and adults\)](#)
- [The Power of Language in Safeguarding Practice - Ann Craft Trust](#)

Reporting Concerns

Reporting concerns

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership – report safeguarding concerns

- Adult [Report a concern - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- Child [Referral guidelines and MASH contact information - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- UK modern slavery & exploitation helpline on 08000 121 700
- Wiltshire Police via 101 or in an emergency ring 999
- Unseen website [Spot The Signs - Unseen \(unseenuk.org\)](#)

Reporting Hate Crime

- Reporting to Wiltshire Police via 101 or 999 or online - <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/hatecrime>
- 3rd Party reporting for hate crimes:
 - Voice UK (helpline Monday – Friday – 9 am – 5 pm Tel: 080 880 28686 email: helpline@voiceuk.org.uk)
 - True Vision provides the option to report a Hate Crime through the website www.report-it.org.uk

Some Other Useful Resources

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership:

- [Adults policies and guidance - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- [Children and young people policies and guidance - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- [7-minute briefs and learning resources to improve practice - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#) covering themes such as [discriminatory abuse](#), [safeguarding adolescents](#)
- Adult - [Report a concern - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- Child- [Referral guidelines and MASH contact information - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- Webpage [For professionals Information - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

SSP Free eLearning:

- Safeguarding Adults at Risk:
[https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/44/safeguarding adults at risk -
_basic_awareness_training](https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/44/safeguarding_adults_at_risk_-_basic_awareness_training)
- Child exploitation (*some learning may be relevant to adults*)
- [https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/53/child_exploitation -
_basic_awareness_training](https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/53/child_exploitation_-_basic_awareness_training)
- [https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/62/child_criminal_exploitation_and_county_lines - e-learning](https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/62/child_criminal_exploitation_and_county_lines_-_e-learning)

Webpages

SSP Webpages (some information may be relevant to adults)

- Child Exploitation - https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/info/15/for_professionals/37/child_exploitation
- Risk Outside The Home - https://safeguardingpartnership.swindon.gov.uk/info/11/children_and_young_people/90/risk_outside_the_home_roth_-_adopting_a_contextual_safeguarding_approach

Wiltshire Police - <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/ms/modern-slavery/>

Ann Craft Trust - [Ann Craft Trust: https://www.anncrafttrust.org/the-pandemic-organised-crime-safeguarding-young-people-at-risk/](https://www.anncrafttrust.org/the-pandemic-organised-crime-safeguarding-young-people-at-risk/)

MoneyHelper - [Financial abuse: spotting the signs and leaving safely \(moneyhelper.org.uk\)](https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/financial-abuse/spotting-the-signs-and-leaving-safely)

The Children's Society - [Debt Bondage in a CCE and CL context by The Children's... - Flipsnack](#)

Victim Support - [Cybercrime and online fraud - Victim Support](#)