

Jeannette Chipping Child Exploitation and Missing Manager

Youth Intervention Virtual Forum
25th May 2021



Our adolescents are uniquely, wonderfully special...

Adolescence provides a unique array of strengths and opportunities as a result of social and physiological development processes

Witty

Fun

Proactive

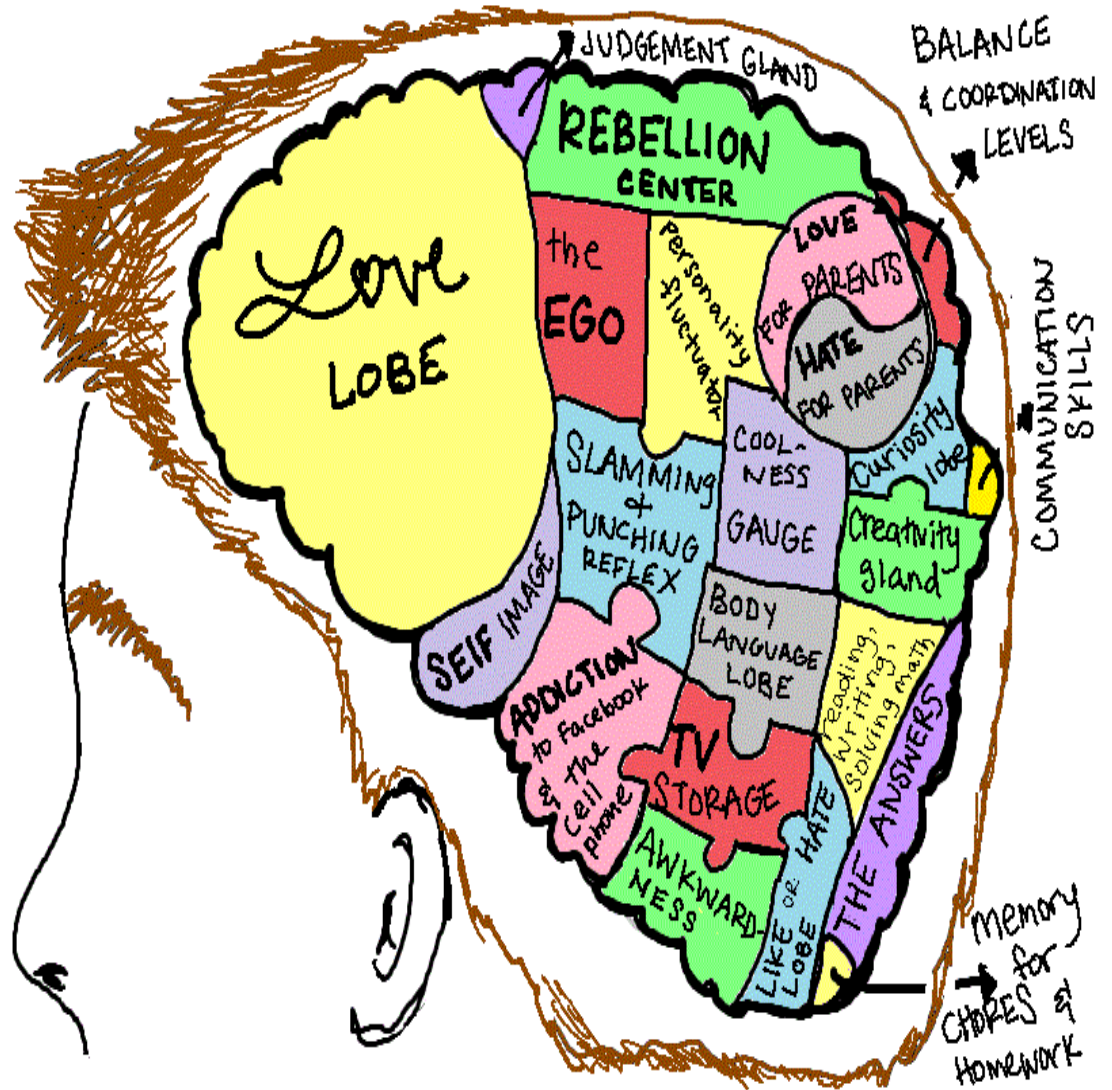
Get things done

Socially aware

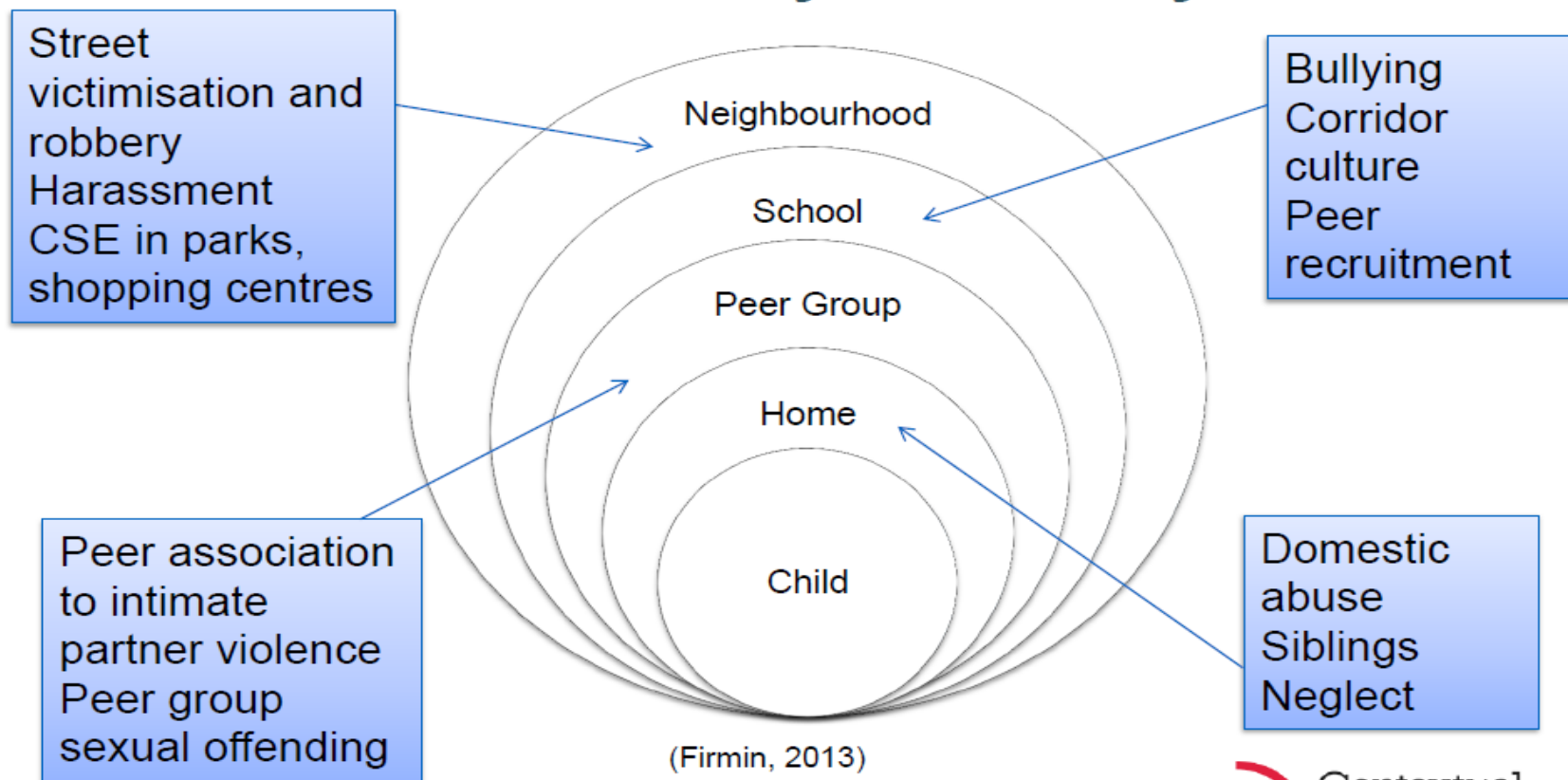
Loyal

But.....We need to remember though they don't cope better with situations because they are older.

THE AVERAGE TEENAGE BRAIN



Contextual nature of adolescent vulnerability and safety



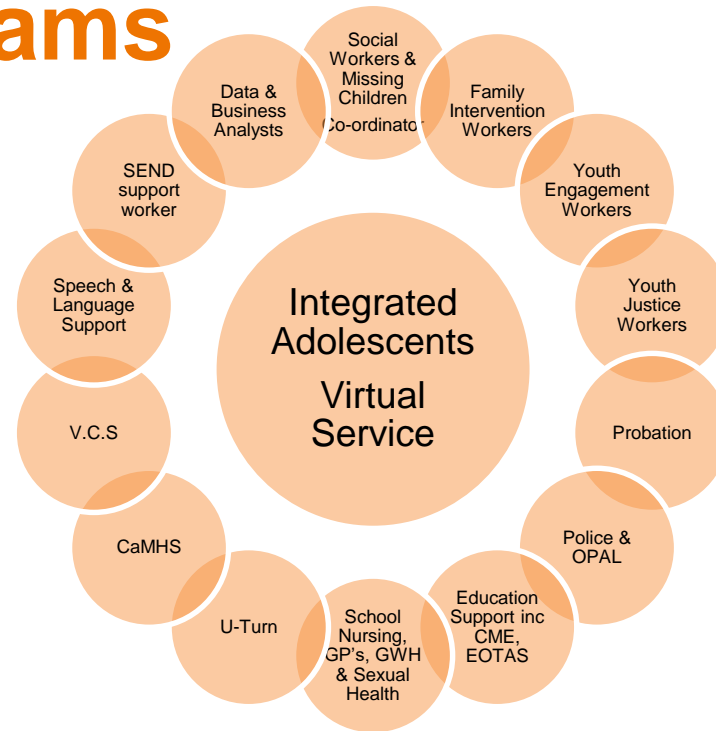
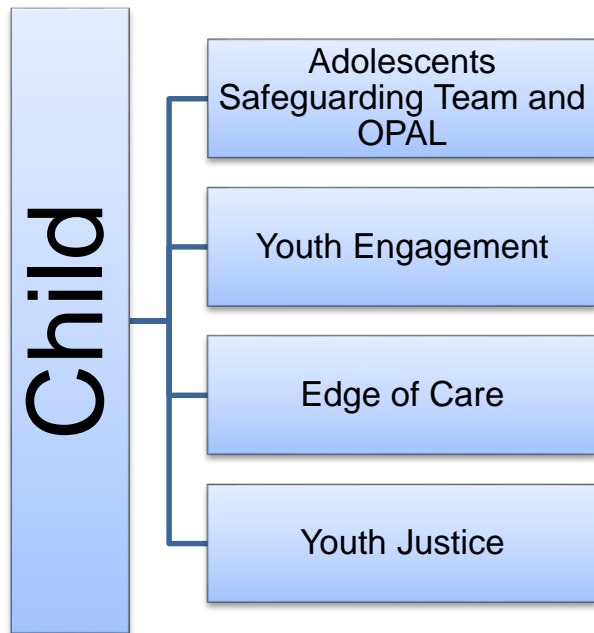
Child Exploitation -Swindon Picture

- **Opal Team –Police and Children’s Services**
- **Number of referrals for Children Sexual Exploitation reduced. Who are we missing?**
- **Child Criminal Exploitation –learning curve**
- **Local Lines is key concern in Swindon**
- **Importance of disruption**

INTERGRATED ADOLESCENT SERVICE

- Risk outside the home (ROTH)
- Practitioners who have skills in working with teenagers
- Early intervention

One Integrated Service working together across teams



MARP- Multi Agency Risk Panel

- The purpose of MARP is to Quality Assure the safety planning in place for children at risk of Missing, and Child Exploitation.
- MARP makes Multi-Agency recommendations regarding the safety planning to all partners to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people highlighted at MARP
- Use **Victim Offender Location Themes (VOLT)** model

Multi-Agency Meetings -CE

- **Mapping/Contextual Safeguarding meetings**
- **Emerging gangs meeting (being renamed Violence Reduction Panel)**
- **Children who carry weapons**

Challenges and Positives

- Grooming/ Brainwashing –How can agencies compete
- Need to be creative in our approach -How do we make brave decisions to do things differently.
- This is hard, messy and complex work.
- These children do not see themselves as victims. They are not your ideal victims.
- Understanding of risk outside the family home
- There is a real commitment to multi-agency working and evidence of good practice that has made a difference.
- Building of trusted relationships

Finally

- It is important to recognise as practitioners that children do not fit neatly into one form of exploitation, they can be both criminally and sexually exploited at the same time.
- It is important to recognise that building a trusted relationship between children and practitioners is essential to effective communication and risk management.
- Establishing relationships takes time!
- Professional curiosity “don’t take what I tell you at face value”
- **Every interaction is an intervention!**