

# Connected for Freedom

## Tech-Facilitated Trafficking Key Takeaways



**The Report Act (signed May 2024) expanded reporting requirements for social media companies, resulting in a 323% increase in CST reports to NCMEC (from ~30,000 to 113,500). 93% of those reports came from online companies. This wasn't a sudden spike in new victims; it exposed years of underreporting by platforms.**

### Online Enticement

An individual communicating with someone they believe to be a child via the internet with the intention to commit a sexual offense or abduction.



Online enticement can devolve into sextortion, trafficking, abduction, or CSAM production.

### Platforms & Recruitment



No single app or gaming is the problem - any platform with a messaging function can be used.



Traffickers can shift a child from one platform to a secondary "online location" where monitoring is harder.



It also works in reverse: exploiters meet youth in person, then move the relationship online.

### Sextortion

Child is contacted by someone pretending to be another juvenile → asked for explicit images → threatened with release unless they pay.



Exploiters rely on shame and isolation to maintain control.



Boys are at greater risk and far less likely to disclose.

**Move beyond "don't do it" and equip children with what to do WHEN something happens.**

## Resources Available

### **CyberTipline ([cybertipline.org](https://cybertipline.org))**

Report online exploitation, CSAM, enticement, trafficking

### **Take It Down**

Generates digital fingerprints of explicit images; participating platforms auto-remove matches

### **NetSmartz ([ncmec.org/netsmartz](https://ncmec.org/netsmartz))**

Age-appropriate online safety education for kids and conversation prompts for adults

### **Report Act data retention**

All reported data must be held 1 year for law enforcement evidentiary use