



**Online,
digital spaces are not
always safe for children.**

**In fact, that's where a lot of them get
recruited into sexual exploitation.**



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Online grooming is now one of the main recruitment methods. It often starts with promises of **affection, friendship, or belonging** – rather than money or work opportunities.

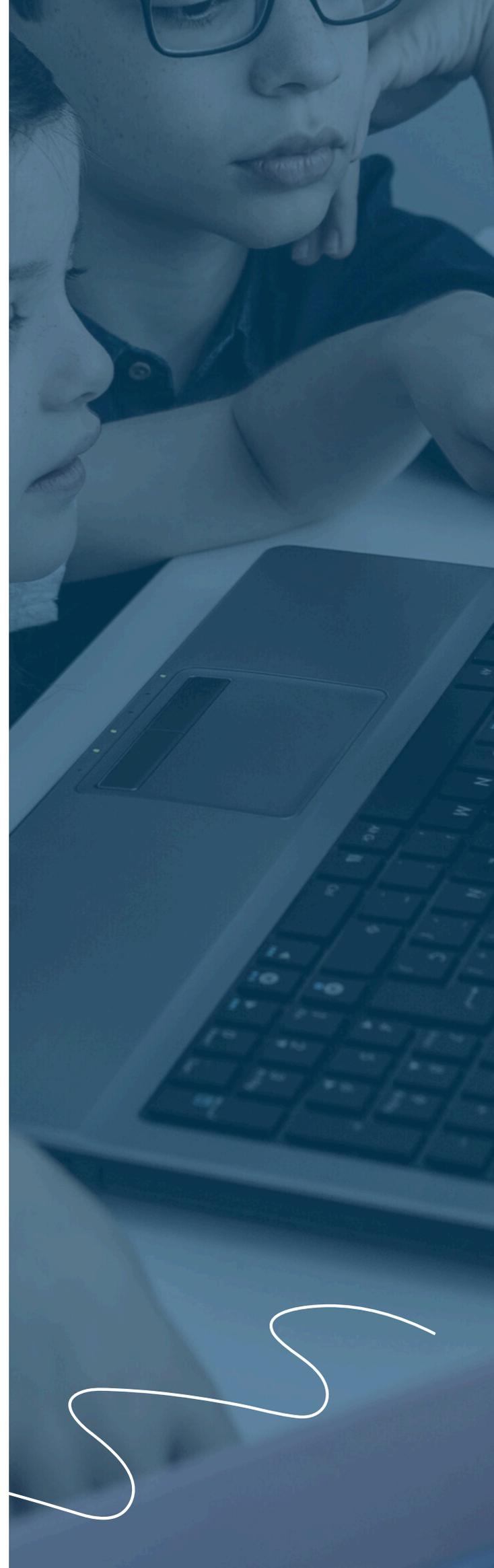
Because it happens online, any child can be targeted. Even those from stable families can be manipulated through trust and emotional dependence.

Digital spaces are not always safe.

**Why is it so hard to recognise?
Many children do not see themselves as victims.
The relationship with the exploiter often feels real, caring, and voluntary.**

But behind that “relationship” there may be:

- coercion
- threats
- emotional pressure
- requests to produce sexual content.





On the other hand, online sexual exploitation often leaves no visible signs and requires no physical movement, which makes it difficult for social services and law enforcement to intervene.

Prevention is possible.

It requires:

- Digital literacy
- Sexuality & relationships education
- Early detection skills
- Cooperation between schools, social services, and justice systems.



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SafeBorders – Strengthening Judicial expertise and Frontline support to combat Child Trafficking

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