

HOW CHILD TRAFFICKERS **USE** TRUST, TECHNOLOGY, AND COERCION

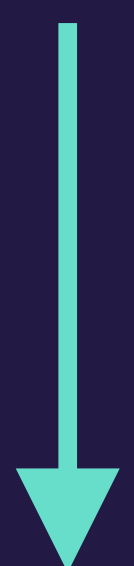


Trust

Across all forms of child sexual exploitation (CSE), predators invest heavily in trust. With child sex trafficking (CST) victims often know their traffickers, who may spend months to years grooming them.



Technology



Thorn's survivor survey shows that since 2015 the majority of CST victims met their traffickers for the first time via text, websites, or apps.



Coercion

Once a trafficker has gained trust, they use it as leverage to coerce victims. This could include convincing them that they are the only ones that love them, showering them with gifts and affection, or providing drugs. Some victims may also engage in survival sex, receiving basic necessities like food or shelter.

