



The HOPE Project

Keith Smith - BILD

Co-funded by
the Daphne Programme of the
European Union, Rights, Equality
and Citizenship Programme



Unprotected, overprotected

“ there is a recognised need to empower young people with learning disabilities so that they can recognise exploitation in general and disclose abuse but there also needs to be more preventative work through education, raising awareness of sexual exploitation and safety skills development.”

Unprotected, overprotected: meeting the needs of young people with learning disabilities who experience, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation

Franklin, Raws and Smeaton (2015)



HOPE Project basic facts



- Mentors with learning disabilities providing awareness training to peers and professionals
- Builds on ARC's Helping Each Other project
- Funded by European Daphne project
- Runs from January 2017 to June 2019

Our Partners



- The Social Association St Andrew (SASA) working with the Roma community in Varna, Bulgaria
- The European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD)

Our outcomes (1)



- Developing peer led learning programmes
- Understanding sexual exploitation by exploring good and bad relationships
- Young people to have knowledge and confidence to recognise, resist and report sexual exploitation

Our outcomes (2)

- Increase schools', colleges' and service providers' awareness of sexual exploitation and learning disabilities
- Increase multi-disciplinary professionals' awareness of sexual exploitation and learning disabilities



The work programme

- Recruiting, training and supporting peer mentors
- Working with schools, colleges, service providers and professionals
- Developing and delivering training programmes
- Completion of workbooks and action plans for individuals and organisations
- Review of impact and delivery
- Amend and repeat
- Share results and resources

Our Peer Mentors



- North Devon team – Rod Landman
- Plymouth team – Rod Landman



- East Midlands team – Bridget Fisher

Training HOPE mentors

- 20 hour course – 5 sessions
- More knowledge and self-confidence
- Having fun
- Understanding sexual exploitation
- Sharing experiences
- Good and bad relationships
- Developing programmes and activities
- Co-training



How we want to teach about sexual exploitation

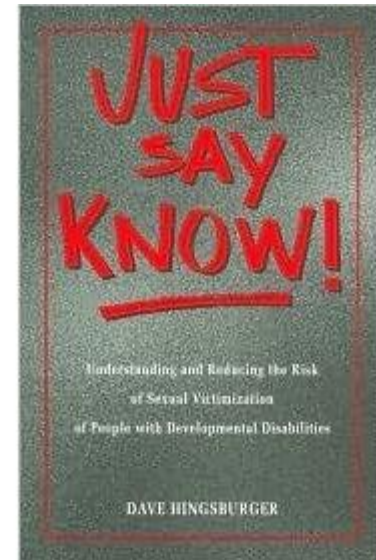
1. Trust/ice breaking/fun
2. What we want to achieve
3. Relationships – what makes a good one
4. Where to get help for yourself or a friend
5. Ring of Safety
6. What is SE?/what is grooming?
7. Online grooming
8. Knowledge quiz

Being safe – the ring of safety

These things can keep you safe:

- Understanding your rights
- Being confident
- Having a good sex life
- Sex education
- Knowing what “private” means
- Being able to say “no”
- Having someone who really listens to you

Just say Know! Hingsburger DJ (1995)



Work in progress



- Workshops for young people to begin in October 2017
- Workshops for professionals to begin March 2018
- External evaluation awarded to ACT in September 2017

Issues

- Working with families
- Flexibility of delivery
- Toolbox of activities and films
- The pace of change in social media
- Addressing demand
- Sustainability beyond June 2019



Contact details



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Thank you!

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