

Online Offender Typologies

(Seto, 2013, p. 163)

Elliott & Beech (2009)

Reviewed offender typologies proposed by Krone (2004) and Sullivan and Beech (2003), integrating them with a contact offender typology developed by Lanning (2001).

- **Periodically Prurient**: Access child pornography sporadically, impulsively, and/or opportunistically.
- **Fantasy-only**: Sexual interest in children, but have no known history of contact offending.
- **Direct victimization**: Use online technologies as part of a broader involvement with offending, including viewing child pornography and soliciting minors.
- **Commercial exploitation**: Use the Internet to make money, e.g., selling child pornography or facilitating prostitution involving minors.

Fortin & Roy (2007, Translated from French. Labels were created by Seto.)

- **Explorers**: young, with little or no criminal history.
- **Solo purchasers**: purchased or sold commercial content.
- **Communal traders**: trade with others and who are involved in online communities.
- **High-risk offenders**: those with more extensive criminal history, including shopping auger fee and/or contact offending.
- **Collectors**: no interactions with others online and did not use commercial resources (this was the largest group in their sample).
- **Groomers**: use child pornography instrumentally, attempting to meet or engage in cyber sex with minors. This can include Internet blackmail.

Hartman, Burgess, & Lanning (1984)

Off-line child pornography offender typology.

- **Closet collectors**: secretly obtain child pornography without contact sexual offending or communication with others.
- **Pedophile collectors**: sexually preferred children and likely to committed contact offenses.
- **Cottage collectors**: engage with other offenders.
- **Commercial collectors**: are motivated by financial gains rather than sexual interests.

Henry, Mandeville, Norden, Hayes & Egan (2010)

Regarding Internet offenders;

- **Apparently normal**: near or within the normal range on all tests.
- **Inadequate**: significant social-affective problems such as loneliness and under assertiveness, without serious problems with offensive supportive attitudes and beliefs, callousness, or emotional identification with children.
- **Deviant**: social – affective deficits as well as very poor victim empathy and the endorsement of offense supportive attitudes and beliefs.

Krone (2004)

Distinguish between the following types of online child pornography offenders.

- **Browsers**: encountered child porn accidentally but decide to save it.
- **Private fantasy offenders**: fantasize about children and may seek out corresponding text/images.
- **Trawlers**: involved in a variety of pornography and engage in curious or experimental viewing of child pornography.
- **Nonsecure collectors**: download, trade, or purchase child pornography through open sources.
- **Secure collectors**: collect child pornography and use security countermeasures to avoid detection.
- **Groomers**: focus on soliciting minors for cybersex or real-life meetings but who use child pornography as part of online interactions.
- **Physical abusers**: have committed contact offenses and for whom child pornography is supplemental, e.g., for fantasies or as record of offending.
- **Producers**: record child pornography images or videos and distribute them to others.
- **Distributors**: possess child pornography for the purpose of selling or distributing with no imputation about sexual motives.

Lamb (1998)

Characterize persons frequenting youth gay chat rooms.

- **Cruisers:** misrepresented themselves online and were primarily interested in cybersex.
- **Browsers:** genuinely curious and interested in meeting people.
- **Pornographers:** gathered and traded pornography.

McLaughlin (2000)

Distinguish between child pornography collectors, travelers, and producers.

O'Connell (2003)

Described proposed typology of online interactions rather than online offenders.

O'Connor (2005)

Regarding child pornography possession.

- **Accidental:** had accidental access, e.g., downloading large blocks of pornography and not realizing some of the files depict child pornography.
- **Curious:** view child pornography because it can be found and curious, typically have small collections.
- **Morally indiscriminate:** a wide range of pornography, including paraphilia or extreme contents.
- **Entrepreneurial:** collect child pornography, possibly for financial gain and may have committed contact offenses.
- **Addicted/problem-aware:** aware of their addiction to child pornography or sexual attraction to children but who are unable to control their sexual fantasies.

Sullivan and Beech (2003)

Distinguished between three types of offenders.

- **Type 1:** offenders collect child pornography as part of a broader pattern of sexual offending, including sexual contacts with children.
- **Type 2:** offenders collect child pornography to fuel their sexual interest in children.
- **Type 3:** offenders collect child pornography out of curiosity.