

# HAVING OUR Say, TOO

## NOTES FOR PRACTITIONERS

This resource is designed to support any work that you might be doing, or want to undertake with young people around the issues involved in Sexual Exploitation.

The resource activities can be useful whether you already work in a specialist support setting or whether you work in a more general youth context. The digital stories can be used as a resource individually or in combination with the activities in the pack.

The resource has been developed in response to the work made by young people across the UK who either have direct experience of sexual exploitation or who have been identified to be at risk. Their images and stories reflect both their experiences and their perspectives on the issues involved.

The activities are for you to use and adapt in any way that works best for your setting, the size of group, and your time constraints. The exercises can also be adapted to reflect the group's composition in terms of age, experience and peer relationship to each other.

So the guides for activity duration are approximate but give you an idea of activities that can be undertaken in a single or double lesson or an evening or day youth work session.

It is useful to watch some of the short digital stories before you undertake an activity as you may decide that certain activities are less relevant or appropriate for the age, maturity or experience of your group.

**DIGITAL STORY NO 1** is the informative story – it offers insight and information that is useful for many of the activities contained in the resource. It is supported by the fact sheets that are intended for you as a practitioner to use as a resource whilst planning your workshop but also to share with young people as information that supports digital story 1 and activities that reference this story.

**DIGITAL STORIES 2 – 18** have been made by young people and reflect their experiences and perspectives on sexual exploitation. They range from constructed stories (some that are personal, some not), to reflections on the theme that are abstract, poetic or informative. They contain a range of stories that represent young men's as well as young women's experiences and describe sexual exploitation within the UK as well as across international boundaries. There are examples of both male and female perpetrators and those with different sexual orientations. The range of stories demonstrates that these issues impact on everyone and involve everyone regardless of their race, gender, cultural or religious experience or sexual orientation. This is key for professionals developing their practice and is important to demonstrate to young people that relying on stereotypes and making assumptions is never helpful or appropriate when practicing safeguarding.

**DIGITAL STORY 19** has been made specifically for practitioners to use to support their own practice. It has been made by Barnardo's SECOS project, Middlesbrough – both staff and young people made a story to encourage professionals to challenge their fears, to support resilience in young people and to spot when specific young people may need input or intervention.

**ALSO SEE STORY SYNOPSIS GRID** for specific individual story themes and uses.

This resource also has supporting factsheets and online and professional support resources that may be helpful for you to use.

All the activities are downloadable and the digital stories viewable online on the Having Our Say Too website:

[www.havingoursaytoo.co.uk](http://www.havingoursaytoo.co.uk)

We hope that you find this resource easy to use and useful.

Helen Cammock – Project Manager, PhotoVoice

[www.photovoice.org](http://www.photovoice.org)

and Lesley Gladwell – Young people's co-ordinator, NWG Network.

[www.nationalworkinggroup.org](http://www.nationalworkinggroup.org)