

Silent starter: Read the information on the slide your teacher is displaying. Answer the questions in the spaces below. Be ready to share your ideas.

# Peer-on-Peer Abuse



What different forms might sexual violence take?

What different forms might sexual harassment take?

Give two reasons someone might be 'upskirted'.

What do you understand by the term 'sexting'?

Notes...

If we, or anyone we know, are victims of peer-on-peer abuse we should...

# Peer-on-peer abuse

Silent starter. Read this information and then answer the questions on the right in your booklet

The term 'peer-on-peer' sexual abuse includes:

- sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault
- sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse
- up-skirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or to cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- sexting (also known as 'youth-produced sexual imagery')

What different forms might sexual violence take?

Rape, assault by penetration or sexual assault (for example unwanted touching or groping).

What different forms might sexual harassment take?

Sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual comments. This might happen once or repeatedly.

Give two reasons someone might be 'upskirted'.

- For sexual gratification (pleasure)
- To cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.

What do you understand by the term 'sexting'?

It means pictures of a sexual nature which are sent/shared between people. You may use a different term for these, e.g. 'dick pics'.

# Thinking before we go any further

- Some of you will find this content embarrassing or it might make you feel a bit uncomfortable
- That's fine. We still need to cover it as it's important stuff.
- Your teacher won't insist that you share your thoughts with the class if you don't want to, but everyone needs to engage with the lesson properly and sensibly. This is important life content.



# Peer-on-Peer Abuse

First question: who are your peers?

- sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault
- sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse
- up-skirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or to cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- sexting (also known as 'youth-produced sexual imagery')

Your peers are those people at the same age or stage as you e.g. people alongside you in school, or of a similar age to you in the local community. They might hurt you through doing any/all of the things we saw in the starter exercise. :

Two questions to think about and then discuss as a class:

- **WHY** might a peer target someone for this treatment?  
Why do they do it?
- **What should YOU** do if you think you are the victim of peer-on-peer abuse?



# *Online* peer-on-peer abuse

- receiving explicit photographs or videos, for example 'dick pics' which you haven't asked for
- sending, or being pressured to send, nude and semi-nude photographs or videos ('nudes')
- being sent or shown explicit material, such as pornographic videos You might have actively searched for these, or you might not.
- Typical platforms for sharing material between peers tended to be WhatsApp or Snapchat.

Time to think and discuss again...

- WHY might people do these things?
- What's the minimum age for using WhatsApp and Snapchat? Why do we have minimum ages for apps?



# Scenario... use your imagination...

- A supposed friend asks and asks you to send a nude pic of yourself. They promise they will not share it with anyone. In the end, you relent and send a picture.
- What might happen next? List the possibilities and then discuss as a class...

What's the BEST possible outcomes?  
What's the worst? How might that worst outcome affect you

- Now?
  - In a year's time?
  - In 10 years' time?



# Scenario...



## Best outcome

- Your friend is true to their word. They never share the nude you sent with anyone. They don't even tell anyone you sent it. They keep it totally to themselves forever.

## Worst outcome

- Your 'friend' shares the image. They also tell other people about it. The people they share it with, share it on again. People talk about it and ask you questions about it that embarrass you. People you haven't ever met have access to a private picture of you. You try to get it removed, but it keeps getting shared on by others because so many people have it. When you apply for a job, 10 years later, your would-be employer googles your name to look at your internet history, and finds information about this nude that you shared when you were a child and, as a result, doesn't want to employ you. This nude NEVER GOES AWAY!

Think this is an exaggeration? Think again. It happens ALL THE TIME!!!

Normal	Inappropriate	Problematic	Abusive	Violent
<p>Developmentally expected. Socially acceptable. Consensual, mutual, reciprocal. Shared decision-making.</p>	<p>Single instances of inappropriate sexual behaviour. Socially acceptable behaviour within peer group. Context for behaviour may be inappropriate. Generally consensual and reciprocal.</p>	<p>Problematic and concerning behaviour. Developmentally unusual and socially unexpected. No overt elements of victimisation. Consent issues may be unclear. May lack reciprocity or equal power. May include levels of compulsivity.</p>	<p>Victimising intent or outcome. Includes misuse of power. Coercion and force to ensure victim compliance. Intrusive. Informed consent lacking or not able to be freely given by victim. May include elements of expressive violence.</p>	<p>Physically violent sexual abuse. Highly intrusive. Instrumental violence that is psychologically and/or sexually arousing to the perpetrator. Sadism.</p>

Read this information. When does behaviour of a sexual nature become inappropriate? Try to identify the issues with inappropriate sexual behaviour.

Sexual behaviour is inappropriate when:

- ...
- ...
- ...



# How often does peer-on-peer abuse happen in schools and colleges?

A recent government survey revealed that:

- 90% of girls and 50% of boys had been sent explicit pictures.
- Students were more likely to feel unsafe in areas of school unsupervised by staff, or on the way to/from school.
- Girls are more likely to experience sexual abuse and harassment than boys – 1/3 of all female high school students report that they have experienced sexual abuse/harassment.
- Girls felt that sometimes they were left to educate the boys about what is/ isn't sexual harassment, rather than boys being taught that by teachers.

Think/discuss:

- Are you surprised or shocked by these statistics?
- Do they fit with YOUR experiences?
- What do schools need to do to try to reduce incidents of sexual abuse and harassment in school?

Draw up a list of possible actions THS could take and send these to Ms Wells/Mr Womack



# A rise in reporting...



Since 2013, reports of the sexual abuse and harassment of children have increased by 267%. Do you think this is because:

- More abuse is happening than before?
- People are less prepared to put up with it?
- Attitudes have changed and what was once considered 'banter' or 'part of growing up' is now seen very clearly as wrong?
- Victims are feeling more confident that something will be done about the abuse and harassment that they are suffering?
- The law has been clarified so victims know that they can find help and support and shouldn't just have to put up with it?

**Discuss these ideas in small groups and then as a class**

# If YOU/YOUR FRIENDS were experiencing sexual abuse or harassment...

- What COULD you do?
  - Who could you tell?
  - What action could you take?
  - Who might be able to help?
- What WOULD you do?
  - Of all the options you have, which would you be most likely to take and why?

Would there ever be reasons why you DON'T take action/ try to stop the abuse? What might these be?



Final question to consider...

Is sexual abuse and harassment just a normal part of life and not really worth making a fuss about or reporting?

