

Effective Components for An Ideal Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Program

Approved by Cheryl Banachowski-Fuller on January 4, 2012

Effective Components for An Ideal Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Program

A Seminar Paper

Presented to the Graduate Faculty

University of Wisconsin-Platteville

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

For the Degree

Masters of Science in Criminal Justice

Kasey L. Sink

Acknowledgements

I made the choice to earn my graduate degree in criminal justice for many reasons. I wanted to get as much schooling done as I could before I did not want to go back to school. I wanted to make my parents proud that they had a child who earned their graduate degree on top of their bachelor's degree. I wanted to earn my graduate degree, so I know that I finished school completely. Now I can go to training in topics that I want to better myself in that are more in depth.

I want to thank my parents for keeping me motivated through not only my graduate degree, but all of my schooling. I want to thank my mother for going back to school later on in her life to get her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana. It was her drive and perseverance that kept me going through my graduate schooling. I want to thank my father for telling me I should go back to school to earn my graduate degree and pushing me to finish. My parents helped me throughout my whole life with everything. They are the reason I am as successful as I am today. Without both of them, I do not think I would have been able to earn my graduate degree. Thank you for everything you have done for me throughout my life. I love you both.

I want to thank my sister for helping me through all of my schooling as well. She may not know it, but she did help me quite a bit. School seemed easier for my sister than it was for me. She has always had the book smarts in the family. She helped me with my English classes in high school and college even though she is four years younger than me. She would read through my research papers and correct my spelling, grammatical errors, and punctuation. My mother did the same for me when my sister went off to college. Thank you for being the best little sister a person could have. I love you little sis.

I want to thank my boyfriend, Josh, for helping me throughout this journey. He helped me with my homework for my graduate degree. He sat with me late at night when I was frustrated and could not figure out what I was supposed to do for an assignment. He skipped going to different events, so he could stay at home with me until I finished my homework. He helped me remember when I had assignments due after I started my job with the Wisconsin Capitol Police in February 2011. He kept me motivated to finish my homework and my degree when I was tired from long days at work, and did not want to do my homework. I love you, and thank you for keeping me motivated to finish.

I want to thank my Aunt Denise for helping me remember how to do APA citations for my paper. She was my second mom when my mother went back to school to become a veterinarian. My aunt was there for me when my mom was unable to be. She helped me through high school, with my undergraduate degree, and with my graduate degree. Thank you for being there for me, and keeping me motivated. I love you very much!

I want to thank my professors for helping me through undergraduate and graduate school. My undergraduate teachers helped me with not only school problems, but personal problems as

well. They also helped keep my drive going to finish out school with good grades and move on to earn my graduate degree. My graduate teachers helped me understand assignments, to write better papers, and keep me motivated to finish my degree even after I took a semester off to put myself through the police academy. All of my professors helped me to stay motivated and be here today to earn my graduate degree. Thank you for helping me with everything.

I want to thank my graduate advisor, Cheryl Banachowski-Fuller, for helping me finish earning my graduate degree. She helped me get back on track after taking a semester off to put myself through the police academy. She pushed me to get back on track and finish my graduate degree two years. Thank you for all of your help.

Finally, I want to say that I am glad I chose the University of Wisconsin-Platteville to not only receive my Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, but my Master's Degree in Criminal Justice as well. I am honored to say that I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville for both of my degrees.

Abstract

Effective Components for An Ideal Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Program

Kasey L. Sink

Under the supervision of Dr. Cheryl Banachowski-Fuller

Statement of the Problem

According to David Finkelhor, Kimberly J. Mitchell, Janis Wolak, and Michelle L. Ybarra (2008), police are facing an epidemic of children sexual crimes where the perpetrators meet their victims through the Internet. There are new types of ways that perpetrators are coming into contact with their victims through the Internet, and new types of perpetrators appearing in investigations.

According to the Science Daily (2008), Professor Dafna Lemish stated that parents do not realize what types of dangers are out there for their children on the Internet. Parents do not know what their children are doing on the Internet, and what sites their children are reviewing online. Parents need to be educated on effective Internet sex crime prevention programs.

The purpose of this paper is to show the general population how parents do not know what their children are looking at, or who they are talking to on the Internet. This paper will show the parents the dangers of not being in the know. It will also show the parents how to prevent the dangers from happening, and what to do if they see the signs of Internet danger whether it refers to sexual predators or other computer crimes.

According to an article by Finkelhor et al. (2008), police are facing an epidemic of sexual crimes where the perpetrators meet their victims through the Internet. There are new types of ways that perpetrators are coming into contact with their victims through the Internet, and new types of perpetrators showing up in investigations. They wanted to collect data about Internet-

related sexual crimes with juvenile victims. So, they surveyed a random sample of 2,576 local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies between October 2001 and July 2002 (Finkelhor et al., 2008).

Finkelhor et al. (2008) conducted surveys by mail and by telephone. With the mail surveys, the response rate was 88%, with 385 agencies which reported a total of 1,723 cases. They used the data from the mail surveys for selecting random cases reported to conduct their telephone interviews on. The data from their telephone interviews showed that 612 interviews were completed with a total of 129 cases which concerned Internet-initiated offenses (Finkelhor et al., 2008). Many parents do not realize what types of dangers are out there for their children on the Internet.

Some parents do not know what their children are doing on the Internet, and what sites their children are going onto. Several parents do not know about the Internet sexual crimes prevention programs that are out there to protect their children from sexual predators. The parents need to be educated about these different problems. The parents need to be in the know of what their children are looking at and who they are talking to on the Internet.

Professor Lemish, from the Department of Communication at Tel Aviv University conducted a survey on some parents and their children to see if the parents knew what their child was doing online (Science Daily, 2008). Her survey produced shocking results. She surveyed over 500 Jewish and Arabic children that were all different ages and from all different socio-economic backgrounds.

She asked the children if they gave out personal information to people on the Internet. She also asked the parents if their children gave out their personal information to people on the Internet. Only four percent of the parents said they believed their children gave out their

personal information to people on the Internet. However; 73 percent of the children said they give out their personal information to people on the Internet (Science Daily, 2008).

This paper will argue that parents need to know what their children are doing on the computer, and who they are talking to. The parents need to make sure they stress the importance of not giving out personal information to people online with their children. This paper will also argue that parents need to educate themselves and their children on the dangers of the Internet and giving out their personal information.

There are many sexual abuse crimes happening around the world today. An example of one is a 13-year-old girl who was raped, stabbed, and killed by a homeless man in a field two blocks from the street she lived on. The homeless man was on the GPS monitoring device while he was committing the sexual predator crime (McLaughlin & Oppmann, 2009).

There is a prevention program for sexual abuse of children called '*Stop It Now!*'. It is a program that teaches parents and other adults what sexual abuse is exactly, the profile of people who are likely to be a sexual predator, how to prevent child sexual abuse, warning signs that parents need to watch out for when another person is around their child for an activity like a camp, and to understand why someone would sexually abuse a child (Stop It Now!, 2010).

Another prevention program is called the Prevention Education Program by the '*Paul & Lisa Inc.*' program. It teaches children about the dangers of street predators, sexual predators, and the predators on the Internet (Paul & Lisa Program, Inc., 2005).

The current sexual predator prevention programs are not always effective. They teach parents and children the dangers of sexual predication, how to prevent it, the warning signs of sexual predators, and what to do if someone suspects a child is being sexually abused. Parents

need to know how to prevent their children from being sexually abused by a predator that finds them on the Internet.

However, children are still becoming victims of sexual predators even if they are on GPS surveillance by law enforcement. That is one problem with the current sexual predator prevention programs. Another example is that the *'Polly Klaas Foundation'* offers free child safety kits to families to put their child's fingerprints and personal information in, but they do not offer an ink pad with the kit. So, the parents have to go to a police station or buy an ink pad to fingerprint their children.

GPS monitoring devices have been used to monitor where sex offenders are at all times after they have been released from jail. However, people think they are not relevant, because it may tell you where the person is at, but not if they are sexually abusing someone at that time (McLaughlin & Oppmann, 2009).

Many parents do not know about the different Internet sexual predator prevention programs that are out there today. They need to be educated on these programs, so they know how to prevent their children from becoming a victim of sexual abuse by an Internet predator.

Methods of Approach

The method of approach for this paper will be to review data from secondary sources on Internet-based sexual predator crimes, prevention programs for them, and how to educate parents on the dangers of sexual predators and the Internet. The data will come from accredited journals, credible websites, and government websites such as OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Justice and GovTrack.

Information will be gathered from these sources on Internet-based sexual predator crimes, prevention programs for them, how to educate parents on the dangers of sexual predators and the

Internet, and recommendations of prevention programs for law enforcement personnel, parents, and their children to utilize. Based on my findings, recommendations will be provided to help solve the current problems associated with Internet-based sexual predator crimes.

Assumptions

The outcome that is anticipated is that parents will be more educated with how to protect their children from Internet-based sexual predators, and be able to teach their children the dangers of the Internet. Parents will be able to prevent their children from becoming victimized by Internet-based sexual predators, see the danger signs, and tell proper authorities before a child is victimized. The Internet-based sexual victimization against children will decrease as more and more parents and children become aware of the situation and how to fix it.

Results of the Study

Law enforcement personnel and the general public will be able to use this paper as an informational tool on how to prevent computer crimes, more specifically sexual predator crimes via the Internet, what programs to utilize, and the dangers of the Internet. This paper will provide recommendations on how to prevent computer sexual predator crimes, what programs would be the best ones to utilize in preventing computer sexual predator crimes, such as offering an ink pad with the child safety kits that the *'Polly Klaas Foundation'* hands out to families, so they can properly utilize the kit. This paper will also provide recommendations on how parents can be in the know of what their children are doing on the Internet.

Obviously something is not working in preventing sexual crimes based on Internet predators. Hopefully, this paper will help prevent further computer sexual crimes, and teach parents, children, and law enforcement personnel the danger signs of sexual predators, and how to prevent sexual predator crimes via the Internet.

After reading this paper, law enforcement personnel and the general public will know what prevention programs work for computer crime prevention, how to be in the know of what their children are doing on the Internet, and how to prevent their children from becoming victims of Internet-based sexual abuse. They will also know how to create a more effective child sexual predator Internet crime prevention program, how to talk with their children about the dangers of the Internet and sexual predators, and six examples of current child sexual predator Internet crime prevention programs.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
Approval Page	i
Title Page	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	xi

SECTIONS

I. INTRODUCTION: DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM	1
II. LITERATURE REVIEW	5-22
A. Definition/History of Children Sexual Predator Internet Crimes	5
B. Types of Children Sexual Predator Internet Crimes	8
C. Statistics on Amount of Children Sexual Predator Internet Crimes	12
D. Statistics on Lack of Awareness Parents Have on Children's Internet Activities	16
E. Dangers of Internet-Based Children Sexual Predators	19
F. Problems With Current Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Programs	21
III. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	22-24
A. Social Bond Theory	22

B. Apply Social Bond Theory to Enforcing Computer Use Restrictions With Children	24
IV. CURRENT CHILDREN SEXUAL PREDATOR INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS	25-31
A. ‘To Catch a Predator’ Program	25
B. ‘Stop It Now!’ Program	25
C. ‘Paul and Lisa Inc.’ Program	27
D. Electronic Monitoring Devices Program	28
E. ‘Polly Klaas Foundation’	30
F. ‘Enough is Enough’ Program	31
V. RECOMMENDATIONS	31-36
A. Effective Components From ‘To Catch a Predator’	31
B. Effective Components From ‘Stop it Now!’	33
C. Effective Components From ‘Paul and Lisa Inc.’	33
D. Effective Components From Electronic Monitoring Devices	34
E. Effective Components From ‘Polly Klaas Foundation’	34
F. Effective Components From ‘Enough is Enough’	35
VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	36
VII. REFERENCES	39

Section I. Introduction: Effective Components For An Ideal Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Program

Police are facing an epidemic of children sexual crimes where the perpetrators meet their victims through the Internet (Finkelhor, Mitchell, Wolak, & Ybarra, 2008). There are new types of ways that perpetrators are coming into contact with their victims through the Internet, and new types of perpetrators appearing in investigations. Sexual predator Internet prevention programs have been problematic (Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, OJJDP, 2011).

The Wisconsin State Statute 948.07 describes the definition of crimes against children as enticing a child with intent to commit sexual conduct or intercourse with the child. This also includes prostituting the child, exposing their sexual organs to the child or having the child expose their sexual organs, making child pornography, and causing bodily and/or mental harm to the child (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011). Internet sexual predators use the Internet as their main tool to entice the children for these crimes (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011).

A definition for children sexual predator Internet crimes can also be described using characteristics of those sexual predators. Katherine Ramsland (2011) has a vague description of sexual predators who commit crimes against minors. According to Ramsland (2011), sexual predators are usually male subjects between the ages of 13 and 65. Many of the sexual predators are married, but most of them are single.

David Finkelhor, Kimberly Mitchell, and Janis Wolak (2003) studied the characteristics of offenders who were arrested for Internet sex crimes against minors. The characteristics that Finkelhor et al. (2003) find that 99 percent of the offenders were male, 92 percent of them were non-Hispanic Whites, 86 percent of them were older than 25-years-old, and 97 percent of the offenders acted alone in their crimes of Internet sex crimes against minors.

Only eleven percent of the offenders were known to be violent in any way, and about ten percent of the offenders had been convicted before for sexual crimes against minors (Finkelhor et al., 2003). There are more characteristics for these offenders that Finkelhor et al. have discovered.

Sexual predators attract children on the Internet through social networking sites, chat rooms, and instant messaging. Sexual predators befriend the children, meet up with them in their own home when their parents are gone, or at a hotel and have sexual relations with them. Some sexual offenders only look at porn, while others actually meet with the children. Some of the sexual offenders assault the children, and some of the children end up being murder victims (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011). According to Catherine Deveney (2008), 80 percent of children who are victims of sex crimes know the sexual predator.

In the global sex trade, one million children are exploited each year. There is \$300 million dollars being transferred each year from urban areas to rural areas in Thailand by women who are working in the sex trade (Gee, 2007). Thirty-one percent of prostitutes in Cambodia are children between the ages of 12 and 17-years-old. There are about 450,000 child prostitutes in India (Gee, 2007). The age of consent for sexual activities is 15-years-old in 25 different countries including Cambodia, Thailand, and Costa Rica. There are 18 countries where the age of consent for sexual activities is 14-years-old (Gee, 2007).

Parents need to educate themselves on Internet predators, how they reel children in, what different acronyms mean that their children are typing, how to teach their children not to give away personal information, and how to prevent their children from becoming a victim of Internet predators (Ramsland, 2011). According to Grant Edwards (2003), twenty percent of parents do

not monitor their children's use of the Internet. Only fifty-two percent of parents asked said they moderately supervise their children's Internet use.

Nearly one in five children has pretended to be an adult online while they are talking to strangers (Shrieves, 2009). There is a large gap between parents and their children when it comes to the parent's knowledge of what their child is doing online. According to Shrieves (2009), 39 percent of teens and preteens surveyed stated that they had posted something online that they had regretted posting later and their parents did not know about it.

Twenty-eight percent of teens stated they had shared some personal information on the Internet that they would not normally share with people in public. Thirteen percent of teens stated that they had sent someone, or posted on their profile, a naked or partially naked picture or video of themselves or others (Shrieves, 2009). Their parents have no clue they are involved in these Internet activities (Shrieves, 2009).

Children create alternate names or nicknames on social networking sites, from a computer at the library or cell phones, so their parents cannot see what they are doing online or just to do it for fun (Poremba, 2011). Some teens use text talk on social networking sites, while instant messaging, and while texting so their parents do not understand what they are typing (Cohen, 2010). Parents need to learn these different text talk terms. They can do that by going to a translation site for these terms called noslang.com (Cohen, 2010).

There are several types of dangers that children face when using the Internet. Children look to talk to other children online about their problems instead of talking to their parents. This can be a problem, because they tend to give out their personal information to who they think are other children, such as their names, age, and phone numbers. The personal information is what a sexual predator looks for while talking to children online (Ramsland, 2011). According to

Marcus Gee (2007), “cellphones and the Internet have made it much easier for pedophiles to share information about where to go and who to seek out for child sex.”

Chat rooms are the usual meeting place for sexual predators and their victims. This is where predators start their enticement process. People who use chat rooms usually post a profile that includes information, such as their age, gender, hobbies, and preferences. Sexual predators use this information to introduce themselves to the children and start conversations.

Some children use their web cams to chat in person, or post photographs of themselves. Some sites allow people to share large files with each other, such as videos, and sexual predators look for these. Sexual predators may also send a few videos to a child to bait the child or make their “relationship,” as two children talking, seem real (Ramsland, 2011). “In an increasing number of cases, offenders are noted to be infiltrating more isolated communities, renting houses, employing local domestic staff and building the trust of local community members including vulnerable families and children” (Gee, 2007).

There are several problems with the current sexual predator Internet prevention programs. Some of the programs are under funded and could use more financial help (Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, 2011). Other programs are in need of information to adapt to their changing communities and keep up with the ever changing Internet (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005).

Another program that needs to be looked at is GPS monitoring. Some offenders are able to kill teens even though they are under GPS monitoring (McLaughlin & Oppmann, 2009). Some programs, such as the Stop It Now! program do not explain their information on Internet safety to the parents. They have a website with links for warning signs and other signs, but do not really explain why the links are important to look at or what they mean (Stop It Now!, 2010).

The purpose of this paper is to research effective components for an ideal Internet sexual predator prevention program. This paper will argue that some of the current prevention programs have flaws that need to be addressed and revised. This research will argue that their needs to be new prevention programs developed that are effective to accompany some of the current prevention programs that are already effective. This research will address how to make the current prevention programs more effective. Ideal components for an effective sexual predator Internet prevention program will be recommended.

First, this research will examine the research on the definition of children sexual predator Internet crimes. Second, this research will examine the types of children sexual predator Internet crimes. Third, the Social Bond Theory will be applied as the theoretical framework to give support to the arguments and recommendations of the research. Fourth, current children sexual predator Internet crime prevention programs will be compared and contrasted (ex. To Catch a Predator, Stop It Now, electric monitoring devices, the Polly Klaas Foundation, and Enough is Enough), in hope to support the recommendations for components needed for an effective Sexual Predator Internet Prevention Program to protect children. Overall, this research will give recommendations for ideal components for an effective sexual predator Internet prevention program.

Section II. Literature Review:

A. Definition/History of Children Sexual Predator Crimes

There are a few different definitions that state what a sexual predator or sexual predator abuse is. One of the definitions was provided in the introduction section, and another one is stated here. “Under Montana Law, a person commits the offense of child sexual abuse if the person ‘knowingly, by any means of communication, including electronic communication, persuades, entices, counsels, or procures a child under 16 years of age or a person the offender believes to be a child under 16 years of age to engage in sexual conduct, actual or simulated’” (Safe in Yourspace, n.d.).

According to *GovTrack* (2008), there is an act called the Internet Predator Prevention Act of 1998, that:

“amends the Federal criminal code to prohibit, and set penalties for, publishing, through the use of any facility in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce (including any interactive computer service), any identifying information (i.e. Name, address, telephone number, social security number, or electronic mailing address) relating to a minor who has not attained age 17, for the purpose of soliciting any person to engage in sexual activity which is a criminal offense under Federal or State law” (p. 1).

There is a long history in Missouri on how sex offender registration became what it is today. The sex offender registration for Missouri is under Chapter 589, 589.400-426 of the Missouri State Statute Book (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). The United States Department of Justice Statistics shows that one in four women, along with one in six men, will experience some sort of sexual assault in their lifetime.

The United States Department of Justice Statistics also states that the victims of 67 percent of sexual assaults are under the age of 18 years old (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). Two-thirds of all sexual assaults are committed by a person the victim knows. In January of 1995, the state of Missouri implemented its own Sex Offender Registration program statewide. This program was in accordance to standards that were set by the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010).

In 1989, Jacob Wetterling, an 11-year-old boy, was riding his bike with his friends when a man wearing a mask grabbed him and told his friends to run toward the woods that were near where they were riding their bikes (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). Jacob's mother, Patty, was appointed to the Governor's Task Force. She became a significant person speaking for missing children.

In 1994, Congress passed the first federal law that dealt with sex offender registration, because of Patty's dedication and efforts. The federal law was named the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). That federal law required that all states put a Crimes Against Children and Sex Offender Registry together. As of today, Jacob Wetterling has never been found.

In 1996, Megan's Law, named after Megan Kanka, amended the Jacob Wetterling Act (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). Megan Kanka was seven-years-old when she was raped and murdered by her neighbor who had been convicted twice of pedophilia. Megan's Law requires that all states have a community notification system for where pedophiles live (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). This law allows all states to make the private and personal information of a sex offender available to the public.

In 1996, the Pam Lychner Sexual Offender Tracking Law was another amendment added to the Jacob Wetterling Act (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). The Pam Lychner Sexual Offender Tracking Law gave law enforcement the ability to track sex offenders from one location to another. This law helped with notifying other law enforcement agencies of sex offenders who are moving to their area. This law changed the amount of time a sex offender had to be registered from ten years to life (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010).

In 2000, was the last change to the Jacob Wetterling Act. This change was called the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). This act allowed the tracking of convicted registered sex offenders that were enrolled at colleges or universities. It also allowed the tracking of convicted registered sex offenders who were working or volunteering on a college or university campus (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010).

On July 27, 2006, the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 was signed into law. Adam Walsh was a six-year-old boy who was abducted in a department store in Florida on July 27, 1981. Adam was found murdered sixteen days after he was abducted (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). His case was closed on December 16, 2008, because no new evidence had been produced.

The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act had to implement new strategies to expand the National Sex Offender Registry in Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). This made the federal penalties for crimes against children stronger, and it created new regional Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforces. The taskforces provided funding to the local and state law enforcement agencies for combat crimes involving the exploitation of children on the Internet (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010).

B. Types of Children Sexual Predator Internet Crimes

There are a few types of children sexual predator Internet crimes. One type is called “CP Possession.” CP Possession is known as child pornography possession, such as a sexual predator containing photographs of minors. When it is the possession of Internet child pornography, it is known as I-CHP (Finkelhor et al., 2003). These types of sexual predators download, distribute, and trade child pornography. They do not attempt to molest, seduce, or take the actual pictures of the children.

Another type of a sexual predator Internet crime is when a sexual predator takes photographs of the child and posts them on the Internet or sends them to other people (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011). A third type is when sexual predators ask the child to send naked pictures of themselves, or sends naked pictures to the child. A fourth type is called “acquaintance molesters” who operate outside their family to target boys and move on to youth groups (O’Reilly, 2011).

According to David O’Reilly (2011), sexual abuse within a family is another type of molestation that is known as the most common type of sexual abuse with the girls being the most frequently targeted victims. The female victims are controlled by private access and family authority of their fathers, stepfathers, or mothers’ boyfriends (O’Reilly, 2011).

The child sexual predators who want to sexually abuse younger children will typically use fun, games, and play to manipulate the children into sexual activities (O’Reilly, 2011). The sexual predators who prefer older children as their victims will more likely take advantage of the time they normally have away from their families and rely more on the techniques that involve the ease of sexual arousal, rebelliousness, inexperience, and curiosity by their victims (O’Reilly, 2011). There are different types of child sexual predators. Child sexual predators are classified as one of four types (Ramsland, 2011):

- **Collectors** - They are sexual predators who start out on pornography sites and collecting pornographic photographs, and graduate to real-time chat rooms. This is where they meet their victims and find ways to fulfill their fantasies. The pornographic photographs and pornography sites are called “static” sites. The real-time chat rooms are called “dynamic” sites.
- **Travelers** - These are the most dangerous type of sexual predators, because the predators will do whatever they can to meet their victim, even if they have to go to another country, to get what they want. These predators will send gifts and use enticements to reel in the child that they are targeting to try to get the child to leave their home. The travelers will target vulnerable and lonely children who are craving for attention. Travelers are skilled, persistent, and can create a relationship with a child within two to four chats online.
- **Manufacturers** - These predators distribute pornography to other people. Sometimes they are in the pornography, but mostly just want the money from distributing the pornography.
- **Chatters** - These predators meet children in chat rooms and talk to them about sex.

However, they usually do not meet the children in person (p. 3).

Sexual predator Internet crimes can cause more crimes against children, such as abducting a child and abusing them, enticing a child on the Internet to meet them in person and then sexually assaulting them, or making the child create pornographic videos with the sexual predator or other children (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011). There are different types of sexual crimes against children. A barber from Whitefish Bay, WI committed five of them (Jones, 2011). David P. Foley was charged with six federal counts of child pornography and five federal counts of bail jumping (Jones, 2011). The types of sexual crimes he committed were producing, distributing,

and possessing child pornography. He also transported a minor across a state line for the purpose of sexual acts (Jones, 2011).

According to Finkelhor et al. (2004), a victim had sexual intercourse, oral sex, or some other form of sexual penetration with the sexual predator in 89 percent of in-person meetings. Five percent of the in-person meetings involved violent offenses such as rape or attempted rape. Sixteen percent of in-person meetings involved coercion (Finkelhor et al., 2004).

Three percent of in-person cases involved a brief abduction of the victim for sexual assault. In about 29 percent of these abduction cases, the victims were reported missing to the police (Finkelhor et al., 2004). However, 24 percent of the victims were runaways, and the other five percent had lied to their parents about where they were. Forty percent of the victims that met a sexual predator in person were given illegal drugs or alcohol, 15 to 23 percent were exposed to adult or child pornography, and 21 percent were photographed in sexual poses (Finkelhor et al., 2004).

The category of Internet child pornography in the Finkelhor et al. (2003) article was made up of 935 arrests of offenders who committed sex crimes against minors. Of those 935 arrests, 36 percent of the sex crimes against minors were for offenders who used the Internet for sex crimes against minors. Sexual predators start out peeping on children, progress to rape, and sometimes progress to murder (Henry, 2008). Below is a table that shows all the characteristics of offenders who had been arrested for committing Internet sex crimes against minors (Finkelhor et al., 2003).

Table 1. Characteristics of Offenders Who Were Arrested for Internet Sex Crimes Against Minors

Offender Characteristics	% (weighted n=2,577)
Gender of Offender	
Male	99%
Race of Offender	
Non-Hispanic White	92%
Age of Offender	
17 or Younger	3%
18 to 25	11%
26 to 39	45%
40 or Older	41%
Other Characteristics	
Acted Alone in Crime	97%
Prior Arrests for Sexual Offending Against Minors	10%
Known to Be Violent to any Degree	11%
Possessed Child Pornography	67%
Distributed Child Pornography	22%
Solicited an Undercover Investigator	27%
Committed a Sex Crime Against an Identified Victim	45%
Crime Against Identified Victim Was	
Internet-Initiated	20%
Against a Family Member or Prior Acquaintance of the Offender	19%
Not Internet-Related	7%

C. Statistics on Amount of Children Sexual Predator Internet Crimes

According to the ‘*Enough is Enough*’ (2010) website, 18 percent of children go to chat rooms when they are on the Internet. However, most of Internet-initiated sex crimes against children start in chat rooms. Sexual predators use the victim’s social networking sites to gain information about their likes and dislikes in 82 percent of Internet-initiated sex crimes (Enough is Enough, 2010).

Sixty-five percent of Internet sex offenders used the minor's social networking site to gather information about their home and school, and 26 percent of the sexual predators used the child's social networking site to gather information about the whereabouts of the victim at specific times during the day (Enough is Enough, 2010). However, Deveney (2008) states violent crime has decreased 41 percent since 1995. According to David O'Reilly (2011), a child is 100 times more likely to be abused in a public school than in a Catholic Parish.

According to Gee (2007), 20 percent of boys in Sri Lanka stated they had been subjected to sexual abuse. There are 32 countries that prosecute their citizens for committing child sex crimes even if they were committed in a different country because of their extraterritorial laws on child sex tourism. Forty percent of child rape cases in South Africa involve girl that are 17-years-old or younger (Gee, 2007). Two-hundred travel companies in over 21 different countries have signed a code of conduct to prevent child sex tourism (Gee, 2007).

There are over 644,865 registered sex offenders in the United States, and over 100,000 of them are lost in the sex offender registry system. The '*Enough is Enough*' (2010) website states that one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they reach adulthood. Thirty to forty percent of these victims will be abused by one of their family members, and 50 percent of them will be abused by someone they know or trust that is not a family member (Enough is Enough, 2010).

The '*Enough is Enough*' (2010) website states that one in seven kids received a solicitation of a sexual nature online. Fifty-six percent of children that were sexually solicited on the Internet stated they were asked to send a photograph to the sexual predator, and 27 percent of the photographs sent were sexual in nature. Of the children that were sexually solicited, 44 percent were under the age of 18 (Enough is Enough, 2010).

Four percent of all the youth that received sexual solicitations on the Internet, received aggressive sexual solicitations that were threatened to become real life as well. The sexual predators that were soliciting to the youth asked to meet them in person, would call them on the phone, or sent them letters in the mail, gifts, or money (Enough is Enough, 2010). Four percent of the children that were sexually solicited online, had distressing sexual solicitation sent to them that made them feel afraid and upset. Seventy-three percent of children who have been sexually solicited, after meeting a sexual predator in person or talked to them on the phone, had met the solicitor on the Internet (Enough is Enough, 2010).

Sexual solicitations of children occur in three different ways. Thirty-seven percent of the children are sexually solicited in chat rooms. Forty percent of the children are sexually solicited through instant messaging. Twenty-one percent of the children are sexually solicited in other ways online like through gaming devices (Enough is Enough, 2010).

According to the '*Enough is Enough*' (2010) website, the more risky behaviors that children engage in on the Internet, the more likely it is that they will receive sexual solicitation. Some of the risky behaviors include (p. 1):

- Posting personal information (50%)
- Interacting with online strangers (45%)
- Placing strangers on buddy lists (35%)
- Sending personal information to strangers (26%)
- Visiting x-rated websites (13%)
- Talking about sex with strangers (5%)

Eighty percent of the sexual predators eventually told the children what their intentions were, and only five percent of the sexual predators hid the fact that they were an adult from the

children on the Internet (Enough is Enough, 2010). Seventy-five percent of the victims of Internet-initiated sex crimes were girls and 25 percent were boys between the ages of 13 and 15-years-old. There are 14 percent of students in grades ten through twelve who have accepted an invite to meet a stranger from the Internet in person or have invited the stranger to meet them in person (Enough is Enough, 2010).

Fourteen percent of students in grades seven through nine talked with someone on the Internet about sexual things, 11 percent reported they had been asked to talk about sexual things on the Internet with someone, eight percent said they have been exposed to naked photographs, and seven percent said they were also asked to share naked photographs of themselves on the Internet (Enough is Enough, 2010). When asked if they knew the person that had sexually assaulted them, 59 percent of the students in grades seven through nine said it was a friend.

Thirty-six percent of the students said it was someone else they know, not a friend, and 21 percent said the sexual predator was a classmate of theirs (Enough is Enough, 2010). Nine percent of the students said their sexual abuser was an Internet friend, and 16 percent said their sexual abuser was a stranger they met online (Enough is Enough, 2010). Nine percent of the seventh through ninth grade students said they have accepted an invitation from an online stranger to meet them in person, and 10 percent of them have asked someone from the Internet to meet them in person (Enough is Enough, 2010).

When asked, 13 percent of second and third grade students stated they had used the Internet to talk to people they did not know, 11 percent stated they had been asked to describe their private parts, and 10 percent stated they had been exposed to private parts on someone else's body (Enough is Enough, 2010). According to '*Safe in Yourspace*' (n.d.), 39 percent of girls and 24 percent of boys 12 through 17-years-old, stated they have been contacted on the Internet by

someone that they do not know and their friends do not know. Eleven percent of girls and four percent of boys stated they felt scared and uncomfortable when contacted by a stranger on the Internet (Safe in Yourspace, n.d.).

D. Statistics on Lack of Awareness Parents Have on Children's Internet Activities

There are seven signs that a child might be at risk on the Internet that parents need to know. According to Louis J. Freeh (n.d.), the seven signs are if a child spends most of their time on the Internet, especially at night; a child has pornography on their computer; a child receives phone calls from men that their parents do not know or the child is making long distance calls to numbers that their parents do not know; a child receives mail, gifts, or packages from a person their parent does not know; a child turns the computer monitor off or changes the screen abruptly when their parent comes into the room; a child becomes withdrawn from their family; or a child is using an account on the Internet that belongs to someone else.

According to the San Diego County District Attorney (2010), there are 18 tips for parents to keep their children safe from Internet sexual predators as follows (p. 1):

- Place your computer in a common area of the house.
- Educate yourself about computers and the Internet.
- Spend time with your children online.
- Make reasonable rules and set time and use limits. Enforce them.
- Educate yourself and your child about the dangers of the Internet.
- Do not allow your child to go into private chat rooms, especially when you are not present.
- Reinforce the guiding rule, "Don't talk to strangers."
- Put accounts in your name and know your child's passwords.

- Never allow your children to arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they met online with your permission.
- Do not let your child give out any personal information of any kind on the Internet.
- Do not let your child download or upload pictures without your permission.
- Utilize your Internet service provider's parental controls and commercial blocking and filtering software tools.
- Be sensitive to changes in your children's behaviors that may indicate they are being victimized.
- Be alert to a teenager or adult who is paying an unusual amount of attention to your children or giving them gifts.
- Be aware of other computers your children could be using.
- Be aware of your child using another person's screen name.
- Develop a "contract" with your children about their Internet use.
- Review the use histories or logs of your computer to see where your children have been.

Detective Richard Peffall, of the Montgomery County Major Crimes Unit in Pennsylvania, says that parents have to be the wall of defense between their child and the sexual predators. He states that parents need to know who their children are talking to online, put the computer in a common area and not in the child's bedroom, and make sure they talk with their child about the dangers of sexual predators online (Ramsland, 2011). According to '*Safe in Yourspace*' (n.d.), 33 percent of children ages 13 through 17-years-old, stated in a 2006 survey conducted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that their parents or guardians know "very little" or "nothing" about what they do online (p. 1).

When teenagers were asked, sixty-two percent of them stated their parents know little or nothing about their Internet activities (Edwards, 2003). Seventy-one percent of all the parents asked stated they stop monitoring their child's use of the Internet after their child turned 14-years-old. In missing children cases related to the Internet, 72 percent of the children are 15-years-old or older (Edwards, 2003). Parents should rely less on warnings and more on being involved in their child's life, communicating with them, and loving them to keep their children safe from online sexual predators (O'Reilly, 2011).

According to Ramsland (2011), in the June 2006 issue of *Science News*, there was an article by Bruce Bower, called "Growing Up Online," that had a story about a 16-year-old girl from Michigan who met a 20-year-old boy from Tel Aviv, Israel online. The girl's name was Katherine Lester, and the boy's name was Abdullah Jimzawi. They met online, fell in love, and decided that Katherine was going to travel to Tel Aviv, Israel, convert to Islam, and leave the United States. Lester's parents did not know about her romance with Jimzawi or that she was going to run away to Tel Aviv (Ramsland, 2011).

Authorities intercepted Katherine in Jordan, sent her back to Michigan, and sent her to court to face a hearing for being a runaway (Ramsland, 2011). The judge ordered her to go to counseling and surrender her passport and she agreed. This story had a happy ending unlike other stories where the child decides to runaway with the person they met online and find out that person had no intent on marrying them or supporting them in any way (Ramsland, 2011).

Some parents know about what their children do online, or make an effort to know. One case where parents made sure they knew what their child was doing online was with the Squadrito family. Tracy Squadrito, Hayden Squadrito's mother, made sure he gave her the password to his MySpace account when he opened it.

She told him that she would be checking his site regularly. When Hayden set up a Facebook account, his parent's knew the password for that site and checked it regularly as well (Shrieves, 2009). These parents are helping prevent their child from being victimized by a sexual predator on the Internet.

E. Dangers of Internet-Based Children Sexual Predators

A United States Attorney spoke at a news conference and said pedophiles are finding new ways and opportunities to talk with each other about how to exploit children. At this news conference, federal agents warned people that websites that seem friendly, such as MySpace and Facebook, are used quite often by sexual predators as a place to find victims (Ybarra, 2008).

There have been news reports that law enforcement is facing an epidemic of child sexual predator crimes by a new type of criminal. This has created fears about the use of the Internet by children and adolescents for talking with strangers online and having profiles with their personal information and pictures on them (Ybarra, 2008).

According to Michele Henry (2008), over 30 percent of people who view child pornography become "hands-on" offenders. "Sexual predators: they start out with behaviour like peeping. Then they progress to rape and, sometimes, murder" (Henry, 2008, p. 2). Fourteen police departments in Toronto, Canada busted 23 people who were distributing, viewing, and making child pornography and putting it on the Internet (Henry, 2008). Some of the predators were also charged with luring and sexual assault. Four thousand computers in Toronto and 15,000 computers in Ontario are distributing illicit images on the Internet (Henry, 2008).

David O'Reilly asks, "how do you warn children about molesters who may be their teacher, coach, clergy member, therapist, or Internet BFF? "Young children are more likely to listen to what adults say, but less likely to truly understand. Older children are more likely to understand,

but less likely to listen” (p. 2). Teenagers need to know that they put themselves at a greater risk when they desire more freedom and independence from their parents (O’Reilly, 2011).

In many cases, online molesters are depicted as using the Internet to lure children into sexual assault situations. There is stereotypical media portrayal of online molesters, such as lurking on the Internet in popular places that children and adolescents will often visit (Ybarra, 2008).

Online molesters use personal information that children and adolescents put on their online profiles to pick out their potential targets. The molesters lie about their ages and sexual intentions when contacting their potential victims. They entice their potential victims into meeting them in person, or they stalk their victims and abduct them (Ybarra, 2008).

There are times when children talk amongst each other about sex, which is another thing sexual predators look for online. Talking about sexual things is about five percent of all the messages children talk about online, which equals about one sexual comment per minute (Ramsland, 2011). The unmonitored sites tend to attract more sexual predators than the monitored sites.

A new dimension of child sexual abuse has been created by the online meetings between children and adults and has been portrayed through media reports and Internet safety messages (Ybarra, 2008). The nonforcible sex crimes that are started online are not new or uncommon. Every state has a criminal law that has a certain age that is too young to consent to intercourse (Ybarra, 2008).

All that a sexual predator needs to start manipulating a child is a child who has conflicts with adults, is depressed, is lonely, or shows a need for love. The sexual predator will offer emotional support for the child, and then gradually move into inviting the child to meet with them in person (Ramsland, 2011). They tell the child to keep it a secret from their parents, and meet them in a

place where they are not around their family or friends. The sexual predators will send gifts to the child, such as web cams or paid phone cards, which they can use to make them seem trustworthy (Ramsland, 2011).

F. Problems With Current Internet Sexual Predator Prevention Programs

According to David O'Reilly (2011), "up-to-date research on the nature and scope of child sex abuse remained poorly funded and sketchy. One area - sexual assaults by women - is little-studied and thought to be greatly underreported." Pennsylvania lawmakers want tougher mandatory reporting laws for child sexual abuse because of the Sandusky scandal. However, some child advocates stated that protecting children from sexual predators before they become victims is still the most prominent task and the most difficult (O'Reilly, 2011).

A campaign that started in Canada to help prevent sexual assault against children by an Internet predator is called "Every Keystroke Has A Consequence" (Henry, 2008). However, there are problems with every Internet sexual predator prevention program. For instance, the '*To Catch a Predator*' program has caught a large amount of potential child predators; however this show is watched worldwide. This show is well known, but when searching for it online, it is hard to find information on it and not just episodes from the show.

This show may have helped to catch a large amount of potential child predators, but it has also made the predators more careful with conducting their sexual crimes. They know that a show is out there that could catch them, so they make sure they are more careful when conducting sexual predator crimes against children. The '*Stop It Now!*' program gives a large amount of information to parents on how to prevent their child from becoming a victim of a sexual predator, but it does not discuss how the parents should talk about this subject with their

children. This program tells parents to talk to their children about proper Internet use, but not how to bring up and discuss this touchy subject.

The '*Paul and Lisa, Inc.*' program is only funded by two agencies, known as the Department of Justice and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This program needs more funding for the ever-changing community. Electronic Monitoring Devices need more work to ensure offenders are not able to commit crimes while they have the device connected to them. According to Elliott McLaughlin and Patrick Oppmann (2009), a 13-year-old girl in Clark County, Oregon was killed by a sex offender who was under GPS monitoring at the time.

The '*Polly Klaas Foundation*' gives out free child safety kits to families, but they do not give out very many to a police department that is conducting a safety booth at an event for families even though the kits are free to anyone who asks the foundation. They also do not supply ink for the fingerprint cards that are included in the child safety kits, or tell the parents how to conduct the fingerprinting process for their children. These are some important things that would help to ensure the parents are able to utilize the child safety kit properly for their children. The Internet Safety 101 seminar that the '*Enough is Enough*' program has created is in a large scale group. This program has seminars and not small group meetings. This would make it hard for parents to ask their questions when there are a large amount of people at these seminars.

Section III. Theoretical Framework:

A. Social Bond Theory

The Social Bond Theory was created by Travis Hirschi in 1969. Travis Hirschi's Social Bond Theory led to the Self-Control Theory in 1990, with help by Michael Gottfredson. In the Self-Control Theory, Hirschi and Gottfredson consider the criminal offender and the criminal act as two separate concepts instead of one concept like in the Social Bond Theory. The Self-Control Theory is comprised of four phases, known as biosocial, psychological, routine activities, and rational choice theories (Evans, 2004).

The Social Bond Theory is comprised of four phases, known as attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief (Evans, 2004). The attachment phase is when an adolescent is attached to a peer, parent or guardian, or a teacher. This is when the adolescent is sensitive to and interested in other people (Evans, 2004).

The commitment phase is the conventional lines of action. This phase involves energy, time, and effort, such as receiving an education and saving money for future plans (Evans, 2004). The involvement phase is when the conventional lines and activities leave hardly any time for the adolescent to conduct in illegal behavior (Evans, 2004). The beliefs phase refers to the moral beliefs that adolescents share with the people they have the same social settings with. Some of these beliefs are sharing, sensitivity to the rights of others, and admiration for the law (Evans, 2004). Travis Hirschi came up with seven points for the Social Bond Theory that show how it works. Those seven points are listed below (Evans, 2004, pp. 1-2):

- Youths who were strongly attached to their parents were less likely to commit criminal acts
- Commitment to conventional values, such as striving to get a good education and refusing to drink alcohol and “cruise around,” was indicative of conventional behavior

- Youths involved in conventional activity such as homework, were less likely to engage in criminal behavior
- Youths involved in unconventional behavior, such as smoking and drinking, were more delinquency prone
- Youths who maintained weak and distant relationships with people tended toward delinquency
- Those who shunned unconventional acts were attached to their peers.
- Delinquents and non delinquents shared similar beliefs about society

The Social Bond Theory had many opposing views. Some of those views were friendship, that not all the components of the social bond are equal to each other, and there are not only deviant peers, but deviant parents too (Evans, 2004). A few other opposing views to the Social Bond Theory are that it is restricted in scope, that the social bonds are ever changing, and that crimes may not be associated with social bonds (Evans, 2004). The Self-Control Theory is also known as the General Theory of Crime. The four phases of the Self-Control Theory are the differences between the Social Bond Theory and the Self-Control Theory (Evans, 2004).

B. Apply Social Bond Theory to Enforcing Computer Use Restrictions With Children

The Social Bond Theory relates to this paper in that it shows how a person can become a sexual predator if their social life is non-existent or not very good (Evans, 2004). Sexual predators become what they are if they do not have the bond between them and their family, peers, and teachers (Evans, 2004). The lack of this bond can cause people to become social deviants and turn into sexual predators (Evans, 2004).

The next section of the paper gives the reader information on the six children sexual predator Internet crime prevention programs that are discussed throughout the paper. This section explains the six different programs, and what they do to keep children safe from Internet predators. This next section also explains how the different programs educate children and their parents on how to keep children safe from Internet predators. The purpose of doing this is so the reader understands what the six different programs are that are addressed through this paper.

Section IV. Current Children Sexual Predator Internet Crime Prevention

Programs:

A. ‘To Catch a Predator’ Program

According to Top Documentary Film (2011), there have been over 40 million Americans who have seen the ‘*To Catch a Predator*’ program on Dateline. The people in this program have caught over 200 potential child sexual predators (Top Documentary Film, 2011). There is a show and a book by the name ‘*To Catch a Predator*.’

The show exposed the child sexual predator Internet crime epidemic, but the book by Chris Hansen has the true stories of the children that have been targeted by the child sexual predators (Top Documentary Film, 2011). Chris Hansen talks about the different tactics that child sexual predators use to manipulate the children, and how children who are cautious can still become vulnerable to the attacks by the sexual predators (Top Documentary Film, 2011). Chris Hansen gives suggestions from police officers, therapists, and even child predators on the best ways to prevent child sexual predator Internet crimes (Top Documentary Film, 2011).

He also tells parents steps they can take to make sure their children do not become victims of child sexual predators on the Internet. One thing he tells parents how to do is initiate a conversation with their children on the dangers of Internet sexual predators and not to give out personal information to strangers (Top Documentary Film, 2011). “*To Catch a Predator* teaches parents and children what they need to know before the next predator strikes” (Top Documentary Film, 2011, p. 1).

B. ‘Stop It Now!’ Program

“Stop It Now! (2010) prevents the sexual abuse of children by mobilizing adults, families and communities to take actions that protect children before they are harmed” (p. 1). The vision of

the '*Stop It Now!*' (2010) program is that adults and children will be able to engage in respectful and caring relationships that creates a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for the children. This will cause children to grow up without any trauma or form of violence including sexual abuse and sexual exploitation (Stop It Now!, 2010).

The '*Stop It Now!*' (2010) program has six guiding principles that they try to follow. These six principles are (p. 2):

- Children's Right to Safety and Well-being
- Public Health Framework
- Focus on Adults and Communities
- Balance Accountability with Understanding
- Collaboration
- Research Based Approach

The '*Stop It Now!*' (2010) program uses the public health framework to create its programming. This program uses a combination of research-based materials on public education and campaigns on social marketing to help create their programming to change the society and prevent child sexual abuse (Stop It Now!, 2010). The '*Stop It Now!*' (2010) program believes that child sexual abuse is preventable if the following policies are utilized in society (p. 2):

- Promoting accurate information
- Enhancing services to children who are victims of sex abuse
- Providing specialized treatment programs for sex offenders
- Offering timely sexuality education
- Improving our understanding of behaviors that make children vulnerable

The *'Stop It Now!'* (2010) program has created prevention education materials, messages to the media, training tools, and community-based programs to help with the prevention of child sexual abuse. They received information on how to create these things by talking with survivors of child sexual abuse, the sexual predators themselves, and the families of both parties (Stop It Now!, 2010). The "Stop It Now! (2010) program provides a place for adults to voice questions and concerns about child sexual abuse and gives them and their communities the resources to take action" (p. 2).

C. 'Paul and Lisa Inc.' Program

The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program was started by an individual who was attending the St. Paul Episcopal Church in Westbrook, Connecticut. The founder of this program started it after meeting Lisa at a diner in New Haven, Connecticut in 1980. The founder tried to help Lisa escape from a man who met her at a party when she was eighteen and charmed his way into her life.

The man from the party recruited Lisa into drug abuse and prostitution. Shortly after the founder of the *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* program tried to help Lisa escape from prostitution and drug abuse, she died of a questionable drug overdose (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005). The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program was started to prevent the further exploitation of women and children.

The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program gets its financial support from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westbrook, Connecticut along with thirteen volunteers. It was established as a non-profit organization in 1982 (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005). "The Paul & Lisa Program developed the Street Outreach program in order to increase public awareness of child sexual exploitation while continuing to aid those who had already fallen victim to exploitation by helping them to leave the streets" (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005, p. 1).

The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program made a presence to over 67,000 children in 1991 through its Prevention Education Program. This Prevention Education Program warned children about the dangers of the streets and commercial sexual exploitation of children (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005). The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program was pointing out that parents and children have to be aware of child sexual exploitation through the social media, attending conferences, writing newsletters, and applying for federal grants.

The first community court in the country to address the issue of prostitution was the Midtown Manhattan Community Court, and the *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* program joined them in 1994 (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005). The *'Paul and Lisa Inc.'* (2005) program created an alternative to incarceration for women who are arrested for prostitution along with the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch in the Waterbury and Hartford Community Court System. "In 2006, The Paul & Lisa Program redesigned its Prevention Education Program to include all the dangers of the Internet, Sexual Predators, and Street Predators. By December 2006, more than 1,300 Connecticut youth received valuable information on Internet & Street Safety" (Paul & Lisa Inc., 2005, p. 1).

D. Electronic Monitoring Devices Program

According to Fox News (2006), GPS technology was created by the military in the 1960s to track their equipment and troops, and stands for Global Positioning Satellites. Twenty-four satellites send signals to ground stations and surround the earth. The signals being transmitted are used to calculate the locations of the GPS units (Fox News, 2006).

According to Fox News (2006), many states are using Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) for registered sex offenders, sometimes for life. Global Positioning Satellites are able to track the exact location of a registered sex offender at all times (Fox News, 2006). This helps law

enforcement watch the offenders to make sure they are following the terms of their release from incarceration (Fox News, 2006).

The GPS devices are the size of a deck of cards, wireless, electronic, and waterproof that are worn on the ankle. The offenders have to wear the GPS devices at all times and stay within a certain distance from the transmitters (Fox News, 2006). The transmitters can be carried with the offenders or set on a surface in the home or office when the offenders are there (Fox News, 2006).

The cost of a GPS program ranges from \$7.00 a day to \$9.00 a day per offender, which is a lot cheaper than incarceration (\$40.00 to \$100 per day per offender) (Fox News, 2006). Then, the government has to pay for the cost of the employees that are tracking the offenders. GPS devices may work as a deterrent for crime, but not necessarily as a punitive measure (Fox News, 2006).

Even though GPS can keep track of the offenders without having them incarcerated at the taxpayers' expense, many people argue that it invades their privacy after they have served their time (Fox News, 2006). "Bottom line is that decisions on the use of this kind of technology, which can be characterized as very invasive of the individual's privacy, need to be made on a case-by-case basis ... If it is used it should be the exception and only applied in the most egregious cases" (Fox News, 2006, p. 1). As of March 2006, 17 states have passed at least one bill that employs the Global Positioning Satellites tracking of registered sex offenders, such as Ohio, Oklahoma, and Florida (Fox News, 2006).

"Many GPS experts say offenders are less likely to commit a similar crime if they know they are being tracked" (Fox News, 2006, p. 2). The ISECUREtrac system in Nebraska can pinpoint the location of offenders within a radius of 15 feet (Fox News, 2006). "... experience indicates that agencies that utilize GPS monitoring systems have increased offender compliance, enhanced

their ability to monitor more offenders simultaneously, and have had the greatest impact on reducing re-offense” (Fox News, 2006, p. 3).

E. ‘Polly Klaas Foundation’

The ‘*Polly Klaas Foundation*’ (2011), is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to keeping children safe, recovering missing children, and creating public policies that keep the children safe in their communities. This foundation has helped more than 7,691 families of missing children by telling them ways they can find their children and how to work with law enforcement to find their children. This foundation makes and hands out posters of missing children, and has a national volunteer force that helps hand out posters of missing children in their communities (Polly Klaas Foundation, 2011). They have also had a 24 hours a day 7 days a week hotline since 1993 (Polly Klaas Foundation, 2011).

The ‘*Polly Klaas Foundation*’ (2011), publishes child safety information and hands it out to people all over the world. They have free child safety kits and Internet safety kits that can be ordered or downloaded off the Internet for any family (Polly Klaas Foundation, 2011). The ‘*Polly Klaas Foundation*’ (2011), received the 2011 Missing Child Non-Profit of the Year Award. The ‘*Polly Klaas Foundation*’ (2011) has seven core values as shown below (p. 1):

- We cherish children and protect them every way we can.
- We value the uniqueness of each family & provide exceptional service with respect, compassion, & discretion.
- We help the community meet its responsibility to keep children safe.
- We foster relationships and networks critical to keeping children safe.
- Every family has the right to receive our services, materials, and resources free of charge.
- We value creativity and work to increase the scope, quality, and depth of our service.

- We value the *power of hope* and will provide a lifeline to families as long as they need us.

F. ‘Enough is Enough’ Program

The ‘*Enough is Enough*’ (2010) program is a non-profit organization that was created in 1994 as the national leader to make the Internet safer for children and their families. They have created ways to confront online pornography, child pornography, child stalking, sexual predation, and other Internet crimes (Enough is Enough, 2010). According to the ‘*Enough is Enough*’ program (2010), the program’s mission statement is to “*Make the Internet Safer for Children and Families*” (p. 1).

The ‘*Enough is Enough*’ (2010) program has a three-pronged approach in preventing sexual predators from preying on children, unwanted sexual material being sent to people, and other online threats that may be harmful or exploitative. The three-pronged approach consists of education, industry, and enforcement. The three-pronged approach sustains a safe Internet environment along with an entertaining and informative Internet environment (Enough is Enough, 2010).

The last section of this paper discusses the different recommendations on how to make each of the six children sexual predator Internet crime prevention programs discussed in this paper more efficient. This section will address recommendations for each program individually. The purpose of this section is to educate law enforcement personnel, parents, children, teachers, etc. on how the six programs addressed need a few modifications to make them more efficient.

Section V. Recommendations:

A. Effective Components From ‘To Catch a Predator’

There are many effective components from the *‘To Catch a Predator’* program. One of the components is the fact that there is a television show and a book about this program. The television show portrays to people that Internet sexual predators can be caught by the police.

The television show is, in a way, a deterrent for sexual predators. Some sexual predators could see the television show and realize they could easily be caught, because they are talking to a police officer online and not an actual child. This may stop the sexual predator from continuing to prey on children through the Internet.

The book on the *‘To Catch a Predator’* program is another effective component and tells parents how to talk to their children about Internet sexual predators, and how to prevent becoming a victim. The book has actual stories of children who were victims to sexual predators on the Internet, and how it affected their family. The television and the book are both very informative when it comes to preventing a child from becoming a victim of Internet sexual predators.

Another effective component of the *‘To Catch a Predator’* program is that it is well-known, so parents and children are already watching the show and becoming more educated on how to prevent becoming a victim of children Internet sexual predators. The parents and children may also be looking for signs of sexual predators talking to the children on the Internet. This way the parents and children can prevent the crime before it occurs, and report the suspicious activity to authorities before another child becomes a victim.

The people who have created the *‘To Catch a Predator’* program should find a way to reach out to the parents and children about the dangers of Internet sexual predators, how to prevent the

children from becoming victims, and how the parents should talk to the children about Internet sexual predators without showing the predators what the parents and children are learning. The program should create a way that parents and children can see that Internet sexual predators are being caught for their crimes through this television show, and how they are being caught without showing the predators as well.

B. Effective Components From ‘Stop It Now!’

The ‘*Stop It Now!*’ program is an excellent program for information on how parents can talk to their children about the proper use of the Internet and not to give out personal information to strangers. However, it does not tell the parents how they should start the conversation and what to say to their children. A recommendation for the ‘*Stop It Now!*’ program is for the people in charge of the program to post information on their website on how parents can talk about the dangers of the Internet with their children without making it a frightening conversation.

The ‘*Stop It Now!*’ program has many effective components. One of the effective components is that it has parents, adults, and communities taking action against sexual predators to keep the children safe. The program has principles that it goes by to keep the children and the community safe from sexual predators. Another effective component is the programming that the ‘*Stop It Now!*’ program utilizes to pass along useful information and tips to the public to educate them on how to keep their children safe from sexual predators.

C. Effective Components From ‘Paul and Lisa Inc.’

There are several effective components for the ‘*Paul and Lisa Inc.*’ program. This program is funded by the St. Paul Episcopal Church in Westbrook, Connecticut and thirteen volunteers. It has a personal tie to the danger of sexual predators, which is why it was founded by a person that

attended the St. Paul Episcopal Church, making the people involved in this program more motivated to help stop the crimes of child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

The '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*' program started a Street Outreach program in order to make the public more aware of child sexual exploitation, and helping the children that are already victims of child sexual exploitation leave the streets. A recommendation for the '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*' program is to make the problem of child sexual exploitation more well-known. Another recommendation is for the program to find a way to reach out to more victims of child sexual exploitation to help them get back on their feet. One more recommendation for the '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*' program is to find a way to receive more funding so the people in charge of the program can reach out to more of the public.

D. Effective Components From Electronic Monitoring Devices

Electronic Monitoring Devices have many effective components including tracking where offenders are at all times, they are waterproof devices, and wireless so the offender can still move around their house or work if they need to, but not too far as to set the device off. Another effective component of the Electronic Monitoring Devices is that law enforcement can keep an eye on offenders without having to keep them incarcerated. It is much cheaper to put an Electronic Monitoring Device on an offender than it is to keep them incarcerated.

A recommendation for the Electronic Monitoring Devices is to find a way that the registered sex offenders who wear these devices cannot commit another sexual act on a child while having to wear this device like one in Clark County, Oregon did to a little girl and then killed her. Another recommendation is for the Government to come up with more statistics on the effectiveness of the Electronic Monitoring Devices when it comes to them being a deterrent of continued sexual crimes, and keeping track of offenders at all times.

E. Effective Components From ‘Polly Klaas Foundation’

Some effective components of the *‘Polly Klaas Foundation’* are that it gives out free child safety kits to families, has a large amount of information for parents on how to keep their children safe from child sexual predators on the Internet, tells parents how to work with law enforcement to find their missing children, and their national volunteer force hands out posters of missing children in the community that the child is missing from and the surrounding communities. However, there are recommendations on how to make this program more efficient.

One recommendation for the *‘Polly Klaas Foundation’* are for the people in charge of it to give ink pads out with their free child safety kits so the parents can use it to fingerprint their children in the spot allocated for it in the kit. As of right now, the parents have to buy an ink pad or go to a police station to have their child’s fingers printed for the child safety kit, because it has a spot to put the fingerprints but does not have an ink pad to fingerprint with.

Another recommendation is for the program to allow law enforcement agencies to receive free child safety kits to hand out to parents that want them at different safety events they hold. This will help to hand the safety kits out to more parents that may not know the *‘Polly Klaas Foundation’* exists. These kits have a spot for the child’s personal information, fingerprints, and have an English and Spanish section.

F. Effective Components From ‘Enough is Enough’

One effective component for the *‘Enough is Enough’* program are that it has Internet safety seminars for parents on how to prevent their children from becoming victims of sexual predators. Another effective component is that the program has ways to confront crimes like online

pornography, child pornography, child stalking, sexual predation, and other internet crimes. This program also has a three-pronged approach of education, industry, and enforcement.

A recommendation for this program is to make smaller group meetings for parents to learn about Internet safety instead of just having large seminars. This will enable parents to have more one-on-one questioning with the person that is conducting the meeting instead of it being a large group. Another recommendation for the *'Enough is Enough'* program is for the program to explain more about what their program is all about, such as what they do to help parents prevent their child from becoming a victim of sexual predators, and how they confront different Internet crimes like child pornography and online pornography.

Section VI. Summary and Conclusion

Internet sexual crimes against children is defined as a sexual predator who entices a child in chat rooms on the Internet to become friends with them, meeting the children in person, and sexually abusing and sometimes even killing them (Van Wagner & Wood, 2011). The first federal law that came into affect, that started sex offender registration, was called the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act in 1994 (Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2010). There are several types of sexual predator Internet crimes. A few of the types are taking naked photographs of children for the sexual predators own use, posting naked photographs of children on the Internet to distribute, looking at naked photographs of children that other sexual predators have posted on the Internet, and showing naked photographs to children of themselves.

According to the *'Enough is Enough'* program (2010), 65 percent of Internet sex offenders used the victim's social networking site to gather information about where they live and go to school, and 26 percent of the Internet sexual predators used the child's social networking site to gather information on the whereabouts of the child at a specific time during the day. Thirty-three percent of children, ages 13 through 17-years-old, stated in a survey in 2006 that was conducted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, that their parents or guardians know "very little" or "nothing" about what they do on the Internet (Safe in Yourspace, n.d., p. 1).

Thirty percent of people who look at child pornography become "hands-on" offenders (Henry, 2008). There are several problems with the current Internet sexual predator prevention programs that are discussed in this paper. For example, the *'Stop It Now!'* program gives out a large amount of information to parents on how to prevent their children from becoming a victim of a

sexual predator, but does not tell the parents how to bring up the subject of dangers on the Internet that will not scare the children.

The Social Bond Theory ties into sexual crimes against children by showing that a person can become a sexual predator if their social life is non-existent or not very good (Evans, 2004). This paper has information on six children sexual predator Internet crime prevention programs. The six programs discussed in this paper are '*To Catch a Predator*', '*Stop It Now!*', '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*', Electronic Monitoring Devices, '*Polly Klaas Foundation*', and '*Enough is Enough*'.

In summary, this paper included information on recommendations to make the current child sexual predator Internet prevention programs more effective. The '*To Catch a Predator*' program needs find a way to reach out to parents and children about the dangers of Internet sexual predators, how to prevent their children from becoming victims, and how parents should talk to their children about Internet sexual predators without showing the predators what the parents and children are learning. This program should create a way that parents and children can see that Internet sexual predators are being caught for their crimes through this television show, and how they are being caught without showing the predators as well.

A recommendation for the '*Stop It Now*' program is for the people in charge of the program to post information on their website on how parents can talk about the dangers of the Internet with their children without making it a frightening conversation. A recommendation for the '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*' program is to make the problem of child sexual exploitation more well-known.

Another recommendation is for the program to find a way to reach out to more victims of child sexual exploitation to help them get back on their feet. One more recommendation for the '*Paul and Lisa Inc.*' program is to find a way to receive more funding so the people in charge of the program can reach out to more of the public.

A recommendation for the Electronic Monitoring Devices is to find a way that the registered sex offenders who wear these devices cannot commit another sexual act on a child while having to wear this device. Another recommendation is for the Government to come up with more statistics on the effectiveness of the Electronic Monitoring Devices when it comes to them being a deterrent of continued sexual crimes, and keeping track of offenders at all times.

One recommendation for the 'Polly Klaas Foundation' is for the people in charge of it to give ink pads out with their free child safety kits so the parents can use it to fingerprint their children in the spot allocated for it in the kit. Another recommendation is for the program to allow law enforcement agencies to receive free child safety kits to hand out to parents that want them at different safety events they hold. A recommendation for the '*Enough is Enough*' program is to make smaller group meetings for parents to learn about Internet safety instead of just having large seminars. Another recommendation for the '*Enough is Enough*' program is for the program to explain more about what their program is all about.

Section VII. References

- About us.* (2010). Retrieved December 24, 2011, from Enough is Enough Official Site website: <http://www.enough.org/inside.php?id=E7A5VT6VM>
- About us.* (2010). Retrieved December 24, 2011, from Stop It Now! Official Site website: <http://www.stopitnow.org/about>
- About us.* (2011). Retrieved December 24, 2011, from Polly Klaas Foundation Official Site website: <http://www.pollyklaas.org/about/>
- Cohen, E. (2010, August 26). *Parents, do you know what these texts mean?* Retrieved September 10, 2011, from CNN Health Official Site website: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/08/26/kids.drugs.text/index.html>
- Deveney, C. (2008, April 27). Special report: Missing Madeleine. *Scotland on Sunday*, p. 6. Retrieved from <http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.uwplatt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic>
- Edwards, G. (2003, December 6). Beware of net sharks. *The Advertiser*. P. 102. Retrieved from <http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.uwplatt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic>
- Evans, F. (2004). *Travis Hirschi American criminologist*. Retrieved December 20, 2011, from Illinois State University Official Site website: <http://www.cfkeep.org/html/snapshot.php?id=1065903344253>
- Finkelhor, D., Mitchell, K. J., Wolak, J., & Ybarra, M. L. (2008). Online “predators” and their victims. Myths, realities, and implications for prevention and treatment. *American Psychologist*, 63(2), 111-128. doi: 10.1037/0003-066X.63.2.111
- Finkelhor, D., Mitchell, K., & Wolak, J. (2003). *Internet sex crimes against minors: The response of law enforcement* (NCJ Report No. NCJ 202909). Retrieved from NCJRS website: http://www.missingkids.com/en_US/publications/NC132.pdf
- Finkelhor, D., Mitchell, K., & Wolak, J. (2004). Internet-initiated sex crimes against minors: Implications for prevention based on findings from a national study. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 35(5), 424.e11-424.e20. doi: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2004.05.006
- Freeh, L. J. (n.d.). *A parent's guide to Internet safety*. Retrieved October 19, 2011, from U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation Official Site website: <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/parent-guide>
- Gee, M. (2007, November 10). For today's pedophiles, it's all too easy; Cellphones, Internet, help Westerners share information about where to travel - Or move - Abroad to seek out sex with children. *The Globe and Mail*. P. A22. Retrieved from <http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.uwplatt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic>

- Generation gap? 'Online gap' widens divide between parents and children.* (2008, February 4). Retrieved December 29, 2011, from Science Daily Official Site website: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/02/080204143203.htm>
- Henry, M. (2008, February 21). A keystroke from danger; At Internet awareness sessions, police officers are teaching kids to take responsibility for their actions because seemingly innocent online chatting can have dire consequences. *The Toronto Star*. p. L01. Retrieved from <http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.uwplatt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic>
- Internet crimes against children task force program.* (2011). Retrieved September 10, 2011, from U. S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Official Site website: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/progsummary.asp?pi=3>
- Jones, M. (2011, November 25). Child porn charges filed. *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, p. 1B.
- McLaughlin, E. C., & Oppmann, P. (2009, March 12). *Sex offender kills teen while under GPS monitoring, police say.* Retrieved September 10, 2011, from CNN Official Site website: http://articles.cnn.com/2009-03-12/justice/sex.offenders.gps_1_gps-monitoring-offender-death-penalty-arguments?_s=PM:CRIME
- More states move to use GPS tracking of sex offenders.* (2006). Retrieved December 24, 2011 from Fox News Official Site website: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,196455,00.html>
- O'Reilly, D. (2011, November 21). Experts see familiar patterns in Sandusky case. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. p. A02. Retrieved from <http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.uwplatt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic>
- Poremba, S. M. (2011, July 25). *How kids fool their parents on social networks.* Retrieved October 19, 2011, from Security News Daily Contributor Official Site website: <http://www.securitynewsdaily.com/kids-fool-parents-social-networking-0981/>
- Protecting children online.* (2010). Retrieved September 10, 2011, from San Diego County District Attorney Official Site website: <http://www.sdcda.org/preventing/protecting-children-online/index.html>
- Ramsland, K. (2011). *Internet predators and their prey.* Retrieved from http://www.trutv.com/library/crime/criminal_mind/sexual_assault/internet_predators/1_index.html
- S. 1965—105th Congress: Internet Predator Prevention Act of 1998.* (1998). In GovTrack.us (database of federal legislation). Retrieved November 15, 2011, from <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s105-1965&tab=summary>

Sex offender registration chapter 589, 589.400-426. (2010). Retrieved September 10, 2011, from Missouri State Highway Patrol Sex Offender Registry Official Site website:
<http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov/MSHPWeb/PatrolDivisions/CRID/SOR/factsheet.html>

Shrieves, L. (2009, August 12). Do parents have a clue what kids do online? *Orlando Sentinel*. n.p. Retrieved from http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2009-08-12/news/social_1_steyer-parents-and-kids-facebook

The story of Paul & Lisa. (2005). Retrieved December 24, 2011 from The Paul & Lisa Program, Inc. Official Site website: <http://www.paulandlisa.org/about.htm>

To catch a predator. (2011). Retrieved December 24, 2011, from Top Documentary Films Official Site website: <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/catch-predator/>

Van Wagner, C. and Wood, T. (2011). *Internet sex crimes cybersex crimes.* Retrieved October 30, 2011, from Van Wagner and Wood Wisconsin Criminal Defense Attorneys Official Site website: <http://www.vanwagnerwood.com/CM/Custom/Cybersex-Internet-Crimes.asp>

Warning signs. (2010). Retrieved November 15, 2011, from Stop It Now! Official Site website: <http://www.stopitnow.org/warnings>

Yourspace for parents: Internet predators. (n.d.). Retrieved November 15, 2011, from Safe in Yourspace Official Site website: <http://www.safeinyourspace.org/internetpredators.asp>