Disrupting Harm

Evidence from 13 countries on the context, threats, and children’s perspectives of online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Detailed Analysis of the Frontline Service Providers Survey – Indonesia

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Introduction

The Disrupting Harm frontline workers survey aimed to explore the knowledge, attitudes and practices related to OCSEA that are presenting to those directly working to prevent and respond on the welfare frontline. Insights from frontline workers via this survey allowed us to more deeply explore findings from other research activities such as the national literature reviews and government interviews from the perspective of staff directly engaged in the response to this growing problem.

This report is the preliminary analysis conducted by ECPAT International. It is based on a convenience sample of 50 interviews were conducted with client-facing frontline child protection workers who were surveyed in each participating country. In order to participate in the survey respondents had to meet the following qualifying requirements:

1) Be an adult over 18 years of age;
2) Work the last 12 months (at least) in the field of social work, psychology or welfare;
3) Manage their own case load directly in the last 12 months;
4) Have caseloads that included children over the last 12 months.

The survey itself included a combination of 68 closed and open-ended questions. The data was collected via SurveyGizmo and administered by Disrupting Harm staff (either in person, or remotely via phone/Skype – due to COVID-19). Whilst the data collected is not statistically representative, it is still a vital snapshot in indicating scope and broadening our perspectives on knowledge, attitudes and practices related to OCSEA.

NOTE:
In Indonesia, the data collection for the survey was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic from March 10th 2020 to August 12th 2020 where movement restrictions were in place.
Basic Description of Survey Sample

The frontline workers who were surveyed in Indonesia (n=50) consisted of 38 females (76%) and 12 (24%) males.

Participants were asked to select a single category that best describes their organisation. In reality, these categories are sometimes not mutually exclusive, however the indications of a category that ‘best’ describes their organisation does help to depict the range of organisations that participants represent (Figure 1).

![Figure 1. Types of participants’ organisations. N=50](image)

The majority of participants identified their organisation as non-governmental (n=27 – 52%), followed by government-run organisation (n=20 – 40%). One person described their organisation as community-based (n=1 – 2%) and two as ‘other’ (n=2 – 4%).

The frontline social support workers were asked to detail what type of services their organisations provided related to children. The results are illustrated in Figure 2 below.
The majority (88%) of participants worked in organisations providing more than one service to children (n=44). As Figure 2 indicates, the most frequently reported services were counselling/psychosocial support (n=43 – 86%) and reintegration/community-based care (n=34 – 68%). That was closely followed by legal support (n=31 – 62%), education support (n=29 – 58%) and awareness raising/training (n=28 – 56%). About half of the respondents indicated that their organisations provided medical treatment (n=26 – 52%), residential care (n=24 – 48%) and basic supplies (n=24 – 48%). Economic assistance was the least commonly provided service (n=11 – 22%).

**Other services mentioned by frontline social support workers were:**

- Child’s identity change support
- Referrals to health professionals, safe homes, shelters, social care institutions, e.g. “integrated service centre for the empowerment of women and children (P2TP2A) collaborates with [organisation name] if there are victims who need a temporary shelter or a safe house” (RA3-IN-03-A)
- Child rights campaigns
- Finding schools based on children's needs
- Comprehensive mentoring until children have the courage to leave the environment of child sexual exploitation
- Disaster response, provision of food and nutrition for the beneficiaries
- Psychological forensic assessment
- Legal support and institution reference e.g.: “In handling cases of children who are in conflict with the law, we strive to provide legal assistance (through legislation) by prioritising related institutions. We also ask all parties who are concerned with child legal issues for legal handling/assistance to be given to children optimally” (RA3-IN-28-A)
- Assistance in court
- Support with legal documents: “we also make all legal documents regarding personal data: birth certificates, family cards, official school certificates because usually girls who are involved in prostitution cases either online or in person do not attend school/quit school so they don’t have the complete documents needed for future education. In fact, sometimes parents don’t have valid legal documents, so we will help legally in the process of making them” (RA3-IN-42-A)
- Handling cases from investigation until trial: “In relation to this, we as [organisation name] have handled many cases concerning children not only in recent years, but long before that, we have handled cases involving minors, from the level of investigation at the police until trial” (RA3-IN-29-A).

Perpetrator Demographics
To expand on the current understanding of the context in which OCSEA happens in Indonesia, the survey sought to explore the typical relationships that were observed by frontline social support workers between offenders and child survivors when they reported having worked with OCSEA cases.

From the 29 respondents who had worked with OCSEA cases, men were more commonly identified as perpetrators and women as facilitators of OCSEA. Out of those who had managed cases that involved OCSEA during the past 12 months, the most commonly referenced relationship between the victim and perpetrator was said to be that the perpetrators were predominantly strangers (nationals) or family friends e.g. “besides friends, also neighbours who already knew the victim well” (RA3-IN-10-A). That was followed by community members over 18, other relatives over 18, community members under 18, parents/step-parents and lastly, siblings over 18. None of the respondents selected the ‘sibling under 18’ or ‘other relative under 18’ option to describe the most common perpetrator-victim relationship.

Similarly, participants were asked about the most common relationships between facilitators and victims in the OCSEA cases they have managed. Of those cases that involved a facilitator, also ‘stranger’, ‘family friend’ and community member over 18 were the most referenced relationships observed by respondents between the victim and the facilitator. While in minority, some of the participants indicated that a parent/step parent was a facilitator in the cases they worked on: “Relating to the cases that involved a facilitator that I handled, in one out of four cases, the facilitator was the biological mother herself” (RA3-IN-32-A). Some also selected ‘community member over 18’ as the most common relationship. None of the respondents selected ‘sibling over 18’, ‘sibling under 18’ or the ‘foreigner’ option to describe the most common facilitator-victim relationship.
When frontline social support workers were given the opportunity to provide additional comments about perpetrators and facilitators they encountered in OCSEA cases, they mentioned that perpetrators are often people met through social media with undisclosed identities, e.g. “Most perpetrators are friends known on social media whose identities are unclear (one case). Another case is a former senior who later becomes girlfriend/boyfriend” (RA3-IN-24-A); “the perpetrator is an acquaintance on social media whose real identity is unknown” (RA3-IN-23-A); “known perpetrators on social media and using fake accounts” (RA3-IN-22-A). Others mentioned the role of friends and girlfriends/boyfriends in the abuse: “The facilitator between the victim and the perpetrator is the victim’s girlfriend/boyfriend who is usually a minor” (RA3-IN-42-A); “they’re generally offered through friends” (RA3-IN-15-A).

While one participant working at an NGO mentioned she did not have knowledge on perpetrators/facilitators, she described the process of handling OCSEA victims in her organisation: “Most of the cases we handle are referrals from the police and related agencies (P2TP2A District/City/Province). After going through the victim screening stage (underage girls), we will bring the child to our programme to receive holistic care. We do not handle the perpetrators/facilitators” (RA3-IN-43-A).

Below are a number of quotes from participants describing their insights into some of the child sexual exploitation and OCSEA cases they worked with:

“Almost all cases this week fell into the OCSEA category, which has quite increased after there are activities at home [due to COVID-19]” (RA3-IN-41-A);

“Sexual harassment that happened to girls started from communication through social media. The age classification of children must be clarified in accordance with the Child Protection Law that a child is someone who is not yet 18 years old, meaning that 18 years of age is no longer the age of a child. While question No. 11, still lists the age of 18 years” (RA3-IN-02-A);

“The child was intimidated to obey the perpetrator, who was around 36 years old, to have sex” (RA3-IN-25-A);

“More and more cases of sexual abuse against minors, indicating that the government failed in terms of providing education and guidance to children so that they don’t commit immoral acts. There are still many perpetrators of immoral behaviour to children, despite the threat of punishment being the death penalty. Hence, there’s a scientific study which states that there’s something wrong with the behaviour appearing in society that commit immoral deviations to children” (RA3-IN-48-A).

Scenarios

Participants were presented with four scenarios depicting situations in which at least one offender victimised a child through different modes of online sexual abuse and exploitation. After being provided with definitions of ‘OCSEA’, a ‘perpetrator’ and a ‘facilitator’ earlier in the survey, the participants were asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed or disagreed that the child was a
victim and that the offender had committed an OCSEA-related offence. These questions were designed to elicit insights about how participants assessed different forms and situations of OCSEA. It should be noted that responses are likely based on a combination of the participant’s knowledge on the issue, including how these issues may (or may not) be defined in law in a country, as well as influenced by social norms and beliefs. Irrespective of the basis for responses, the results indicate areas that are well understood (sometimes almost unanimously) and others where training and consistent messaging is needed to ensure consistent responses.

A four-point Likert scale was used to assess agreement with statements for the scenario questions. Where interesting indications in differences occurred, we note them, but otherwise combined ‘slightly agree’ and ‘strongly agree’ together and ‘slightly disagree and strongly disagree’ together, resulting in binary agree/disagree categories for the analysis presented here.

**Scenario 1**

*Palila pays a 16-year-old younger relative, Tamah, to undress while filming and later posts it online. Mamo, who does not know Palila, watches this interaction online from home 30 miles away.*

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**Figure 3.** Do you think Tamah is a victim of an OCSEA-related crime?

**Figure 4.** Do you think Mamo has committed an OCSEA-related crime?

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1 Names for the scenarios were changed to common names in each country for the translations but have been edited in the analysis to be consistent across all the Disrupting Harm reports.
94% of the participants strongly agreed that Tamah was a victim of sexual exploitation (n=47). 3 participants slightly disagreed (6%) (Figure 3).

Of the three circumstances in this scenario, participants seemed to struggle the most to identify if the remote third-party viewing the material had committed an OCSEA related crime. Out of 50 participants, 10 (20%) only slightly agreed that Mamo had committed an OCSEA-related crime and 20 (40%) disagreed (Figure 4).

Nearly all respondents (94%, n=47) agreed that Palila has committed an OCSEA related crime. 3 (6%) participants disagreed (2 strongly) – Figure 5.

When given the opportunity to share additional comments on the scenario, frontline social support workers discussed the importance of intent when evaluating the situation: “Depending on the purpose/background why Mamo watched it” (RA3-IN-44-A); “Palila’s action against Tamah is a violation of the Electronic Information and Transaction Law or a violation of the norms of decency. Mamo’s action must be proven beforehand whether there’s an element of intention or accident in watching Palila’s recordings” (RA3-IN-28-A).

One participant explained why he thought the third-party viewing the material did not commit a crime: “Tamah is a victim because he was paid to take off his clothes. Palila is the perpetrator who paid Tamah. Mamo can’t be said to have committed a crime because Mamo watched online of which the source was unknown” (RA3-IN-25-A).

Other comments included:

“Answer number 24, could completely agree if after watching the video he [Mama] cannot control his sexual desires and he commits sexual crimes” (RA3-IN-41-A);
“Because Tamah was still a minor who was manipulated by his relatives. Palila was even paid to broadcast live sexually. Palila is an intermediary who facilitates and is involved in posting it online. In my opinion, Mamo could be said to have committed a crime because she enjoyed the live broadcast of underage sexual harassment. When it comes to direct sexual harassment, Palila is the intermediary, Tamah is the victim, Mamo is the perpetrator. But I also know that in proving Mamo as the online perpetrator would require evidence” (RA3-IN-42-A);

“In my opinion, Tamah is a direct victim. He actually came with a good sincere intention to do the shooting scene process, but it turned out that in that process Tamah received an indecent treatment. Palila was the perpetrator of crimes against children” (RA3-IN-29-A);

“Tamah is an OCSEA victim because he is under 18 years old. Palila has committed an OCSEA-related crime. Mamo has committed a crime related to OCSEA because he participated in the viewing. However, if he is still a child, Mamo is also a victim in this case” (RA3-IN-34-A);

“Likewise, our clients who are unaware that they’re being sold to someone through online media” (RA3-IN-17-A).

Scenario 2

Kaimi is a 17-year-old student. Kaimi has struggled to make good grades this year and is worried that Uli, a teacher who is a close family friend, will tell Kaimi’s dad. Kaimi offers to send Uli naked pictures if he promises not to talk to the family. Uli accepts.

Figure 6. Do you think Kaimi is a victim of OCSEA?

Figure 7. Do you think Uli has committed an OCSEA-related crime?
43 participants (86%) agreed that the student (Kaimi) is a victim of OCSEA (33 strongly and 10 slightly), and 7 (14%) participants disagreed – see Figure 6.

As Figure 7 indicates, nearly all respondents agreed (38 strongly and 8 slightly) that the teacher (Uli) in a position of power has committed an OCSEA-related crime, and 4 disagreed (8%).

One participant who slightly disagreed that the student is a victim of OCSEA, explained: “In my opinion, Kaimi is a perpetrator and a victim of OCSEA because she did two things at once although she was under 17 years old (the government has changed the age of maturity to 18 years). Because we also found that many underage girls have become victims and also perpetrators. Uli can be said to have committed a crime because he conspired with Kaimi about hiding sexual harassment online” (RA3-IN-42-A). Another participant mentioned that the provided information is not sufficient to determine if the student is a victim and the teacher a perpetrator of OCSEA: “For number 28 [Figure 6], somewhat disagree. If there was a ‘not sure’ option, I would choose that, because the scenario presented is still somewhat ambiguous, where it is not explained whether there’s a history of Uli’s behaviour that often threatens Kaimi. For number 29 [Figure 7] I’m also still in doubt” (RA3-IN-13-A).

Other comments included:

“Based on the final result, if the teacher (Uli) finally responds by accepting the offer, then the teacher has committed crimes against children using online media” (RA3-IN-29-A);

“Yes, Kaimi is because she had received harassment from others so she passed it to Uli” (RA3-IN-17-A).

Scenario 3
Sam is a 10-year-old whose family struggles to make ends meet in their rural village. Sam’s uncle, Alex, has a good government job and has always given money to help the family out. Recently, Uncle Alex wrote a message to Sam on Facebook asking to have a secret meeting at his house. When Sam arrives, Uncle Alex asked Sam to sit on his lap and began touching his private parts.
As Figures 8 and 9 show, 92% of participants (n=46) agreed and 8% disagreed that 10-year old Sam is a victim of OCSEA and the adult, Alex, committed an OCSEA-related crime.

In additional comments, some focused on the crime of online grooming: “I think Sam is a victim of OCSEA because there’s a child grooming process by uncle Alex via Facebook. Evidence also shows that OCSEA can occur online or a mixture of online events and offline interactions between perpetrators and children” (RA3-IN-42-A). Others focused on offline physical abuse: “Although the call-to-action conversation started via Facebook, there was no element of abuse there. Harassment was done offline” (RA3-IN-26-A).

One participant who strongly disagreed in both questions related to this scenario commented: “Because it's just communication” (RA3-IN-04-A).

Those who chose to slightly or strongly agree commented:

“The acts above are sexual harassments” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“The closest people are mostly the perpetrators” (RA3-IN-22-A);
“Anyone can be a perpetrator. Most perpetrators are known people” (RA3-IN-24-A).

**Scenario 4**

Joe is 16, and his girlfriend Lucy is 15. They have been dating for a year and regularly have sex. Sometimes, when they can’t be together, they send photos to each other of themselves naked. Joe’s friend Matt knows about this and breaks into Joe’s phone and forwards naked pictures of Lucy to a group of their friends.

**Figure 10.** Do you think Lucy is a victim of an OCSEA related crime?

**Figure 11.** Do you think Joe is a victim of an OCSEA related crime?
Figure 12. Do you think that Joe has committed an OCSEA related crime?

As Figure 10 indicates, nearly all respondents (96%, n=48) agreed that Lucy is a victim of an OCSEA related crime and 4% (n=2) disagreed.

While 72% of participants (n=36) agreed that Joe is a victim of OCSEA (28 strongly and 8 slightly) almost a third of respondents (28%, n=14) disagreed – Figure 11. At the same time, 60% (N=30) agreed (46% strongly and 14% slightly) that he has committed an OCSEA related crime and 40% (n=20) disagreed (14% slightly and 6% strongly) – Figure 12.

As Figure 13 indicates, all respondents indicated that Matt has committed an OCSEA-related crime.

In additional comments participants mentioned:

“Joe and Lucy are minors. They both are victims of Matt who has gained access to nude pictures and distributed them to other friends. On the other hand, Joe and Lucy can also be said to have committed a crime because each of them makes online naked photos consciously and voluntarily” (RA3-IN-42-A);

“Matt becomes a child offender, handled with a child's perspective” (RA3-IN-14-A);

“The actions that Joe and Lucy did were dating and having sex without any coercion (mutual liking) and recording for personal interest. The closest criminal act is Joe's friend, Matt” (RA3-IN-28-A);

“The three of them have committed the crime of spreading sexual crime images” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“What the three of them did was a violation of the law, but the reference is Matt’s action which is forwarding the pictures of the two to the public, causing new legal problems and broadening the scope of the law” (RA3-IN-29-A).

Summary

Participants overwhelmingly correctly identified the children as victims and the adults as offenders across the four scenarios. However, in three questions there were some divergencies.

The first question related to the scenario (Scenario 1) in which an adult paid his 16-year-old female relative to undress while he filmed it and later posted it online. In this scenario, an unrelated individual, Mamo, who did not know the child or the other adult, watched the interaction online from home 30 miles away. Nearly all of the participants agreed that the child was a victim of sexual exploitation and that the adult who paid and filmed her had committed an OCSEA-related crime. However, out of 50 participants, 10 (20%) only slightly agreed that the unconnected adult viewing the abuse online had committed an OCSEA-related crime and 20 (40%) disagreed (11 slightly and 9 strongly) – Figure 4.

The second and third divergent items related to a scenario (Scenario 4) in which a 16-year-old male, Joe, and his 15-year-old girlfriend, Lucy, who have been together for a year and were having regular sex and sometimes were sending each other naked photos. In that scenario, Matt, Joe’s friend broke
into Joe’s phone and forwarded naked pictures of Lucy to a group of their friends. The majority of participants agreed that the female was a victim of OCSEA and that the boy breaking into the phone and sharing images had committed an OCSEA related crime. However almost a third of respondents disagreed (28%) that the boy depicted in the photos was a victim of OCSEA (Figure 11) and 60% agreed that the same boy had committed an OCSEA-related crime (Figure 12). While technically two children consensually photographing themselves naked is the crime of ‘creating child sexual abuse material’, there is ongoing debate about this characterisation. For example, if the images had remained between the two consenting parties, harm may not have been experienced. In a 2020 study on self-generated sexual content, it was found that children thought sharing such images could even provide advantages in their relationships and/or increase their self-esteem. On the other hand, when the materials are forwarded without consent, they may end-up circulating the web and being acquired by offenders. Additionally, the normalisation of children sharing sexual images, videos and sexualised online conversations, may lead to victims underreporting because they may fail to perceive what is happening to them as abusive or exploitative.

**Vulnerabilities**

Based on their knowledge and experience, participants indicated whether they believed a list of factors about the child and about society increased children’s vulnerability to general sexual exploitation (i.e., all kinds) and more specifically to online forms of sexual exploitation and abuse.

- **Factors about the child** identified as increasing vulnerability to general sexual abuse and exploitation.

![Figure 14](image-url) Participants’ perceptions of factors about the child impacting children’s vulnerability to general Child sexual exploitation. N=50

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2 ECPAT Sweden. (2020, May). “**I början vart det lite läskigt men nu är det vardag**” En rapport om yngre barn och egenproducerat material. [Translated from Swedish].


Figure 14 above shows that there was a broad consensus among the respondents regarding their ideas about which of the possible factors about the child can increase vulnerability to sexual abuse and exploitation in general in Indonesia. Over 90% of respondents agreed that factors such as access and exposure to pornography (96%), living and working on the street (96%), extreme poverty (96%), increased access to technology and Internet (96%), dropping out of school (94%), family violence (94%), cultural practices (92%), being left behind by parent/guardian who has migrated for work (92%) and community violence (92%) impact children’s vulnerability to sexual abuse. More variation in responses was found around factors such as belonging to an ethnic minority group (56% agreed and 44% disagreed), living with one or multiple disabilities (76% agreed and 24% disagreed) and gender norms (70% agreed and 30% disagreed).

Additionally, when respondents were given the option to comment on other sources of vulnerability in their country, which may not have been included in the survey options, they noted the following:

- Drug use
- Family and environmental problems
- Dating
- Fashion style
- Lack of sex education
- Online exploitation of children (children become objects for popularity)
- Parental divorce
- Restraints against children

- **Factors about the child identified as increasing vulnerability specifically to OCSEA**

Figure 15. Participants’ perceptions of factors about the child impacting children’s vulnerability to OCSEA.

N=50
Similarly, as in the case of children’s vulnerability to general child sexual exploitation, respondents were in strong agreement in terms of what factors increase children’s vulnerability to OCSEA (Figure 15). As we can see above, almost all options were ascribed values of agreement exceeding 90%. Smaller consensus was found around the same factors as with general child sexual exploitation – belonging to an ethnic minority group (54% agreed, 46% disagreed) – with the biggest differences being, living with one or multiple disabilities (68% agreed, 32% disagreed) and gender norms (80% agreed, 20% disagreed).

When respondents were given the option to comment on other sources of vulnerability to OCSEA in their country, which may not have been included in the survey options, they mentioned similar factors that were raised in cases of general child sexual exploitation:

- Drug use
- Dating
- Fashion style
- Parental divorce
- Psychological abuse
- Restraints against the child

When participants were asked about the similarities and differences in children’s vulnerability when considering online forms of sexual exploitation and abuse in comparison to general sexual exploitation, they noted the following:

**Similarities:**

“*The practices and experiences which involve perpetrators and victims of OCSEA always go hand in hand with sexual exploitation. When OCSEA occurs, it will generally lead to acts of sexual exploitation and vice versa*” (RA3-IN-36-A);

“The vulnerability of children to OCSEA is almost the same because access is made easier by technology, so it becomes a stimulus for the perpetrator, whether actions are carried out online or offline” (RA3-IN-26-A);

“All children are vulnerable to any situation and condition” (RA3-IN-19-A);

“The vulnerability of children to sexual exploitation is generally similar to the vulnerability of children to OCSEA, as there are improvements in technology where Internet access is faster and cheaper” (RA3-IN-42-A);

“I think it’s the same because children are basically vulnerable to becoming victims of exploitation in general or OCSEA. Children have basic characteristics of being dependent and having immature thinking, which make them vulnerable. Access to media and online is actually limited for children as they are vulnerable” (RA3-IN-14-A);
“In my opinion it is similar because in the era of globalisation and the high flow of information technology nowadays, children are vulnerable to OCSEA or other acts of sexual exploitation. Generally, children are invited to watch pornographic videos or there are cases of under age sexual intercourse, although based on mutual liking. They use the same media, namely porn videos, sex chat or they send pornographic pictures to each other” (RA3-IN-38-A);

“More or less the same because technology has become a part of children’s daily lives” (RA3-IN-12-A).

Differences:

“Because it’s easily accessed and there’s a lack of education” (RA3-IN-04-A);

“Because many children are not informed about the dangers of online and offline sexual harassment” (RA3-IN-24-A);

“Based on experience, perpetrators of OCSEA crimes often take advantage of children’s vulnerabilities (inadequate education, coming from underprivileged families, having disabilities, etc.) to make it easier to commit sexual exploitation as these children don’t have the power or strong reason to fight and avoid these crimes” (RA3-IN-05-A);

“Access to technology, understanding the risks of using technology and control from the government and the environment when using technology, in my opinion, are factors that make children more vulnerable to experiencing OCSEA than other sexual exploitation” (RA3-IN-01-A);

“In the case of child sexual exploitation, children are much more vulnerable to sexual violence. Insofar as I accompany child victims of child sexual exploitation, there are many reasons for the occurrence of child sexual exploitation, such as one of the victims I assisted. Since the implementation of SFH, children can easily access the Internet without parental supervision. In difficult economic situations, parents are busy finding solutions on how to restore the family economy and ignore the supervision of their child’s use of gadgets and the Internet. Hence children access not only school subjects on the Internet but also social media where they get to know other people without their parents’ awareness” (RA3-IN-40-A);

“Online requires media (Internet), digital footprint, and is enjoyed by many people” (RA3-IN-34-A);

“The difference is the range that can be very broad to various regions of the world” (RA3-IN-18-A).

- Factors about the society identified as increasing vulnerability to general sexual abuse (any types)

When asked “in your country, indicate if you think the following factors about society can increase vulnerability to sexual abuse and exploitation in general” – survey respondents reported the following factors as sources of vulnerability to general sexual exploitation:
As we can see from the above (Figure 16), there was broad consensus among the respondents regarding their ideas around which of the above factors about society can increase vulnerability to general sexual abuse and exploitation. The agreement ranged from 88% (n=44) for expected roles for men and women to 98% (n=49) – stigma from communities if a known victim. 96% of respondents agreed that taboos around discussing sex and sexuality increases children’s vulnerability to child sexual exploitation and 90% agreed that high levels of physical violence and low status of children in society influence this kind of vulnerability.

When respondents were given the option to comment on other societal sources of vulnerability in Indonesia, which may not have been included in the survey options, they noted the following:

- Child abuse
- Lack of public awareness to help the victim
- Poverty
- Weak laws and access to information and services factors
- Restraints against the child
- The child not having a bargaining position
- The use of children for popularity on social media

- Factors about the society identified as increasing vulnerability specifically to online forms of child sexual exploitation and abuse

When asked “in your country, indicate if you think the following factors about society can increase vulnerability to ONLINE sexual abuse and exploitation” – survey respondents reported the following factors as sources of vulnerability to online sexual exploitation:
A broad consensus was observed when participants were asked to identify if the same factors are sources of increased vulnerability to online sexual abuse (Figure 17). Within the options given, respondents identified stigma from the communities as the largest source, at 98%, followed by high levels of physical violence against children (94%), taboos around discussing sex and sexuality (94%), low status of children in society (88%) and lastly, expected roles for men and women at 82%.

Factors about society additionally mentioned by participants they believed strongly increased children’s vulnerability to OCSEA were:

- Exclusion of children
- Information and access to services, strong laws, poverty
- Parental role factors
- Restraints against child
- Service limitations
- The use of children for popularity on social media
- Relationship with the family, media, living environment

When participants were asked specifically why societal factors increase vulnerability to OCSEA differently to sexual exploitation generally they often did not talk about differences, but rather the risk factors in general. Throughout the survey the issue of sex being taboo in Indonesia and the fact that children are often not listened to by adults were very often mentioned by participants as factors increasing the vulnerability to abuse. Some of the responses included:

“It is very taboo to discuss sex and sexuality in Indonesia, especially when children ask their parents. Most parents will avoid giving answers related to sex and sexuality, so children will find out on the Internet or ask people who they think can provide answers such as their girlfriends/boyfriends, their school friends, teachers, or acquaintances they know through social media. When this happens, the
child not only gets the answer in theory but also in practice (sexual violence against children occurs)” (RA3-IN-40-A);

“Children who become victims find it difficult to regain their confidence because of the labels that have been attached to them. The community should support victims, the role of the family is also very important to restore children's self-confidence” (RA3-IN-50-A);

“The problem of sexual harassment results from the use of social media” (RA3-IN-04-A);

“For example, if the community is still taboo about discussing reproductive health, then children don’t have the knowledge, understanding and awareness of the risks of sexual exploitation” (RA3-IN-36-A);

“Social factors greatly influence children’s development, plus the lack of knowledge of healthy sex. Children will be depressed and unconfident which make it easy for them to become victims of predators. Children don’t dare to say no and defend themselves” (RA3-IN-43-A);

“The lack of knowledge about the fulfilment of children’s rights makes children vulnerable to exploitation” (RA3-IN-28-A);

Report
ing In order to explore what influences decisions about reporting cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse, participants were asked to indicate whether they believed particular social and cultural factors influenced reporting both on general child sexual exploitation (all kinds) and specifically related to OCSEA in Indonesia.

Figure 18. Social and cultural influences on reporting Child sexual exploitation in general. N=50
Figure 18 shows that stigma from the community (n=48 – 96%) as well as taboos around discussing sex and sexuality (94%) and low knowledge of the risk from parents (88%) were perceived as main factors influencing reporting child sexual exploitation. Factors rated by respondents as having the smallest influence from the listed factors were: no hotline or helpline (24%), expected roles for men and women (28%) and police not accepting reports (30%).

Outside of what was reported above, other factors mentioned by participants that influence reporting child sexual exploitation in general included:

- Long legal process and lack of trust in law enforcement officers
- Law enforcement officials not having a victim’s perspective
- The public not being aware of services
- Mediation efforts or peace efforts
- No safe house available
- Victim-blaming approach
- Weak witnesses and evidence, so there’s a concern that the perpetrator will not be arrested
- Worrying about the costs related to the legal process

When asked, “in your country what prevents reporting specifically about OCSEA?”, survey respondents reported the following factors as reasons which prevent the reporting of OCSEA:

- Low knowledge of the risks from parents: 86%
- Taboo to discuss sex and sexuality: 86%
- Stigma from community if a known victim: 72%
- People know it happens but tolerate it: 72%
- People don’t know mechanism for reporting: 50%
- Low status of children means no rights to report: 48%
- Cannot trust services to be confidential: 44%
- Poor quality of service for reporting: 40%
- Victim is punished: 34%
- Police don’t accept report: 30%
- Expected roles for men and women: 24%
- No hotline or helpline: 16%
- Other: 16%

![Bar chart showing factors preventing reporting OCSEA](chart.png)

**Figure 19. Social and cultural influences on reporting OCSEA. N=50**

In regard to OCSEA, the same three factors were rated as having the highest influence on reporting, namely: low knowledge of the risks from parents (86%), taboos around discussing sex and sexuality (86%) and stigma from communities (82%). Similarly, as in cases of reporting child sexual exploitation, no hotline/helpline was perceived by respondents as having the lowest influence on reporting OCSEA (n=12 -24%), which was followed by expected roles for men and women (30%) and police not accepting reports (34%).
Other factors additionally named by participants as understood to influence reporting OCSEA included:

- “1. Lack of public knowledge about OCSEA so that they cannot determine precisely whether the online content violates the law or not. 2. Lack of socialisation by the government or non-profit organisations about OCSEA. 3. Even though the Internet is growing rapidly, a reporting mechanism that is easy to understand is still needed. 4. People’s mindset: manual reporting through the police sometimes needs a long time, let alone online reporting (intangible)” (RA3-IN-42-A)
- Limitations of cybercrime services
- Law enforcement officials not having a victim perspective
- Lack of services
- Victim-blaming
- Length of process: “The report was received but the case handling process took very long, so the programme became uncomfortable” (RA3-IN-14-A).

Availability of Support

Welfare workers were asked to evaluate the overall availability and quality of medical, psychological, legal and reintegration services for child victims of OCSEA.

![Figure 20. Perception of Availability of Services, N=50](image)
Figures 20 and 21 show fairly consistent ratings between all services. ‘Good’ ratings were selected most often followed by ‘fair’ ratings for both the availability and quality of services. Psychological services were rated the highest with 62% of respondents rating their availability as either good (42%) or excellent (20%) and 60% their quality as either good (48%) or excellent (12%).

Perceptions of the quality and availability of services were mostly ‘fair’/‘good’ from NGO workers, whereas government workers rated them predominantly as ‘good’ or ‘excellent’. Interestingly, all but three ‘excellent’ ratings of availability of services came from government respondents and all but one ‘poor’ rating came from NGO workers. Similarly, all but two ‘excellent’ ratings of quality of services were given by government workers and all but one ‘poor’ rating was given NGO workers.

When respondents were given the option to explain their appraisals of the quality and availability of services above, participants noted both strong and weak aspects of the support services in Indonesia. Some of their comments included:

“Everyone carries out their respective duties according to their profession in handling this sexual harassment case” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“At this time, the government and the people are still quite ignorant of the prevention and the enforcement of child abuse cases, which creates a distrust in the community. With this current condition, it is hoped that improvement will continue to be done in the future” (RA3-IN-29-A);

“Already good” (RA3-IN-35-A);

“Assistance for children dealing with the law in the field is urgently needed nowadays because all disclosure of information and legislation (Child Protection) has regulated it in the best interests of the child” (RA3-IN-28-A);

“However, not all areas have provided maximum service yet” (RA3-IN-04-A);
“In North Sulawesi, only our foundation provides comprehensive support services, although the quality of our services must be continuously improved” (RA3-IN-42-A);

“There is yet a specific service that deals with child victims of OCSEA” (RA3-IN-43-A);

“The child case (NF) that we’re currently handling in court indicates that the protection of children’s rights is still weak, in which many of those rights haven’t been fulfilled although could’ve been prevented from early age” (RA3-IN-28-A).

To better understand what affects the availability of support services for children, respondents were asked to indicate to what extent they believed particular factors had influence on the availability of services for children.

![Figure 22. Factors affecting the availability of support services for child victims of Child sexual exploitation, N=50](image)

Figure 22 above indicates that factors perceived as having the biggest influence on the availability of support services for children recovering from child sexual exploitation was the location – 74% agreed that the fact that services are concentrated in urban areas has an influence on the availability of services. Around half of the participants agreed and half disagreed that the cost of services and low quality of services influence the availability of services. The majority of respondents disagreed that factors such as gender (68% disagreed), no availability of services (66% disagreed) and discrimination against clients (62% disagreed) affect the availability of help for child victims of child sexual exploitation in Indonesia.

Participants mentioned additional factors such as:

- Funding from the local government
- Inadequate safe house facilities
- Laws that must be enforced against perpetrators
- Reach-out service system
- Access to information being difficult
- Lack of public awareness

When participants were asked to indicate to what extent those same factors affect the availability of support services for child victims of OCSEA, the results were mostly similar (Figure 23), with a few slight differences.

![Figure 23. Factors affecting the availability of support services for child victims of OCSEA, N=50](image)

A smaller number of participants agreed (64% compared to 74% for child sexual exploitation) that services being concentrated in urban areas influence the availability of support for children victims of OCSEA. The majority of respondents disagreed (as in the case of child sexual exploitation) that gender (62%) and no availability of services (64%) influence the availability. Slightly bigger differences were found around the discrimination against clients factor – while in the case of child sexual exploitation, 62% disagreed, here 56% disagreed, resulting in almost evenly spread ratings.

Respondents mentioned additional factors such as:

- Client pick-up service
- Funding from the local government
- Access to the information being difficult
- Availability of services in every city/regency
- The lack of public awareness

When given an opportunity to share additional comments about the availability of services, frontline social support workers commented on the lack of public awareness and laws, lack of system integration and information flow, influence of local governments and uneven spread of spread of services. Some of the comments included:
“In our opinion, if people have access to the available extensive and in-depth information of a case, child abuse cases can be suppressed” (RA3-IN-29-A);

“Laws against perpetrators must exist, provide more services for victims and disseminate information about online sexual harassment to the public” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“OCSEA can only be reported at the regional police level. Therefore, it’s very difficult to access OCSEA reports from certain areas which are far from the regional police” (RA3-IN-19-A);

“Support to victims is already good, but availability and quality are not evenly distributed yet, depending on the local government” (RA3-IN-35-A);

“The public is not completely aware of the procedures and access to services” (RA3-IN-20-A);

“The service system must be integrated and the public given easy access to services” (RA3-IN-48-A);

“There are institutions and access to recovery for child sexual victims in Indonesia, it’s just that people sometimes are unaware or are ashamed to report” (RA3-IN-05-A);

“There is yet a service for children to recover from OCSEA” (RA3-IN-43-A);

“There’s still a lack of services that reach all areas, including rural areas and a lack of socialisation” (RA3-IN-04-A).

Investigations and Convictions

Participants were asked to estimate the amount of OCSEA cases they managed in the last 12 months and determine approximately how many of those resulted in investigations and convictions. It should be noted that these indications were merely estimates, not reliable counts of official cases.

38 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, at least one case of the OCSEA cases they managed directly resulted in a complaint filed to the local police/judicial authorities (total of 208 estimated cases).

38 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, at least one of the OCSEA cases they managed resulted in an investigation (total of 205 estimated).

25 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, at least one of the OCSEA cases they managed resulted in a conviction (total 99 estimated).

The number of reported cases represent only a fraction of the number of OCSEA incidents that we expect are occurring, the majority of which continue to never to come to the attention of social workers or law enforcement.
Law Enforcement and Government Support

In order to understand frontline social support workers perceptions of responses by local law enforcement on the issue of OCSEA, respondents were asked to answer: “Based on your work which best describes local law enforcement’s: 1) awareness of OCSEA crimes; and 2) response to OCSEA crimes. Their responses to this question are depicted in Figure 24.

![Figure 24](image)

*Figure 24. Participants’ perceptions of local law enforcement awareness and response to OCSEA, N=50*

Local law enforcement’s awareness and response received similar ratings. Response was assessed to be slightly better than awareness, in both cases the “good” rating was selected most frequently – 48% rated awareness as good and 52% response as good. 34% rated the awareness as fair, 12% as poor and 6% as excellent. In case of law enforcements’ response - 24% rated it as fair, 18% as poor and 6% as excellent.

While government workers perceived law enforcement’s awareness and response mostly as ‘good’ and none of them rated them as ‘poor’, the ratings from NGO-workers were split between ‘fair’, ‘good’ and ‘poor’. All but one of the ‘excellent’ ratings came from government workers.

Respondents were given the option to provide additional comments to qualify their answers above. Some of their justifications are highlighted below:

“It has started to be noticed by the government. However, sometimes it’s just casuistry, not yet the valid data” (RA3-IN-04-A);

“In our opinion, acceleration from all parties is expected, as to strive for not only law enforcement, but also prevention, which is more prioritised” (RA3-IN-29-A).

To better understand the ratings above, participants were next asked about their perceptions of the quality of efforts to address OCSEA (Figure 25).
Figure 25. Participants’ perceptions of quality of government efforts to address OCSEA, N=50

All of the government’s efforts to address OCSEA listed were rated by the majority as either ‘fair’ or ‘good’. While ratings were similar in all categories, funding received the lowest scores with 68% rating it as either poor (24%) or fair (44%).

The ‘good’ and ‘excellent’ ratings were more often selected by government workers, while the ‘fair’ ratings by NGO workers.

In additional comments, frontline social support workers focused on the importance of raising awareness by the government:

“Availability of information is needed for the public either by the government or institutions related to children, to provide enlightenment that children’s rights must be protected from an early age. The government, in this case the authorities, must enforce the law in society regarding the exploitation of children in accordance with statutory provisions so that the system that has been built by the government and the people can be implemented properly in the best interests of the child” (RA3-IN-28-A);

“The government must continue to educate about immoral cases so that crimes can be minimised” (RA3-IN-48-A);

“Now the government can maximise its state apparatus to be more active in educating the public about child protection, so that child exploitation can be prevented earlier” (RA3-IN-28-A);

“A more proactive education to the public is needed, especially by the government, regarding the protection and prevention of children as victims of exploitation (both economically and sexually)” (RA3-IN-28-A).
Next, frontline social support workers surveyed were asked to assess the collaboration on OCSEA between non-government sectors such as NGOs, tourism companies, Internet companies etc. The results are illustrated in Figure 26.

Figure 26. Participants perceptions of collaboration on OCSEA between non-government, N=50

As we can see in the figure above, the majority of respondents rated the collaboration between non-government actors as good (n=27 – 54%) or fair (n=15 – 30%). 4% (n=2) rated the collaboration to be excellent, 4% (n=2) to be poor and 8% (n=4) claimed there is no collaboration between the partners.

Two frontline social support workers commented positively on the cooperation:

“For us who handled victims, the need to collaborate with NGOs and the response to cases is very good, the government is very attentive” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“The coordination of the government, police, NGOs and families is already good. Just need to get improved” (RA3-IN-20-A).

Public Awareness

Lastly, the survey attempted to ascertain the levels of public awareness around the issues of OCSEA in Indonesia. In order to do so, frontline social support workers were asked to subjectively appraise young people’s awareness, parent’s awareness and the general public’s awareness of OCSEA – their responses are illustrated in Figure 27.
The majority of frontline social support workers described young people’s, parent’s and the general public’s awareness of OCSEA as either poor or fair. 30% rated young people’s awareness as poor, 36% as fair, 30% as good and 4% as excellent. Parents’ awareness was rated by 26% as poor, by 44% as fair, by 26% as good and by 4% as excellent. The general public’s awareness was rated by 30% of frontline social support workers as poor and by 40% as fair. Similarly, as in the other two groups, only about a third of respondents rated the general public’s awareness as good (24%) or excellent (6%).

Respondents were given the option to provide additional comments to qualify their answers above. Some of the responses included:

“Assistance and supervision from parents needs to be improved” (RA3-IN-39-A);

“Lack of public knowledge due to lack of socialisation by the government to educate the public” (RA3-IN-42-A);

“Many people are aware but choose to ignore” (RA3-IN-02-A);

“People need to be further educated in order to understand the importance of preventing child abuse, especially in social environments” (RA3-IN-29-A);

“Public awareness and knowledge about OCSEA is still very low” (RA3-IN-22-A);

“Strong law enforcement is needed to control social media” (RA3-IN-04-A);

“The awareness of young people about OCSEA is still limited” (RA3-IN-17-A);

“There are still many people who don’t really understand the online world” (RA3-IN-41-A);
“There are still many people who think that OCSEA is a common thing” (RA3-IN-43-A);

“There’s Children’s Forum as Pioneer and Reporter” (RA3-IN-38-A);

“Adolescence is the period of search for identity and the period of having high curiosity. When sex education is not obtained from an early age, it will become something intriguing for them. Without supervision, it’s not impossible for the child to become a perpetrator or victim of sexual crimes. Communities also often stigmatise child victims, without wanting to understand their situation first. Therefore, family and community support are important, as without those, children will easily be used by individuals or perpetrators of sexual crimes” (RA3-IN-05-A).