

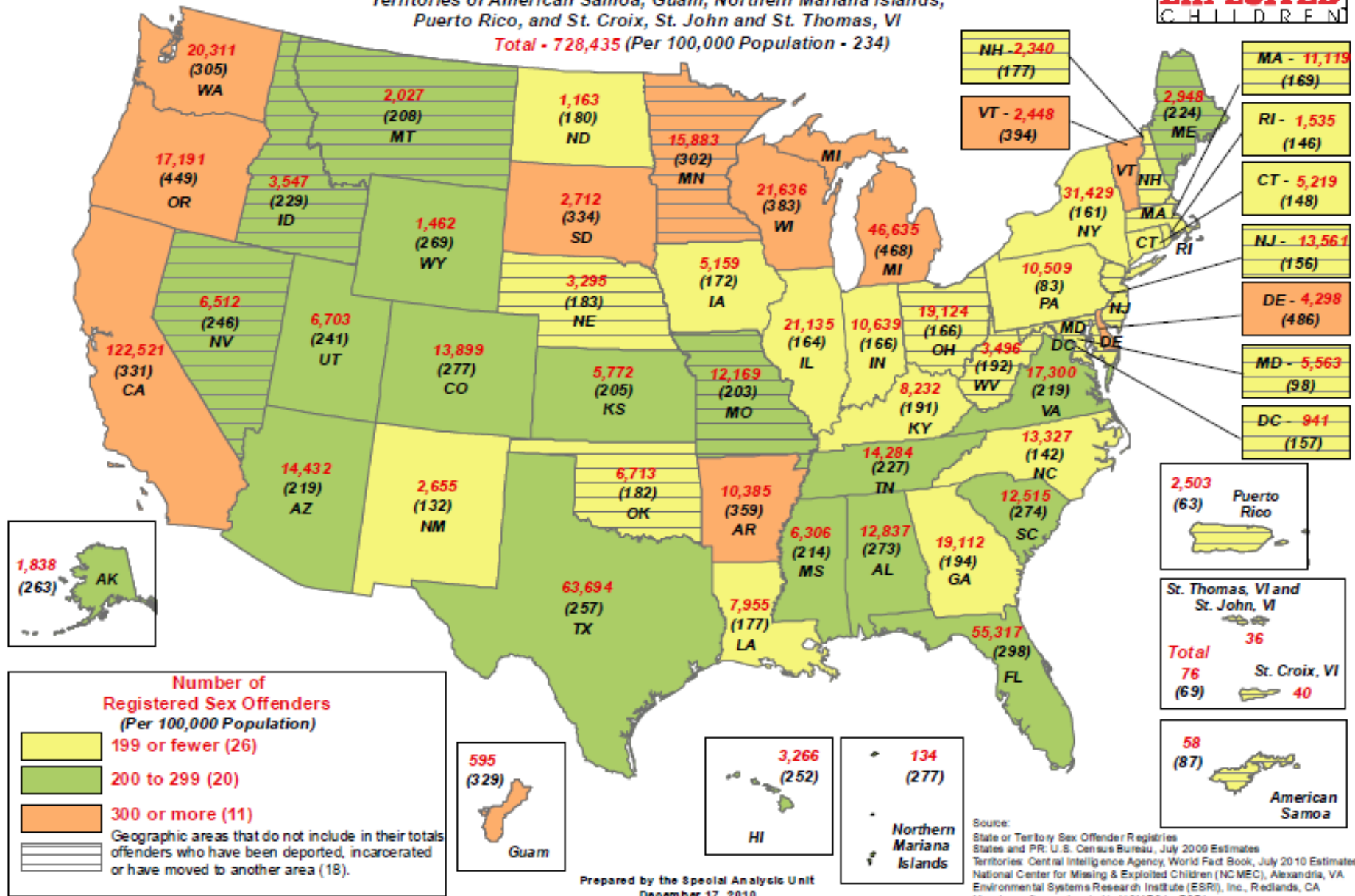


What is Grooming?

**BSA Policy of Mandatory
Reporting**

REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS IN THE UNITED STATES PER 100,000 POPULATION

Including the District of Columbia and
Territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands,
Puerto Rico, and St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas, VI
Total - 728,435 (Per 100,000 Population - 234)



Source:
State or Territory Sex Offender Registries
States and PR: U.S. Census Bureau, July 2009 Estimates
Territories: Central Intelligence Agency, World Fact Book, July 2010 Estimates
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), Alexandria, VA
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Inc., Redlands, CA
Mapping software donated to NCMEC by ESRI

What is Grooming?

- Preparing a target victim for molestation
- Gauging a child's response and likelihood to tell
- Gauging child's vulnerability to words, touch
- Getting child used to intimate interactions
- Desensitizing or increasing child's comfort level with inappropriate behavior
- Accidental on purpose exposure
- Accidental on purpose fondling
- Assesses vulnerability, i.e., single parent home.

Who/What gets groomed?

- The target or intended victim
- His or her parents
- The community, church, neighborhood

Grooming the Target Victim

- Encourages his rebelliousness
- Encourages maintenance of “our secret”
- Will create tension with BSA YP Policy/Barriers
- Will nurture tension with authority figures
- Provides “**taboo**” access to victims
- Manipulates with gifts, words, and deeds
- Methodical, continuous assault on target victim’s sense of safety and boundaries

Grooming the Parents

- May give presents to siblings/special family friend
- Available to hang out and babysit
- Shows more interest in one child than other siblings
- “Shows more interest in your child than you do”
- Will separate siblings from victim by playing favorites
- Isolates victim from support mechanisms
- Bribes victim with “special secrets, favors, taboo access”
- Attempts to wedge himself between the parent & victim
- Seeks opportunity to be the single mother’s father figure, role model

Grooming of Community, Church, Neighborhood

- The nicest, most helpful person
- Associates with “target “ victim populations
- Volunteers specifically with charitable projects that bring him recognition and favor
- Offers to counsel “one on one,” “place under wing” youth with problems
- Volunteers to help the elderly, civic clean-ups, community/church organization volunteer

The Future of Offender
“Grooming” of Youth

On-Line Solicitation

For a free kit contact
National Center for Missing
and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

www.netsmartz.org

On-Line Solicitation/Grooming

Preys on the Vulnerabilities of Youth

- Perceived anonymity on-line
- New age of personality and on-line communication
- Parental ignorance
- Youthful need to establish autonomy

BSA Defense to On-Line Grooming

- BSA Social Media Policy
 - Strict adherence
 - Report of violation to Scout Executive and Law Enforcement cyber tip line
- Collaboration with NCMEC/NetSmartz
 - Latest information of youth safety
 - Parent/Leader/Volunteer information

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“Grooming” of target victims in the Boy Scouts of America is a direct attack on BSA program and structure.

Child molesters violate the core values and programs of Scouting, i.e., fun, bonding, leadership, challenges, advancement, and competition to manipulate youth.

The Scouting Program vs. What the Molester Sees

- Access to youth of his target age and gender
- Opportunity to manipulate bonding mechanism
- Opportunity to select vulnerable youth
- Abuse/manipulation of position of leadership over youth
- Misuse of system of awards, recognition, rank advancement
- Misuse of loyalty to leader, whether adult or youth
- Places himself in high regard and esteem

“Protect the Boy Scouts of America and its members”

- Prevent
- Recognize
- Action Report/Remove



Mandatory Report of Child Abuse



Youth protection can only be achieved through the shared involvement of everyone in Scouting.

- ➔ Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers participating in BSA programs rely upon adult leaders to protect them from abuse.
- ➔ Scouting's “Barriers to Abuse” are an essential component of protecting youth from abuse.
- ➔ Compliance with BSA policies will help make programs safer.
- ➔ Enforcement of policies ensures safer programs.

Reporting
Youth Protection Policy Violations
&
Suspected Child Abuse

The “Main Thing” in Youth Protection:

Keep Scouts Safe !

The BSA's Youth Protection Action Plan

- ➔ Stop the abuse/policy violation immediately.
- ➔ Request assistance needed.
- ➔ Separate the parties involved.
- ➔ Ensure the safety & supervision of all youth, while maintaining two-deep leadership.
- ➔ Notify the proper authorities immediately.
- ➔ Contact the Scout executive.

Overview

- ➔ BSA policy requires leaders to report suspected child abuse **to the authorities for investigation.**
- ➔ Subsequent to making a report to the authorities, the Scout executive should be notified of **suspected or alleged child abuse.**
- ➔ BSA requires **any violation of youth protection policies** be reported to the council Scout executive.

Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

- ⇒ BSA policy requires prompt reporting to a governmental agency based on any good faith or **reasonable suspicion** of abuse.
- ⇒ BSA policy complies with or exceeds the requirements of “mandated reporting” enacted in many state laws.

Authorities to Contact

- ➔ State child and family protective service agencies are generally responsible for investigating abuse by family members (**within the home**).
- ➔ Law enforcement agencies are responsible for investigating allegations of abuse both **in the home** and by non-family members (**out of home**).
- ➔ Many states assign responsibility to **multidisciplinary teams** of law enforcement, child protective services, medical working together within a **Children's Advocacy Center**.

If ever you are unsure how to handle an incident or situation, contact your Scout Executive or the Youth Protection office at

youth.protection@scouting.org

Any interference or attempt to discourage reporting of suspected child abuse to the authorities is a *serious* violation of BSA policy and should be reported to:

*Office of Legal Counsel
Boy Scouts of America
(972) 580-2000*

or

Youth.Protection@scouting.org

Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

- **Two-deep leadership is required on all outings.**
- **Separate accommodations for adults and Scouts are required.**
- **Privacy of youth is respected.**
- **Inappropriate use of cameras, imaging, and digital devices is prohibited.**

- **No secret organizations.**
- **No hazing.**
- **No bullying.**
- **Youth leadership is monitored by adult leaders.**
- **Discipline must be constructive.**

- **Appropriate attire for all activities.**
- **Members are responsible to act according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law.**
- **Units are responsible to enforce Youth Protection policies.**

Any violations of the BSA's Youth Protection policies must immediately be reported to the Scout executive.

Barriers to Abuse are Designed.....

- To protect youth members while participating in Scouting activities.
- To protect adult leaders from false accusations.
- To prevent “grooming” of youth members by adult leaders.
- To prevent peer-on-peer abuse by youth members.

Violations of BSA Youth Protection policies may not meet the legal threshold for child abuse, but must be reported to the local Boy Scout council for follow-up and appropriate action.

BYSTANDER EFFECT:

In many cases of child abuse, others had prior knowledge or suspected abuse, but failed to take action, thereby becoming complicit in a child's victimization.

Although protected by
a law that allowed for
a process of abdication,

“I wish I had done more.”

- the late Joe Paterno