

**Do you  
need  
help  
too?**

**You are not  
alone.**

Many kids just like you  
have had the same  
experience — and they  
got help. You can, too.

**Start by telling an  
adult you trust.**

If someone is touching  
you or is getting close  
to you in a way that  
makes you uncomfortable,  
tell an adult you trust.

Even though you  
may feel scared,  
**don't give up!**

today I writing  
about my experineat

childrens cove is like amazing  
you with what happend  
to me was sexual abused when  
I and in 3rd grade my  
the first person I told  
afraid to tell my parents  
my brithday they found  
out they ask me  
I and told them  
everything b...-15 he was  
gone.

The next day I  
childrens cove I believe I  
wonderful lady named  
mejane she pretty  
and so nice I  
smile it made me feel like  
tell her anything  
after everything brave  
I was havins nightmares  
I stopped having  
them. I about  
how I am brave  
one can make me afraid  
childrens cove you for everythings  
not alone  
you have to believe in  
me and

This letter was written by a child from Cape Cod.



Providing Hope  
and Healing  
for Abused Children

Learn how to get help  
[childrenscove.org](http://childrenscove.org)

# It's hard to read this letter.

It's even harder to imagine something like this happening to someone you love. Protecting your child starts with having an open and ongoing dialogue about body safety and child sexual abuse. For tips on having this important conversation, and for guidance on what to do if you suspect your child has been sexually abused, visit [childrenscope.org](http://childrenscope.org).



children's  
**SCOPE**  
The Cape & Islands  
Child Advocacy Center

Providing Hope  
and Healing  
for Abused Children

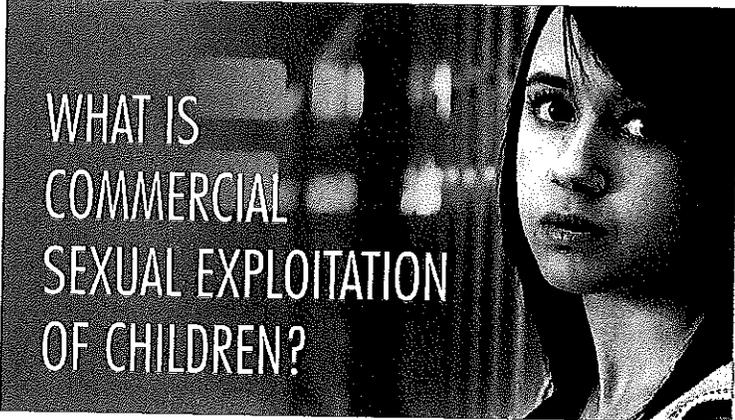
today I am writing  
about my experience

Children's Cove is like asking  
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Children's Cove is like asking you with what happened to you. I was sexual abused when I was in 3rd grade my parents told me I should tell my parents my birthday they found out and told them I was everything to me was gone

This letter was written by a child from Cape Cod. We admire her courage and resiliency and are grateful to her and her family for sharing their story. She hopes her words will give courage to another child, help parents prevent harm to their children, and raise awareness.



## WHAT IS COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN?

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) occurs when individuals buy, trade, or sell sexual acts with a child. Child sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a child for the purposes of sexual acts. Boys, girls and transgender youth under the age of 18 can be victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking. Examples of CSEC include:

- ↳ Child sex trafficking
- ↳ Sex for a fee
- ↳ Gang based trafficking
- ↳ Escort services/private parties/stripping
- ↳ Commercial production of child pornography
- ↳ Online transmission of live video of a child engaged in sexual activity

The average  
age of entry into  
the sex trade is  
**12-14**  
years old

SOURCES: MISSINGKIDS.COM  
AND HOPE4JUSTICE.ORG

**1 IN 3**  
**TEENS**  
will be sexually exploited  
within 48 hours of running  
away from home

Minor victims are  
**SOLD FOR SEX**  
an average of  
**10 TO 15**  
**TIMES A DAY**  
6 days a week

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

## What to look for:

- \* Changes in appearance, friend groups, interests, school activities, vocabulary, demeanor, attitude and sexual behavior
- \* Luxury items like manicures and designer clothes without an explainable source of income
- \* Low or no school attendance
- \* Getting into trouble in the company of older teens or adults; receiving calls from older males
- \* Clothing not appropriate for age, setting or season
- \* Tattoos or branding
- \* Possession of hotel keys
- \* Multiple phone or social media accounts
- \* Runaways/homeless youth, especially from group homes and foster care, are particularly vulnerable

## What do you do if you suspect a child is being commercially sexually exploited?

If you suspect a child is a victim report it immediately to the local police department or the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF) Child-at-Risk Hotline at 800-792-5200.

**If a child is in immediate danger call 911.**

Children's Cove provides a coordinated and victim-centered response to all victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking in partnership with state agencies and community providers. To learn more about commercially sexually exploited children and how it impacts our community, please contact Children's Cove.



Main Phone Number: 508-375-0410

Toll Free Number: 888-863-1900

24-hour on call response

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

Individuals pictured are models and are used for illustrative purposes only.