

Safewords and Red Lines:

Consensual Kink and Child Protection

July 18, 2019

Outline

- Sex-positivity and child protection (5 mins)
- Consent and other basic concepts (5 mins)
- Case studies (15 mins)
- Non-sexual negotiation and consent (10 mins)
- Kinksters looking in, and looking out (10 mins)
- Final thoughts and recommendations (5 mins)
- Questions and discussion (10 mins)





Please explain a world where kinky, sex and trans-queer have ended up in the same sentence as child protection





Risk Aware Consensual Kink

- Risk-aware: Both or all partners are well-informed of the risks involved in the proposed activity.
- Consensual: In light of those risks, both or all partners have, of sound mind, offered preliminary consent to engage in said activity.
- Kink: Said activity can be classified as alternative sex.

Minors cannot consent to any form of BDSM or sex

Case study scenarios

1.A guest attending a play party at a science fiction convention was confronted about breast feeding her infant at the party, in a room where no play was taking place. Other guests were concerned that this might get them into trouble with the authorities-but the organizers decided in favor of the mother. Was this the right call?

Case study scenarios

2.A bisexual and polyamorous woman in her 40s became involved in a sexual relationship with her 18 year old tenant, and on two occasions engaged in sexual activity with him in the presence of her 5 year old son. She claims her son had been asleep on one occasion, and unable to witness the act on the other. Were any lines crossed?

Case study scenarios

3.A young transgender man was sexually abused throughout his childhood while he was in foster care or homeless. Recounting and reenacting his memories of abuse are now an important part of his sex life for him, and he seeks out sexual partners who receive sexual pleasure from this also. Should he be stigmatized for this? Should his partners?

Non-sexual negotiation & consent

- Informed consent isn't just for sex
 - Children hugging relatives
 - Consent in the playground
- Safewords aren't just for sex
 - Family safewords
 - Conversational safewords
- Negotiate like a kinkster
 - Negotiating as equals and checking in

Best Practice Principles

for Sexual Content Moderation & Child Protection

- Prevention of harm
- Evaluation of impact
 Non-discrimination
- Transparency
- Proportionality

- Context
- Human decision
- Notice
- Remedy

"No Children Harmed" certification



Effie, our stigma-busting mascot



Some lessons from BDSM/kink

Communication is key!

For kids, age-appropriate, comprehensive sex ed must include consent and bodily autonomy

Young people should be empowered to negotiate boundaries and desires with their partner as soon as they turn 18

Stigma is never helpful!

If it's legal and consensual, don't yuck others' yum

Questions and resources

- Prostasia Foundation Forum https://forum.prostasia.org/
 - National Coalition for Sexual Freedom https://www.ncsfreedom.org/
- Sex Positive Families
 https://sexpositivefamilies.com/
- Questions?

