

Rock Against Child Pornography and Abuse

Is a registered charity working to give a voice to the silent victims of childhood abuse. The children of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

RACPA UK can be found at

www.racpauk.org

and on Facebook and Twitter.

We can also be contacted confidentially at:

racpauk@gmail.com



WHAT WE DO

In a world where –

Children as young as 10 are being groomed by organised gangs and trafficked round the country as sexual commodities...

Anyone with a computer and a webcam can create and distribute child pornography across the globe at the touch of a button...

More resources are in place for the abusers than for their victims...

How do we protect our children?

The one thing we CAN'T do is turn our heads and pretend it doesn't happen...because sadly it does and every day more and more children are becoming victims and finding themselves trapped in the silence of abuse.

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Further important information can be found at

www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com

www.ceop.gov.uk

www.iwf.org.uk

All of these agencies work on a national and international basis to protect children from online exploitation of any kind and have simple reporting procedures for child pornography websites, inappropriate content or contact concerning children or young people and for advice and information in all aspects of internet safety.

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Child pornography sites are prolific; they are hosted from servers all over the world and accessible to anyone with internet access. They are filled with images that would horrify any normal person, and every image has a victim, whose abuse, pain and fear is there to feed the needs of the paedophiles that look at them. Then there is the abuse that takes place within families, being victimised by the people who are supposed to love, cherish and protect you is a double betrayal.

But it does not stop there, the long-term effects of childhood sexual abuse are many and varied, alcohol or drug dependency, feelings of insecurity, lack of self-worth, poor self-image, trust issues, inability to have a normal relationship, isolation from society, and too many more to list here. No victim of abuse escapes without some damage, and that damage is carried throughout their lives. There is also the silence, the silence of shame and fear, of guilt and conflicted emotion.

Our aim is to break down that wall of silence, one brick at a time if that is how it must be done. The way we choose to do this is by making a noise, both online and in the real world. Standing up and letting those silenced victims know that they are not alone. That we listened and we **heard** them. That we will speak up on their behalf, by trying our best to make others understand the long term effects of being a victim of child pornography and sexual abuse, that one way or another an entire lifetime is spent dealing with those effects.

We offer a point of safe first contact for those victims, who may never have been able to talk to anyone about what happened to them, simply done their best to lead their lives as normally as possible. We have a fully qualified counsellor who works with victims in the way best suited to their needs and will do so for as long as the need is there, as well as referring on to other support agencies if required, this is done at no cost to those victims or their families.

Of course it is not just sexual abuse that scars lives and we stand up for ALL victims of abuse, be that physical, mental or emotional, for all those helpless victims who have never been able to tell anyone and for those who have tried and simply not been heard, understood or believed.

So how do we do this?

- We attend Rock gigs up and down the country, raising awareness on behalf of the victims and offering a safe and anonymous contact point, as well as offering information on any issues surrounding the subject
- We operate a mobile education and information bus that can travel to anywhere needed and offer advice on parental safety programmes, keeping young people safe online, guarding against online grooming, privacy and safety within social network platforms, and offer access to our counsellor.
- We operate on the internet where among other things we host a page for our mascots, The Fl'obbles, not only a wonderful fund raiser for our work, but also another safe and anonymous point of contact.



Look out for our other knitted creations too!

And while we are working on making things better for those already affected by this abuse, our long-term goal is to protect future generations from the dangers of sexual exploitation through education and information. To arm them with what they need to operate in a world where technology is a part of their everyday lives and should be safe for them to use without the fear of falling into the hands of an abuser.

Victims and survivors of abuse do NOT want pity, they want help, understanding and to be **heard**. Surely we can all do our absolute best to give them that.