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THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



Children's voices: What content and behaviour do they find disturbing online?

First preparatory meeting of the Alliance to Better Protect Minors Online

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DG Connect, European Commission
Brussels, 27 September 2016

Children: diverse, subtle, hopeful



What upsets children online?



When strangers message me on the internet, sex sites that open without me clicking on them. (boy, 10, Austria)

Violence against women and children and perverted humiliations and cruelty. (girl, 14, Germany)

To take a photo of me without my knowledge and upload it to an inappropriate website. (girl, 10, Bulgaria)

Showing images of physical violence, torture and suicide images. (girl, 12, Slovenia)

See people having sex or naked people. (boy, 10, Portugal)

Facebook shows scary things even if you click on something that does not look or sound scary. (girl, 9, UK)

Animal cruelty, adults hitting kids. (girl, 9, Denmark)

Propositions to meet from people whom I do not know. (boy, 12, Poland)

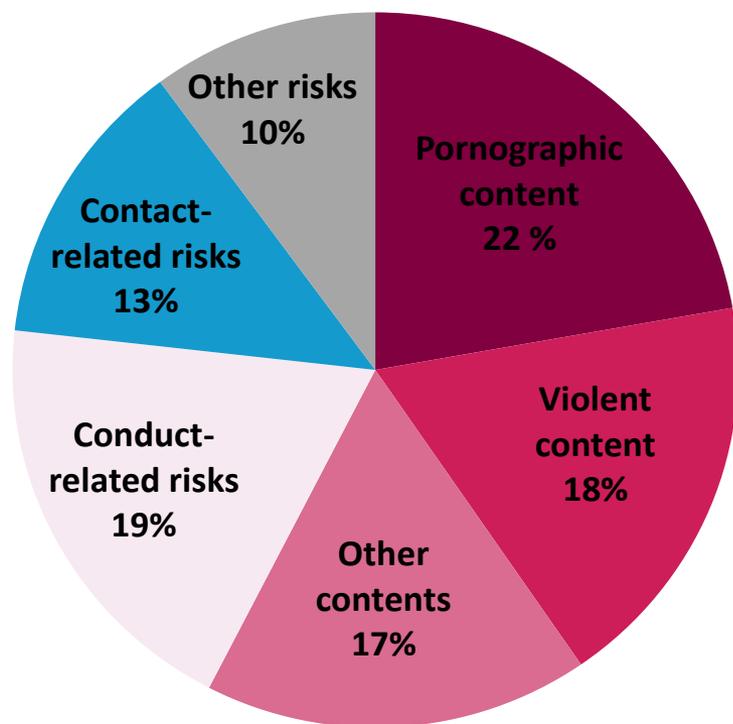
Scary things - I saw something at my friend's house and I can't get it out of my head. (boy, 11, Ireland)

A mate showed me once a video about an execution. It was not fun, but insane. I get scared. (boy, 15, Sweden)

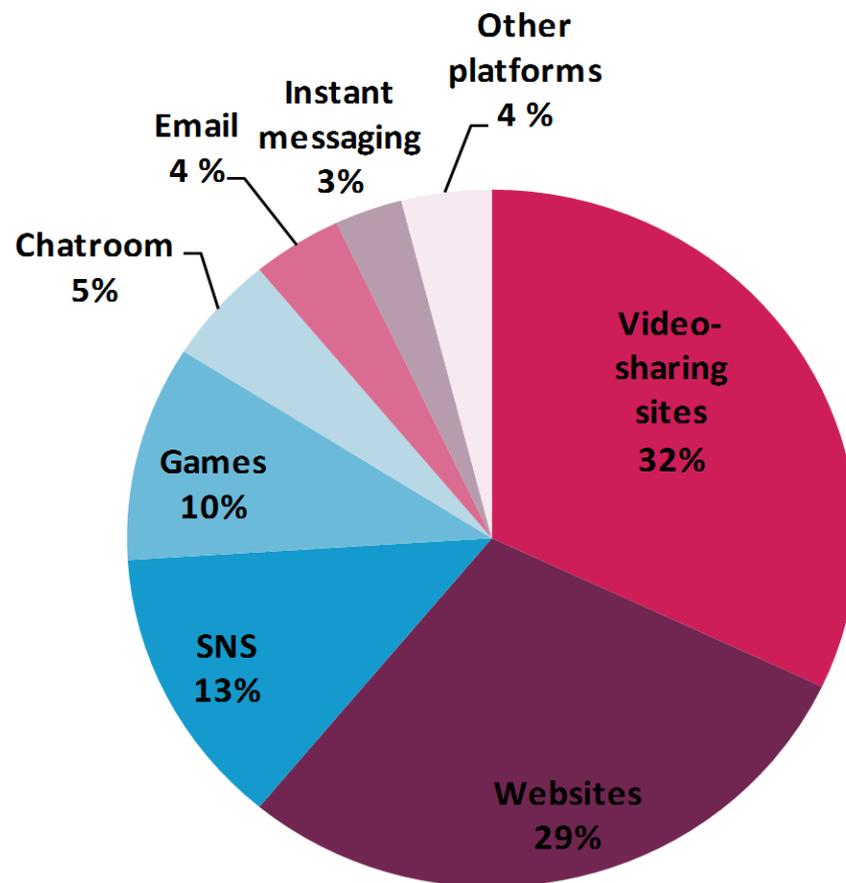
Those things that show other people's suffering or torment as a funny thing. (boy, 14, Hungary)

I was shocked seeing a starving African child who was going to die and a condor waiting to eat him. (girl, 13, Turkey)

What bothers kids your age online?



Base: 9-16 year olds in Europe who identified one or more risks online (N=9,636)



Base: 9-16 year olds in Europe who mentioned a platform when describing online risks (N=4,356)

Sources of European evidence



European evidence database

EU Kids Online



This is a database of European research on children and young people's online activities, risks and safety.

[Video](#) explaining the database. This database contains over 1,500 entries.

You can search for information about recent studies to discover their focus, methods, main findings and publications.

The database was produced by EU Kids Online for public according to our [collection policy](#). Email us for further studies to include.

Enter any keywords, for example, 'parent' or 'Austria'.

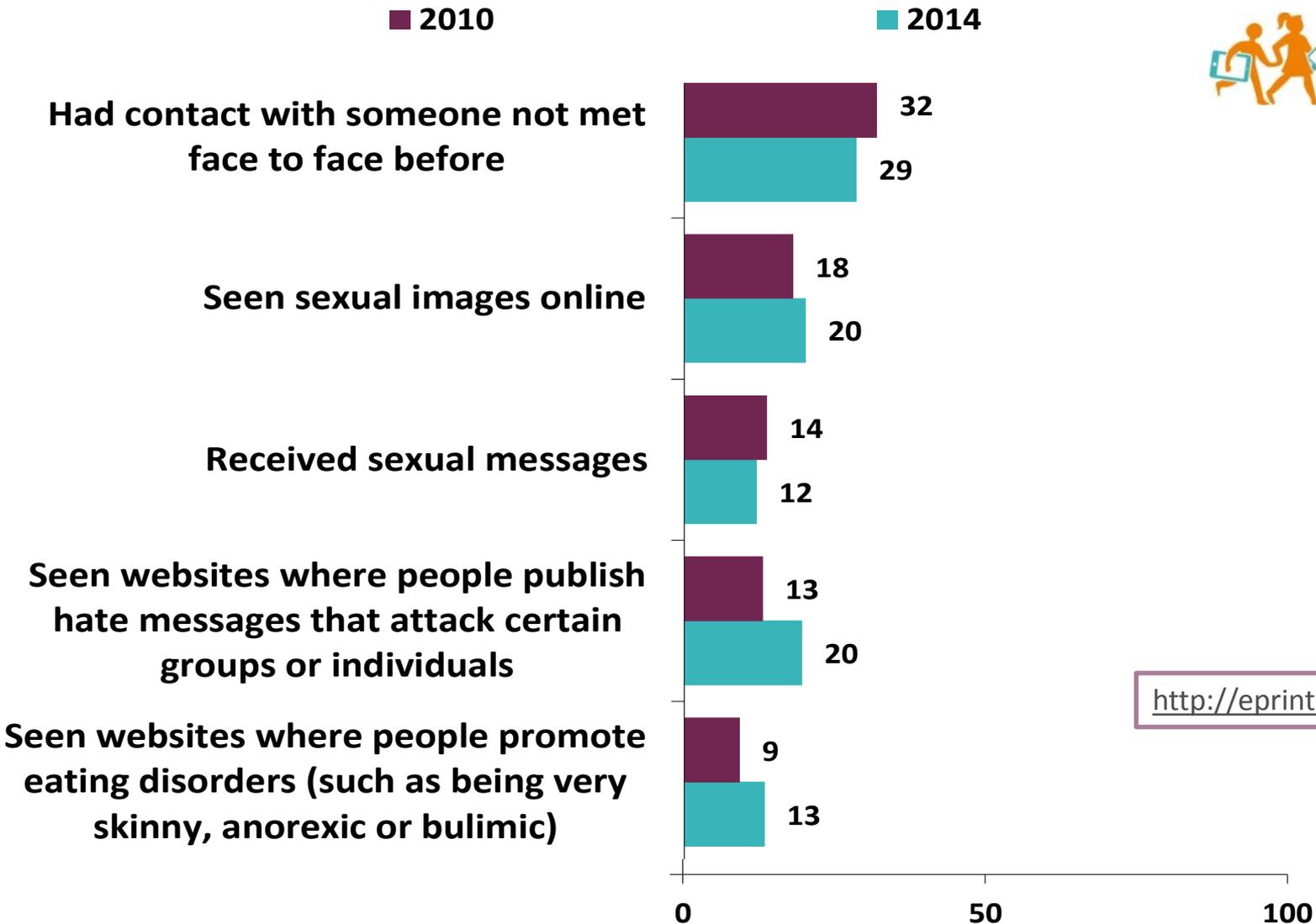
Query operators permit greater control:

- Use double quotes to search for a phrase: e.g. "parental control"
- Prefix words with + or ? to include or exclude: e.g. +parent or ?parent
- Use * as a wildcard: e.g. safe* (for safe and safety)
- Use square brackets to match at least one word: e.g. [parent]
- Basic stemming occurs for plurals (e.g. parent/parents) and singular/plural forms (e.g. Europe and European) should be searched with operators.

Search

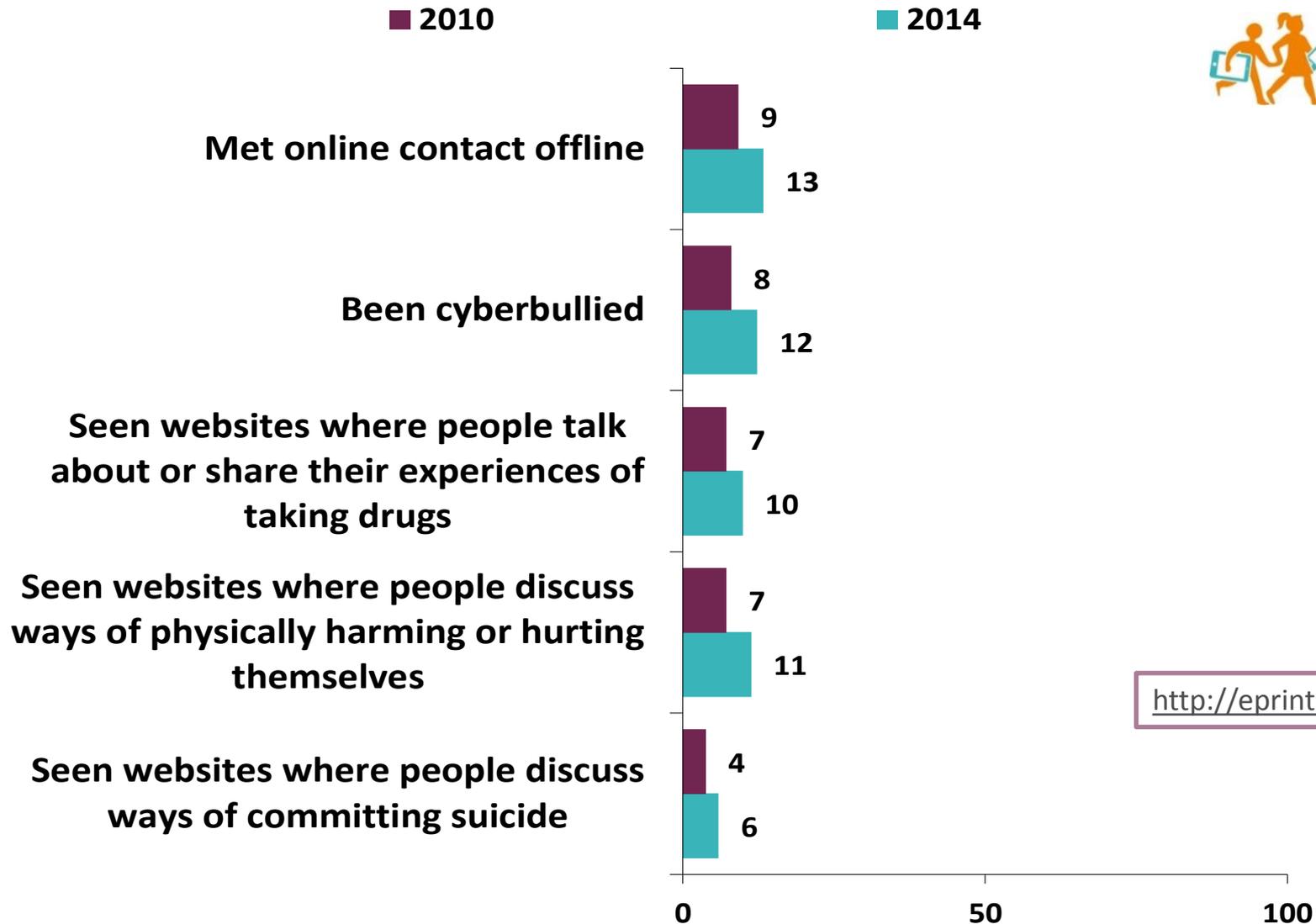


Some change over time



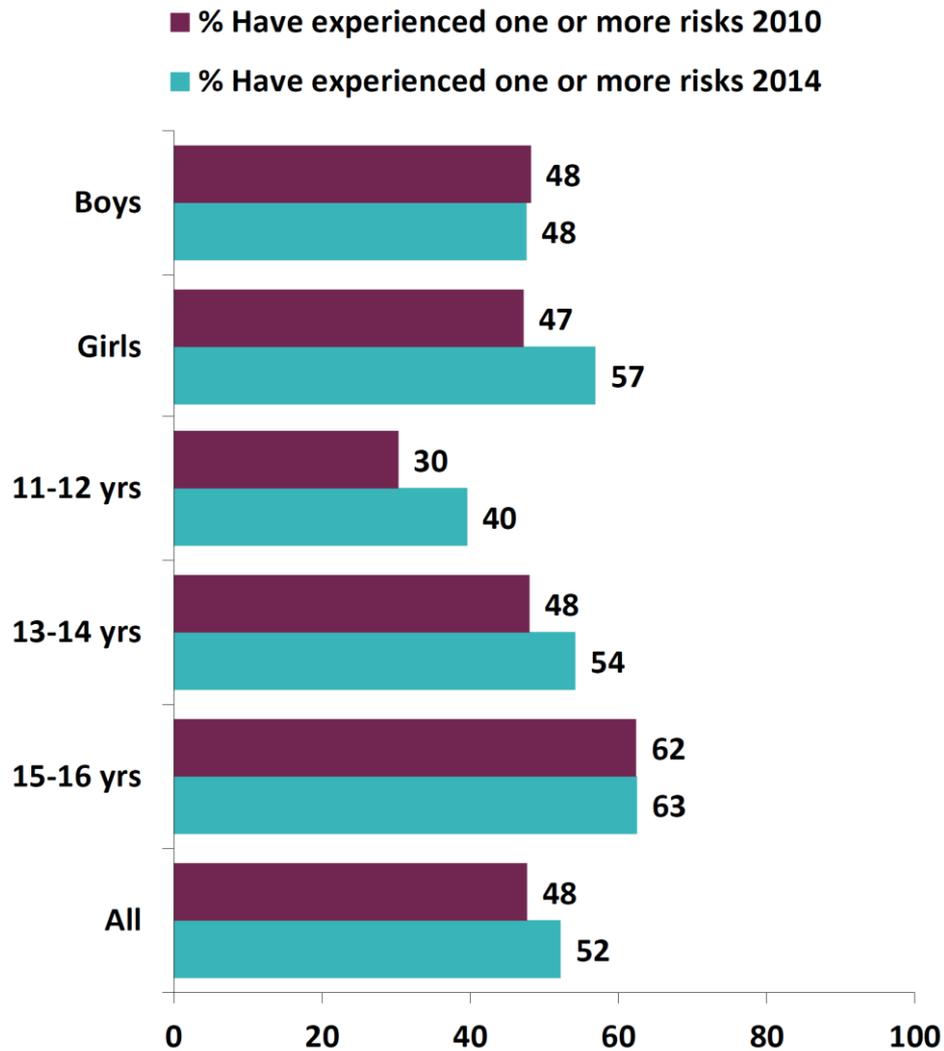
<http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/60513/>

Vulnerable minorities



<http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/60513/>

Age and gender



“I wasn’t sure it was normal to watch it”

Overall

- 47% of 11-16 year olds had never seen pornography online
- At 11 years old, most (72%) hadn’t seen online pornography. By 15, many (65%) had seen it

Of those who had seen pornography online

- More boys (59%) than girls (25%) view online pornography
- 42% of 12-16 year olds (more boys) want to try out what they have seen

Sending and receiving

- Pornographic material had been received by 26%
- 4% had taken naked/semi-naked self-images
- Repeated viewing may desensitise: teens felt less negative or disgusted over time



4 in 5 young people exposed to online hate

82% of 13-18s said they have seen something hateful on the internet about a certain group in the last year

It made them feel...



Angry
(37%)



Sad
(34%)



Shocked
(30%)

#SID2016

What risks?



	Content Child as receiver (of mass productions)	Contact Child as participant (adult-initiated activity)	Conduct Child as actor (perpetrator / victim)
Aggressive	Violent / gory content	Harassment, stalking, trolling	Bullying, hate, 'drama', peer victimisation
Sexual	Pornographic content	'Grooming', sexual abuse and exploitation	Sexual harassment, 'sexting'
Values	Racist / hateful content	Ideological/political persuasion	Harmful user-generated content (self-harm, pro-ana)
Commercial	Viruses, embedded marketing, in-app purchases, profiling	Personal data misuse, hacking, identity theft, fraud	Gambling, copyright infringement

Children upset by 'digital ecology'



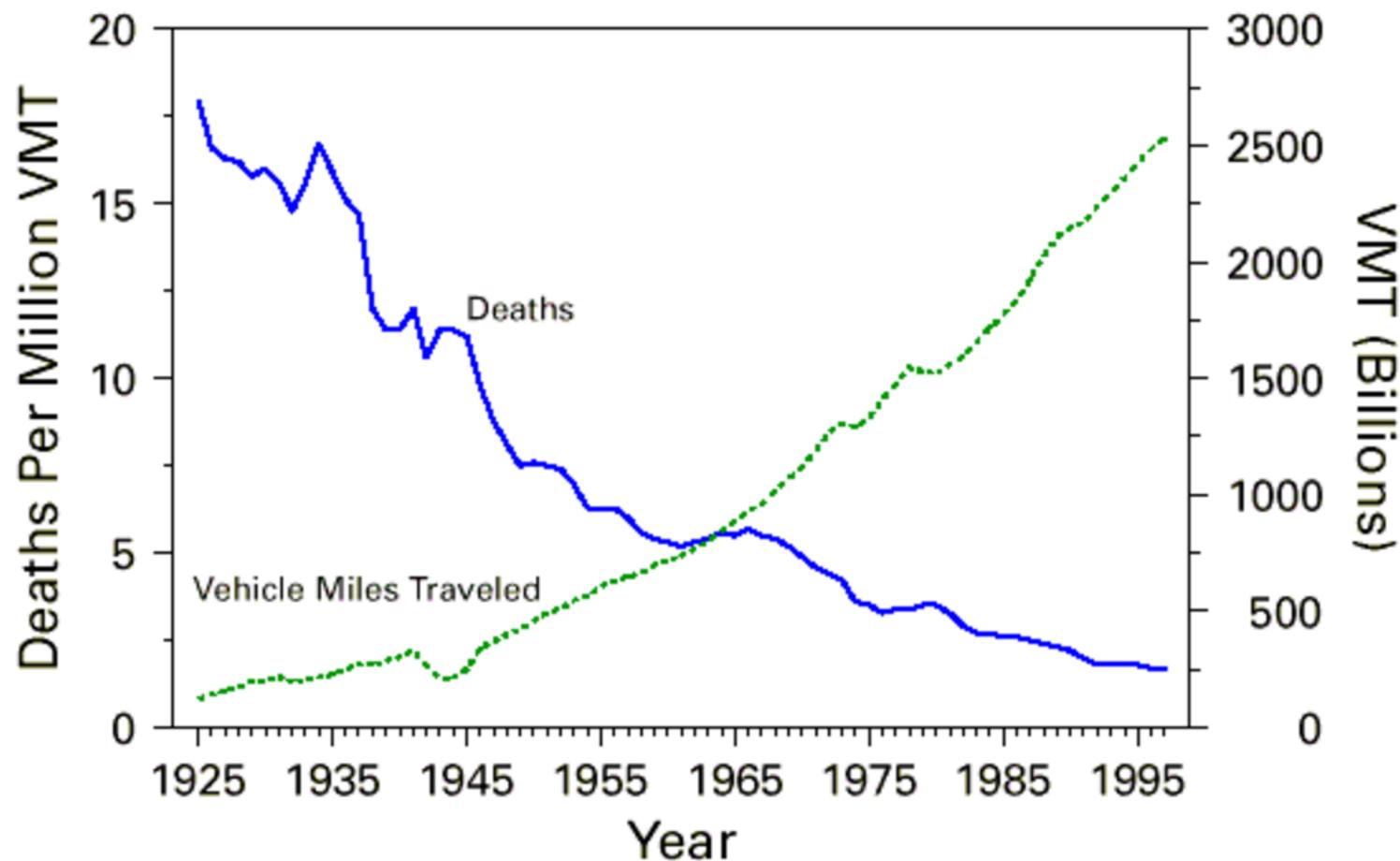
- Many frustrations with pop-ups and restrictive choices online, and with adult misunderstanding about their experiences
- Children are influenced by the media myths and parental anxieties of the internet as a fearful place
- A large minority (especially younger kids) cannot find online safety information, don't know how to block unwanted messages, and can't change their privacy settings
- Few children use the available tools (reporting, privacy, blocking, etc.) and even fewer find them helpful



Risks versus opportunities



FIGURE 1. Motor-vehicle-related deaths per million vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and annual VMT, by year — United States, 1925–1997



- 1 Free, unrestricted access:** We want free, unrestricted access to the internet so we can learn and share.
- 2 Education and support:** We want support and education about the internet - for everyone!
- 3 Privacy and data protection:** We want to be able to protect our data and privacy online.
- 4 Respect online:** We want an online world free from bullying, racism and intolerance.
- 5 Infrastructure and connectivity:** We want more investments in ICT in structures to provide widescale high-quality, high-speed connectivity.
- 6 Terms and conditions:** We want terms and conditions that are simple understand.
- 7 Good quality and reliable content:** We want access to good quality and reliable content online.
- 8 A hack-free online environment:** We want our personal information kept safe from online hackers.
- 9 Freedom of expression:** We want to be able to express ourselves freely online.
- 10 Democracy online:** We want an open and democratic internet.

Youth Manifesto for a Better Internet

PanEu
YOUTH



ins@te

European
Schools

Department of Media and Communications

Research

EU Kids Online

About the project

Research Toolkit

Details of all methods, including FAQs, questionnaires, topic guides and other resources for use by researchers are at lse.ac.uk/EUKidsOnline/Toolkit



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EU Kids Online



EU Kids Online is a multinational research network. It seeks to enhance knowledge of European children's online opportunities, risks and safety. It uses multiple methods to map children's and parents' experience of the internet, in dialogue with national and European policy stakeholders. It has been funded by the EC's **Better Internet for Kids** programme.

New: Internet helplines: Operation, effectiveness, emerging issues for internet safety helplines, European Schoolnet.

For our main findings, click the interactive **report** below

For recent updates, click **news** and **reports** links on the right



EU Kids Online

Findings • methods • recommendations



[Click here for our full interactive report](#)

Participating countries - country names in national language:

België, България, Κύπρος, Česká Republika, Danmark, Deutschland, Eesti, Ελλάδα, España, France, Hrvatska, Ireland, Island, Italia, Latvija, Lëtzebuerg, Lietuva, Magyarország, Malta, Nederland, Norge, Österreich, Polska, Portugal, România, Россия, Schweiz, Slovenija, Slovensko, Suomi, Sverige, Türkiye, UK.

In English:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK.

Affiliated:

Country projects: **Australia** and **Brazil**.

Regional project: Kids Online Latin America ([English](#), [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#)).

Linked projects: [Net Children Go Mobile](#), [Global Kids Online](#), [Toddlers and Tablets](#)

News for policy makers



YouTube eu kids online

Hear from the researchers



European evidence database

Twitter

EUKIDSONLINE Retweeted

Sonia Livingstone
[@Livingstone_S](#)

Thoughts on "avoiding 'moral panics' and mass hysteria when thinking about the data that parents share online"
blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digi...



My Child is an Anarchist, a Fe...
Veronica Barassi explores digita...
blogs.lse.ac.uk

EUKIDSONLINE Retweeted

Ecpat Belgium
[@ecpatbelgium](#)

More than 2000 children have been reported to the police last year in **#UK** over allegations of sending nude