

#### MASARYK UNIVERSITY

# Negative experiences with meeting online strangers: Adolescent girls' risk prevention

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INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

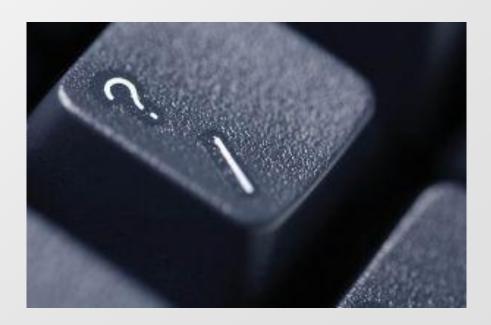






30 % of 9-16 years old children talk to unknown people on the internet

(EU Kids Online II, 2010, N = 25,142)











9 % of 9-16 years old children met online stranger offline in past year

(EU Kids Online II, 2010, N = 25,142)







- 1 % of all children felt upset after meeting online stranger
- = 11% of those who went to such meeting (EU Kids Online II, 2010, N = 25,142)





### **Current study**

- Sampling: 18,950 invitations
- Sample: 14 girls, aged 15-18 who had negative experience with meeting online stranger
- Semi-structured online interviews, capturing the whole story of meeting online strangers and dealing with negative experience afterwards
- Focus on their risk perception & prevention



General risk perception

-Attitude toward meeting strangers

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## Perception of the stranger

- -Online communication
- -References
- -Expectations

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Risk prevention before meeting

#### Other people

- -Informing someone
- -Having someone with them
- -Mobile phones

Place & time of the meeting

General risk perception

-Attitude toward meeting strangers

Perception of the stranger

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Risk prevention before meeting

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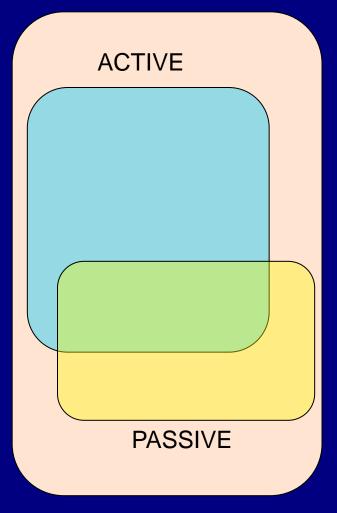
Place & time of the meeting

Risk prevention during meeting

**ACTIVE** 

**PASSIVE** 

# Risk prevention during meeting



I kept checking if there are still other people in the bar... kept checking time and I kept looking at my coffee, played with spoon, moved the cup on the plate...

How did your friend react to that sms?

She called me after 30 minutes that she had a problem and I have to come.. If she would call sooner, it would be way too obvious

## Risk prevention during meeting

#### **ACTIVE**

- -Leaving
- -Direct "no"
- -Making excuses to leave (dealyed)
- -Staying among people
- -Escape plan

**PASSIVE** 

I told him I was tired and want to go to sleep and kept turning away from him... And I kept telling myself "only a short time till you go home, you can go through it.."

And how did you felt then...?

...embarrassed, bored and I wanted to go home. But I couldn't tell him "sorry, boy, you're horrible, I'm leaving!", could I?

Why couldn't you?

It would be awkward, I don't know...

# Risk prevention during meeting

#### **ACTIVE**

- -Leaving
- -Direct "no"
- -Making excuses to leave (dealyed)
- -Staying among people
- -Escape plan
  - -Keeping the distance
  - -Chanching conversation themes
  - -Avoiding eye contact
  - -Passive resistance

**PASSIVE** 



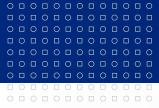
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- Adolescent girls know about possible dangers of meeting strangers
- They trust strangers they are about to meet
- But prepare escape plans anyway
- When meeting goes wrong, they can hesitate to directly express their impression and leave
- Rather they act indirectly and passively wait till the end of the meeting



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- Adolescent girls know about possible dangers of meeting strangers
- It seems that most information they have is aimed to discourage them from meeting online strangers
- But don't prepare them for what to do during actual meeting
- This should change

If you don't like the meeting, say it and leave.

Prepare excuse to leave in advance.



### Thank you for your attention.

Presented at XVI th European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Lausanne, Switzerland, September 2-7, 2013.











#### INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT



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	Age of the girl	Expected age of the stranger	Actual age of the stranger	Negative experience
1	15	23	23	he wanted sex, but took her home when she insisted
2	17	21	looked younger (19)	different than expectations, rude, lied on the internet about his education
3	14	15-16	15-16	different than expectations, tried to kiss her, hold her hand
4	15	17	17	kept trying to kiss her, told her he loved her, did not listen to her, talked about future together
5 A	15	didn't know	20, looked younger on photo	his friends suddenly appeared, smoked weed, did not pay attention to her
5 B	15	16	16	drugged and raped her
6	15	20	looked older (25), but probably 20	handsome and younger on pictures, different in reality
7	15	21	21	kept trying to go away from people, tried to touch her, hold hand
8	14	17	17	looked creepy, too close to her, trying to kiss her
9	14	18	18	rude, different than expectations, paid more attention to her friend
10	15	25	50	old, she went away immediately
11	15	19	19	kept kissing her, she did not like it but meeting continued
12	14	20	20	kept kissing her, touching her, held her hand, would not let go
13	17	25	35	older than expected, she got scared immediately but went to coffee with him
14	15	19	19	kissing she did not want, told her she was young and stupid