Organizer: Connect for Freedom

Age/Grade Level: Ages 11–12 (6th Grade)

Lesson Title: Sextortion & Understanding Offender Tactics

Instructional Time Required: One Session

Lesson Objectives: Youth should be able to:

- Explain what sextortion is.
- Identify where online predators are reaching out to victims.
- Identify sextortion tactics predators use online.
- Understand the risks of sharing nude images online.
- Explain steps they can take to protect themselves online.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts off by explaining what sextortion is and where predators are reaching victims. Youth will watch a two-part video called "Carter's Story" created by the Department of Homeland Security, which depicts a boy playing video games online with friends and a stranger. The stranger says he is someone from their old school and invites Carter to play games with him. As the story progresses, Carter ends up in a sextortion scandal with an online predator. Participants will learn about sextortion tactics that predators use online to exploit youth. Participants will also watch a video called "Sextortion Module 1" created by Auroris Media as an introduction to sextortion, the fastest growing online crime where children are the targets. Participants will learn about the risks of sending nude images of themselves to others online and what they can do to protect themselves from the dangers of the internet. Participants will learn about NCMEC's Take It Down, a free service that can help you remove or stop the online sharing of nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit images or videos taken of you when you were under 18 years old.

Key Terms in Lesson:

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Online Enticement*." MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/onlineenticement
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Sextortion.*" MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/sextortion
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Sexting.*" MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/topics/sexting
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Take It Down*." TakeItDown.NCMEC.org. https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/

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Sextortion- a form of child sexual exploitation where minors are threatened or blackmailed, most often with the possibility of sharing with the public a nude or sexual image of them, by a person who demands additional sexual content, sexual activity, or money from them.

Lesson Activity: Online Safety Kahoot!

Lesson Handout: *NCMEC* It's Called Sextortion

Youth Assessment Recommendations:

- Have you ever been threatened or blackmailed with images of yourself online?
- Do you think that it is common to send nude images of yourself to others online?
- Can you list two sextortion tactics that predators use to exploit minors?
- Where are online predators reaching victims?
- What are some steps you can take to protect yourself online?

Important Notice: Connect for Freedom has compiled information and materials from the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, Polaris Project, Thorn, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and other reputable organizations.

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Online Enticement*." MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/onlineenticement
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Sextortion.*" MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/sextortion
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Sexting.*" MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/topics/sexting
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Take It Down*." TakeItDown.NCMEC.org. https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/

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