

THINK SHEET

CHILD EXPLOITATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO IDENTIFY AS BEING PART OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

When LGBTQ young people are looking for strangers as support (rural communities or in a community where LGBTQ is not accepted) they have less control over the relationship and could come to believe that abuse is normal due to having no other point of reference.

Little education to give advice to LGBTQ young people about what is a healthy relationship within schools.

Research suggested that LGBTQ young people may become vulnerable to being exploited because they feel isolated and believe that others will lack acceptance of their sexuality and gender identity.

Need to think about young lesbian women who are in relationships with older women, just like we would with young women in relationships with older men.

Professionals must look at the individual not the wider preconceived ideas of what is 'normal' for a young person who is LGBTQ.

LGBTQ communities reluctant to talk about CSE for fear of exacerbating homo/bi/transphobia.

Concerns where a LGBTQ young person is forced into a heterosexual marriage and may seek sexual encounters with the LGBTQ community which could be unsafe.

Unhealthy or unsafe sexual relationships being accepted as 'normal' by others, the young people and professionals.

Sharing information about the young person's sexuality only when this is safe for the young person.

'Coming out' much later could mean a young person may be old enough for a sexual relationship but their emotional development and understanding may not be fully formed.