Framing abuse: media influence and public understanding of sexual violence against children


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Abstract

This book offers fascinating insights into how the media shape the way we think. Combining in-depth analysis of media representations of child sexual abuse with focus group discussions and interviews with around 500 journalists, campaigners and a cross-section of ‘the public’, Jenny Kitzinger reveals the media’s role in contemporary society. Which stories attract attention and why? What strategies do journalists and campaigners use to persuade people and how do we respond? Answering these and other questions, Kitzinger demonstrates how media reporting can impact on people’s knowledge of the ‘facts’, perceptions of risk, sense of appropriate policy responses and even how we interpret our own experiences. Kitzinger examines feminist initiatives to challenge sexual violence, the emergence of incest as a social problem and the development of new survivor identities. She also explores stereotypes around sex offenders, interrogates protests against ‘paedophiles-in-the-community’ and presents a detailed analysis of the impact of scandals about disputed abuse accusations. This book is essential reading for anyone interested in theories of media influence, identity and social change or who wishes to encourage responsible journalism. It is also a key resource for anyone concerned about sexual violence and the protection of children or who is attempting to design intervention strategies.

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Sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect are all significantly more prevalent in the backgrounds of rapists than in the backgrounds of non-offending men. 12-15. Serial Offending and Recidivism Perhaps the most sobering data that have emerged from the study of interpersonal violence in America. The first step in this process was the onset of a new generation of victimization research that documented the true prevalence of both sexual and domestic violence. Recidivism rates among child molesters and rapists: A methodological analysis. Discussions of violence against children in schools would also be expected to cover the problem of bullying, or violence and harassment suffered by students at the hands of other students. The failure to prevent such forms of violence and to protect students from them could deny children their right to education as set out in articles 28 and 29 of the Convention, as well as in its general principles and in particular the right to development enshrined in article 6. 860. The key objectives of the meeting would be: (a) To present, analyse and discuss the nature, extent, causes and consequences o “ Ending violence against women is everyone’s responsibility. - United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon in an interview on his world-wide UNITE Campaign to End Violence against women (2010). Violence against women and girls (VAW) is one of the most rampant human rights violations. According to United Nations estimates, one in three women world-wide has experienced physical or sexual violence because she is a woman1. Violence is a major obstacle to women’s and girls’ development, and to the welfare and development of their communities and societies as a whole. Several binding human rights