

NCJTC Presents...

NCJTC



Global Perspective on Missing Children

June 12, 2019
Caroline Humer



Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention



Webinar Information

This webinar is supported by the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program, a program within the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College. Points of view or opinions expressed in this webinar are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Justice, and Fox Valley Technical College.

Funding for this webinar is supported under Cooperative Agreement number 2017-MC-FX-K003 from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice.

AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program

In conjunction with our mission, our webinars seek to bring together state, local, and tribal subject matter experts to present and discuss critical issues related to missing, abducted, and exploited children.

Mission

To safely recover missing, endangered, or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities and increase public participation.

During the Webinar

- All attendees will be muted.
- If you wish to ask a question, please use the questions section of the GoToWebinar dialogue box, typically located on the right side of your screen.
- Questions will either be answered directly by a panelist or asked to the presenter who will answer during the Q & A portion of the presentation.

Certificate of Attendance

- We offer a Certificate of Attendance on our live AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program webinars.
- To receive your certificate you must:
 - **Attend the entire live webinar**
 - **Complete the survey at the end of the live webinar**
- Certificate of Attendance will be emailed within 2 weeks of the live webinar event.
- We are not able to offer a certificate for viewing a recorded webinar.



Post Webinar Information

- At the conclusion of the webinar, a short survey will appear.
- We ask that you complete the survey in an effort to serve you better.
- In 2 weeks, you will also receive an email with a link to access this webinar and related webinar materials.

Poll Questions

- Poll questions may be asked during the webinar.
- As they will only be open a short period of time, please respond promptly.





Poll



Caroline Humer

Director

International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children

chumer@icmec.org

Today's Topics

- Global scope of missing children issues
- Available resources for international missing children cases
- Complexity of missing children cases

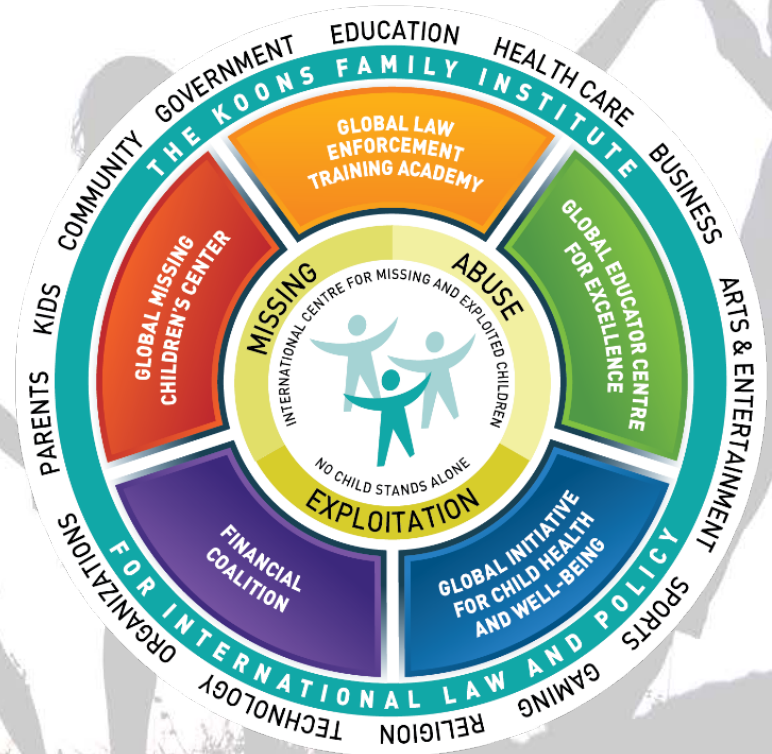
Our Mission

Our mission is to unite the world in

- Prevention
- Response
- Recovery
- Healing

Of every *missing*, *sexually abused*,
and *exploited* child to make certain
that no matter where they are or
how they got there,

no child stands alone.



Global Missing Children's Center

Protecting children around the world

- Building global awareness
- Providing resources on prevention
- Providing training
- Building capacity and alerts
- Conducting research



Which best describes a “missing child”?

- A. A missing child is considered missing if they are no longer in the care or control of their legal guardian and have not been removed by law. They are considered missing until returned to appropriate care and control.
- B. An individual between 0-17 years old who is absent from his or her home under any unexplained circumstances and for an unusual time period without reasonable communication.
- C. Any child, separated from his/her custodian due to any cause, such as abduction, enticement, desertion, accident, leaving home or getting lost.
- D. Any individual less than 18 years of age whose whereabouts are unknown to such individual’s legal custodian.

Missing Child Definition

A – Royal Canadian Mounted Police

B – Jamaica Constabulary

- Unusual time period without communication

C – South Korea

- Abduction, enticement, desertion, accident, leaving home or getting lost

D – USA



Missing Children

Missing children may be vulnerable to:

- Sexual assault, exploitation, trafficking and prostitution
- Illegal or risky employment
- Criminal activity, either as a victim or as an offender
- Risk of physical violence and aggression

(Kelly Dedel, *Juvenile Runaways, Problem-Oriented Guides for Police, Problem Specific Guide Series No. 37*, Dep't of Justice (Aug. 2010), p. 4)

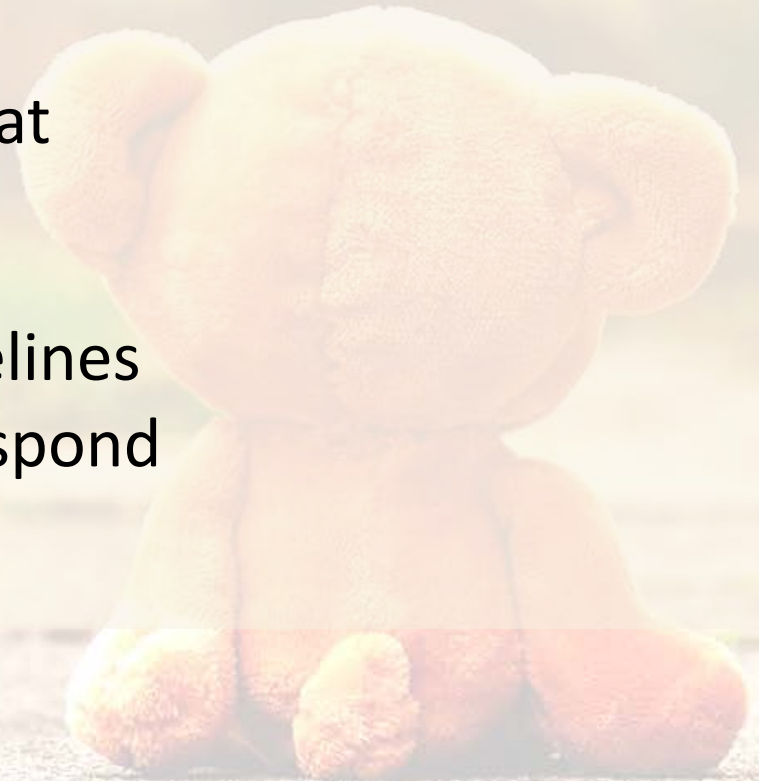


Missing Children Around the Globe

- **Australia** = 25,000
- **Canada** = 42, 233
- **Germany** = 80,000
- **India** = 96,000
- **Jamaica** = 1,674
- **Russia** = 45,000
- **South Korea** = 19,956
- **Spain** = 33,467
- **United Kingdom** = 80,000
- **United States** = 424,066

Missing Children – The Challenge

- No international conventions related to missing children
- No common definition of what “missing” means
- No common policies or guidelines on how to investigate and respond to a missing child



Missing Children – The Challenge

- There is little cross-border collaboration
- In some countries missing children are not considered a priority
- Investigating a missing child report can be time consuming and costly for law enforcement

Why Do Children Go Missing?



Model Missing Child Framework

- **National legislation with a definition of “missing child”**
 - Broad definition
 - Categorization
- **Reporting mechanism**
 - Dedicated hotline to report missing children
 - Helpline
- **Immediate investigation of missing children cases**

Model Missing Child Framework

- **Regulations regarding cross-border travel with children**
 - 1980 Hague Convention - civil aspects of international child abduction
 - Entry and exit requirements
- **Comprehensive database of missing and unidentified children**
- **Case management system to organize and record case information**
- **Photo distribution system**
 - Posters, social network sites, bus stops, train stations, etc.

Model Missing Child Framework

- **Responses and investigative procedures**
 - Internal guidelines on how to respond and coordinate investigation
- **Formal agreements between agencies involved in missing children investigations and child protection overall**
 - Law enforcement, social services, private industry, NGOs, etc.
- **Community engagement programs to educate the public on a variety of missing children issues**
 - Educate the public on how to report a child missing
 - Child ID cards and preparation material in case a child goes missing

Model Missing Child Framework

- **Rapid emergency child alert**
 - In addition to photo distribution system
- **Prevention framework**
 - Public awareness regarding available resources and services
 - Training for professionals



Q&A



Poll

Parental Abduction

- ✓ **2,419,196 divorces per year in the US**
- ✓ **130,000 international couples divorce annually**

- State and federal crime
- Serious emotional, psychological, and even physical consequences for the abducted child
- Mediation and Custody Orders

<https://www.wf-lawyers.com/divorce-statistics-and-facts/>
<http://missingchildreneurope.eu/>

United States Legislation

International Child Abduction Remedies Act – establishes procedures in the United States to implement the Hague Convention

International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act – makes it a federal felony offense in the United States to remove, or attempt to remove, a child under the age of 16 from the United States with the intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights

Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act – provides guidance to U.S. courts on custody disputes and divorce proceedings to protect against family abductions

Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act – establishes clear bases for jurisdiction and discourages competing child custody orders

International Child Abductions

The Hague Convention of October 25, 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (1980 Hague Convention)

The prompt return of children who have been wrongfully removed or kept away from their home country

100 Contracting States to the Hague Convention

What Can I Do?

- Take a complaint seriously
- Coordinate with the US State Department on prevention
- Work with judges on custody orders
- Contact Interpol and NCMEC

Prevention

Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program (CPIAP)

1. [CPIAP request form, DS-3077](#) (one per child)
2. Send proof of identity of the adult
3. Provide documentary evidence of the legal relationship to the child
4. Send request form and supporting documents

Email: PreventAbduction1@state.gov

Fax: 202-485-6222

Mail: U.S. Department of State, Attn. CPIAP
SA-17, 9th Floor
2202 C Street NW
Washington DC 20522

U.S. State Department – Office of Children's Issues

OCI's priority is to facilitate the prompt return of wrongfully removed or retained children to their countries of habitual residence, when appropriate, so that a competent court can make decisions on the child's best interests.

For additional information

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/International-Parental-Child-Abduction.html>

U.S. State Department – Office of Children's Issues

For non-emergency questions or assistance

- askci@state.gov
- *This account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. ET*

The Office of Children's Issues (Emergency Contact)

- Available 24/7
- (888) 407-4747 (from U.S. and Canada)
- 1 (202) 501-4444 (from outside the U.S. or Canada)
- preventabduction1@state.gov

Q&A

Caroline Humer
chumer@icmec.org
<https://www.icmec.org/>



ABOUT ∨

PROGRAMS ∨

No Child Stands Alone.

We promise to unite the world in the shared responsibility of the prevention, response, recovery, and care of every missing, sexually abused and exploited child.

Thank you for your participation!

For assistance, please contact us:



AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP)
(877) 712-6237 | askamber@fvtc.edu | ncjtc.fvtc.edu/AMBER

This presentation was produced with grant funding awarded under the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

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