

Abstract

Background

Internet provides a social arena for kids to connect with others developing online friendship and mutual participation across the world. Kids are also easily exploited in this digital world.

Research aim

The aim of this small scale qualitative research project is to gain better in-depth knowledge of how parents of young persons age 10-15 who are victims of online sexual child abuse (OSCA), *experience that dynamics in the family are affected when a child is exposed of online sexual abuse.*

The overarching research question was:

“How does online abuse affect the dynamics of the family?”.

And subquestions were:

1. How are the relations between family members affected when a child has been exposed to online abuse?
2. How do parents take care of, or give support to, children who are exposed to online abuse?
3. How do the points above affect parents' views of themselves as parents when their child has been exposed to online abuse?
4. How is a parent's perception of the child or young person affected after online abuse?

Method:

14 parents in 9 interviews were recruited from different Barnehus in Norway.

I used a semi-structured, in-depth interview guide. To give the participant the opportunity to share how they make meaning of personal and relational experiences.

I have chosen reflexive thematic analysis (RTA) as a which fits well considering the systemic foundation of the study.

Findings:

Parents feeling helpless, young persons struggling, families keeing connected in the event of crisis.