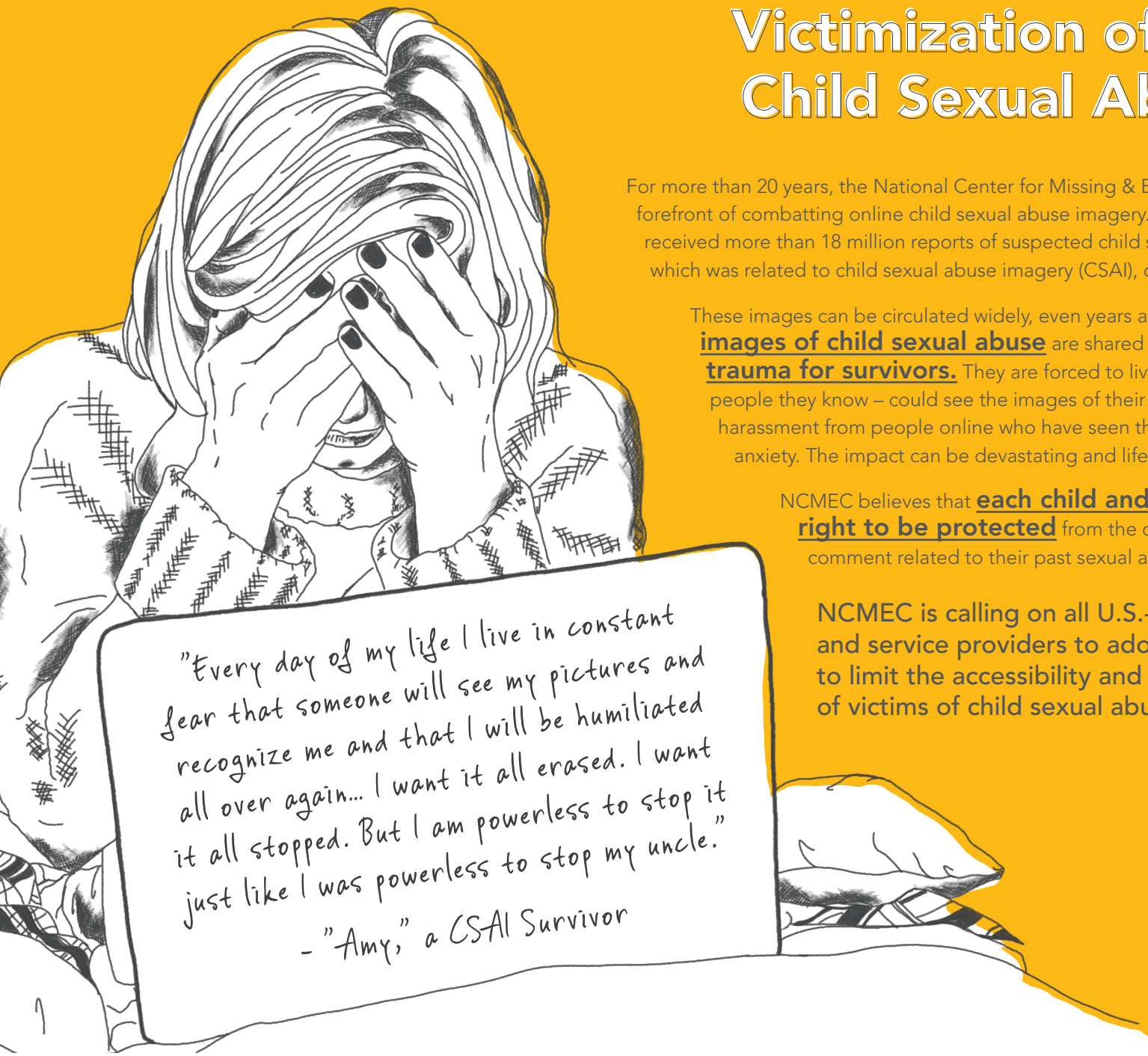
NCMEC Efforts to Prevent Further Victimization of Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse Imagery

For more than 20 years, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children has been on the forefront of combatting online child sexual abuse imagery. Last year the NCMEC's CyberTipline received more than 18 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation – the majority of which was related to child sexual abuse imagery (CSAI), often referred to as "child pornography."

These images can be circulated widely, even years after the abuse occurred and each time **images of child sexual abuse** are shared online, they **create continued trauma for survivors.** They are forced to live with the fear that anyone – even people they know – could see the images of their past abuse. Predatory comments or harassment from people online who have seen their abusive images adds to this fear and anxiety. The impact can be devastating and lifelong.

NCMEC believes that **each child and each adult survivor has the right to be protected** from the distribution of any image, video or comment related to their past sexual abuse.

NCMEC is calling on all U.S.-based social media companies and service providers to adopt three voluntary initiatives to limit the accessibility and prevent future revictimization of victims of child sexual abuse imagery.



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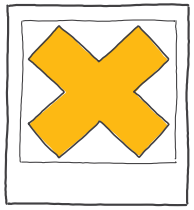
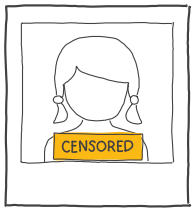
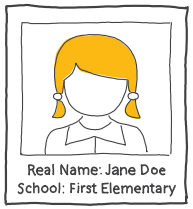
NCMEC & Industry Voluntary Initiatives

Problem?	What is NCMEC doing?	What can companies do?
 **Child Sexual Abuse Imagery List**	NCMEC maintains a list of hash values for confirmed child sexual abuse imagery reported by Electronic Service Providers (ESPs) – images and videos of the sexual abuse of prepubescent child victims.	NCMEC recommends tech companies use this hash list to take all steps to detect, remove and report those images to the CyberTipline. This list currently contains over 1.5 million hashes.
 **Exploitative List**	NCMEC helps survivors in their efforts to remove images that may not meet the federal definition of child pornography, despite being nude or partially nude. These images and their recirculation extend the child's trauma have damaging effects.	NCMEC recommends companies use this exploitative hash list to voluntarily remove this content. It might be a violation of their terms of service. In addition, search engines have a responsibility to ensure the availability of these images is eliminated.
 **Other Material Associated with Child Sexual Abuse**	NCMEC alerts companies of written comments on their platforms that publicly identify CSAI victims without their consent. We also alert companies to other pictures or videos that are associated with child sexual abuse.	When notified, NCMEC recommends tech companies remove images, videos, or comments that: • Create personal safety concerns for the survivor • Identify a person or their likeness as a victim of CSAI without their consent • Promote the viewing of the illegal, exploitative or abusive content

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