



County Lines Assembly Jan 2020

HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ILaguFX>

Hr4

'COUNTY LINES' DRUG NETWORKS





EXPLOITATION

- County lines is also known as Criminal Exploitation.
- It is an illegal drug business, whereby gangs recruit and use children and young people to move drugs and money for them.
- Children as young as 10 years plus are being recruited, often using social media.
- They are exploited and forced to carry drugs between different places, usually on foot or using a push bike.
- They can also be made to go on trains or coaches to different parts of the country.
- They are also forced to sell drugs to local users.

CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION

It is a form of modern slavery – Gangs take advantage of anyone they can manipulate and brainwash.

Young people are being forced to work under the control of highly organised criminals.

Young people are promised money, protection and a feeling they belong to something, but that soon stops and the abuse starts, leaving them feeling trapped and scared.

Forced young people to leave their homes, go missing and are made to stay in trap houses and drug dens. Forced to hold guns or knives as well.

FACTS

- In 2018, the NCA identified 720 county line gangs in England and Wales. Beginning of 2019, they identified 2000 county line gangs with the majority originating from London, followed by Liverpool.
- However, the most recent figure is 2700 county line gangs.
- National Crime Agency has estimated 46,000 young people are currently being exploited in England.

RECRUITMENT STAGES



TARGETING STAGE



EXPERIMENT STAGE



HOOKED STAGE



TRAPPED STAGE

Consider this – is this stranger who has just approached me really a ‘friend’?

- Would a friend encourage you to take drugs, or drink alcohol or smoke a cigarette?
- Would a friend encourage you to steal something from a shop?
- Is a friend someone who makes you do something that is wrong?
- Is a friend someone who gives you a gift and then expects you to do something in return or asks for the gift to be returned?
- Is a friend someone who encourages you carry out a criminal act such as carrying a drug package?

County Lines – What should you do if you have any concerns?

Be Aware and be smart

Report to your form tutor/HoH/ or any other trusted adult any concerns that you might have of anything you might have witnessed in the community or any concerns you might have about the behaviour of your friends.