

## **Topic 12: Confirming Child Prostitution**

Link to [Policy](#)

Gather and document credible evidence that the following factors are present for an allegation of child prostitution.

**Factor 1:** The victim is a **child**.

**Factor 2:** The person responsible for the abuse was a **caretaker** for the child at the time of the abuse.

**Factor 3:** One of the following occurred:

- ◆ The caretaker **sold** or **offered** for sale or **purchased** or **offered** for purchase the services of a child as a participant in a sex act, OR
- ◆ The caretaker **allowed**, **permitted**, or **encouraged** the child to engage in the sale or purchase or offer for sale or purchase of the child's services as a participant in a sex act.

**Note:** The child does not have to engage in a sex act; the offer for sale or purchase is sufficient for a finding of child abuse.

The offer of the child's services as a participant in a sex act does not have to be made by the caretaker. The caretaker may have abused the child by "allowing, permitting or encouraging" the child's exploitation as a prostitute by someone else.

The purchase or offer to purchase of the child's services as a participant in a sex act does not have to be made with money alone. There may be credible evidence of an exchange of goods or other services that fit the definition of "purchase," as long as it is understood that the exchange is in return for the child's participation in a sex act.

Credible evidence may include the statements of a credible person (the child, the caretaker, or a witness) that there was an actual offer or purchase of the child's services as a participant in a sex act.