



FREE PARENT WARNING REPORT

A stranger doesn't need to knock anymore.

One DM. One gaming chat. One fake profile. One photo request.
It can now reach your child — inside your own home.

This report is not made to create panic. It is made to create realisation.

THE URGENT TRUTH

The home is no longer the safe boundary

Earlier, the home felt like the safest place for a child. Today, risk enters through messages, reels, games, links and unknown profiles — without your child ever stepping outside.

85.5%

of Indian households now have at least one
smartphone

76%

of rural 14–16 year-olds used their phone for
social media last week

+46%

rise in crimes against children in India (2020 →
2024)

WHY IT IS URGENT NOW

The problem isn't screen time. It's access without safety.

WHAT CHILDREN CAN DO

97.1% of 15–29 year-olds used a mobile phone in the last 3 months

94.3% used the internet — they can open any app, chat and post with ease

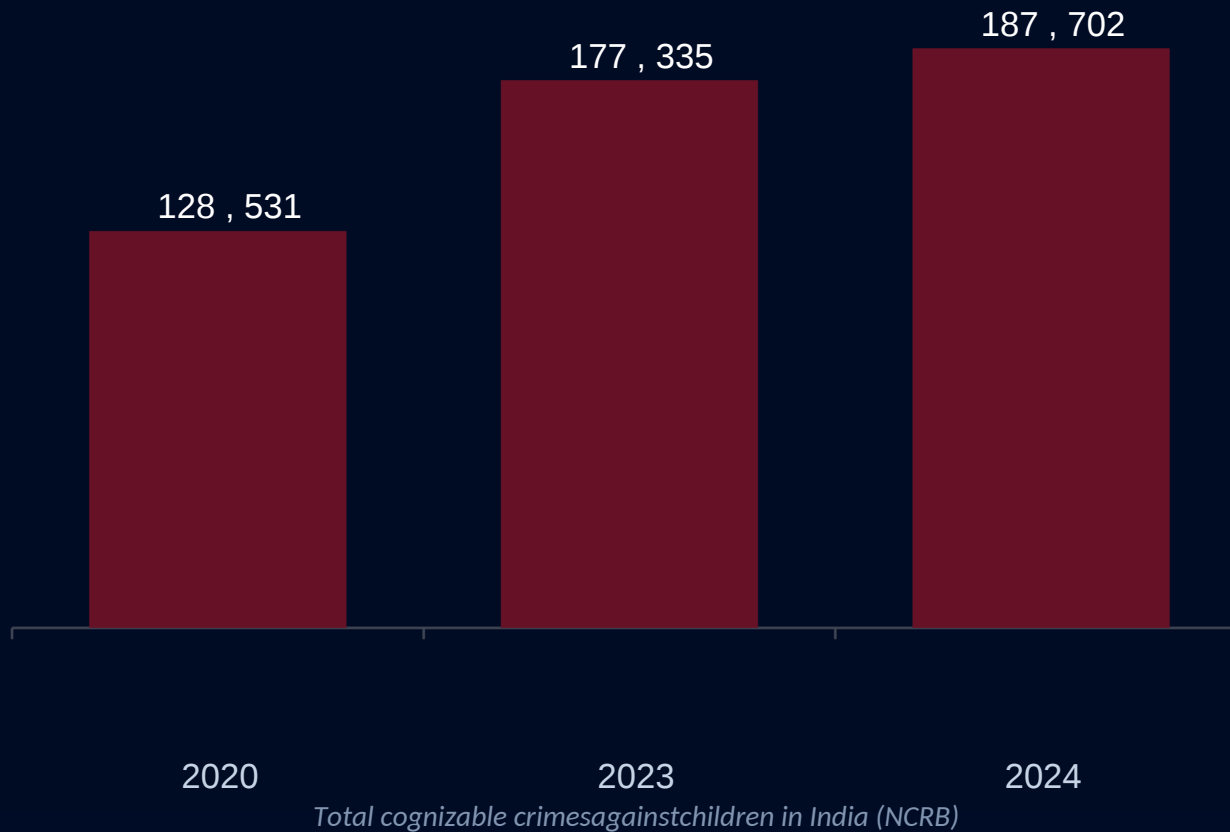
WHAT THEY CANNOT DO SAFELY

Only 55.2% know how to make their profile private

Only 62% know how to block or report a profile — far fewer know how to handle an unknown DM, a photo request or a blackmail threat

THE TREND

And it is getting worse — fast



~9 in 10

cybercrimes against children in 2024 involved sexually explicit content depicting children

69,191

child sexual offence (POCSO) cases in 2024 — girls were 98% of assault victims

Three new dangers in 2026



AI fake photos

AI can now turn an ordinary photo of your child into a fake nude in seconds. Reports of AI-generated child exploitation jumped from under 7,000 to over 440,000 in a single year.



Financial sextortion

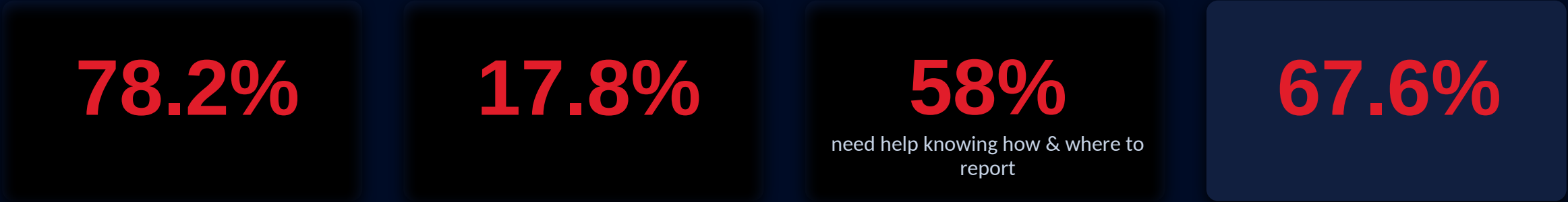
Predators trick a teen into one private photo, then blackmail them for money. Online-enticement reports hit 1.4 million in 2025, up 156%. Tragically, dozens of teen boys have died by suicide after being targeted.



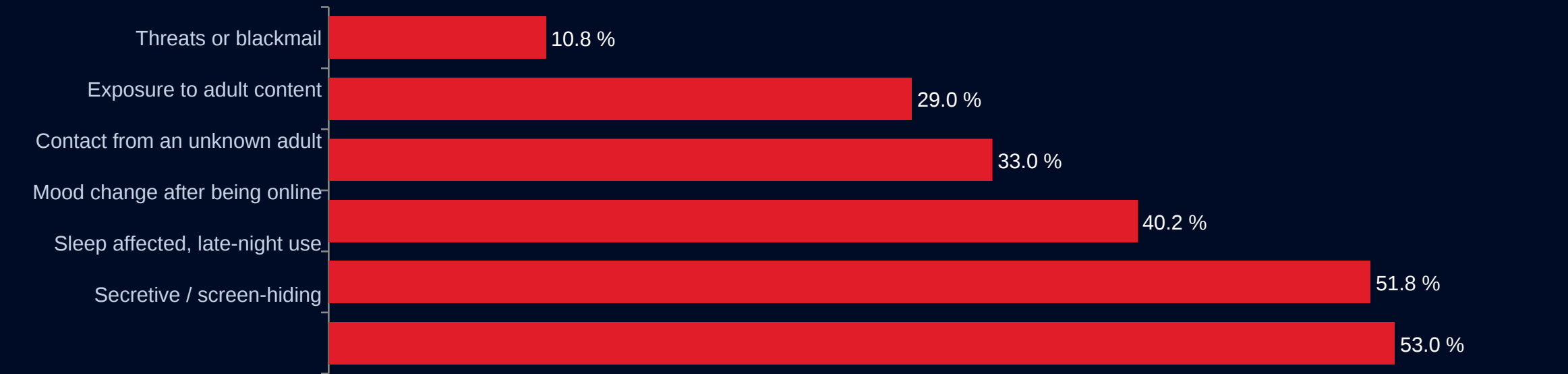
Violent online groups

Organised groups on gaming and chat apps (Discord, Roblox) first befriend children, then coerce them into harming themselves. Reports of this more than doubled in 2025.

What 500 Indian parents told us



What parents observed in the last 12 months (% of 500 respondents)



Source: Child Safe India 2026 Parent Survey Database. Aggregate, anonymised; no individual or child-identifying data shown.

Most incidents start like a normal chat - not a crime



Unknown DM

A fake profile starts a friendly chat and slowly asks personal questions.



Gaming chat

A stranger met in a game asks to continue privately on another app.



Group link

A harmless-looking link exposes a child to strangers, adult content or bullying.



Photo / detail request

A photo, location or 'secret' request quickly becomes pressure or blackmail.



Cyberbullying

Group chats turn into repeated humiliation, threats, screenshots or abuse.



AI misuse

Images, voice or identity get morphed and misused faster than parents realise.



THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE

Don't start with anger. Start with safety.

If a child fears punishment, they will hide the very thing you most need to know.

Make one promise to your child:

“You will never be in trouble for telling me if something online feels wrong.”

DO THIS TODAY - EVEN FOR FREE

Five things every parent can do today

1

Ask calmly - “If an unknown person messages you tonight, what will you do?”

2

Check privacy settings - On your child's most-used apps — profile, who can message, tag, add to groups.

3

Hide location - Turn off real-time location sharing (Snap Map and similar).

4

Make the promise - “You won't be punished for telling me if something feels wrong.”

5

Know where to report - Save evidence and use the National Cyber Crime Portal / helpline.

Teach the SAFE response

S

Stop before replying to anything that feels off.

A

Avoid sharing photos, location or personal details.

F

Freeze the proof — take a screenshot, don't delete.

E

Exit by blocking & reporting — then tell a trusted adult.

IF SOMETHING HAS ALREADY HAPPENED

Act calmly — and report

DON'T

- Delete messages or evidence
- Confront or message the stranger yourself
- Blame, shame or punish your child first

DO

- Reassure your child first — they did the right thing
- Save proof: screenshots, usernames, links, dates
- Block & report on the app, then report to authorities



1098

Childline — free, 24×7, in many Indian languages



cybercrime.gov.in

National Cyber Crime Portal · Helpline 1930



Local Police

For any immediate physical danger, call now

THE NEXT STEP

This report showed the danger. The manual gives the solution.

Child Safe India Parent Safety Manual

instant download

- App-by-app privacy settings
- How to respond to an unknown DM
- Warning-sign checklist
- Parent-child conversation scripts
- Evidence-saving & India reporting steps
- A simple parent action plan

DOWNLOAD NOW



Help it reach more parents

The purpose of this report is not revenue - it is realisation. A voluntary contribution of ₹10 to ₹10,000 helps us reach more families, run awareness campaigns and create regional-language material.

Please also share this report with other parents, schools and family groups. Awareness is the first layer of protection.

CLICK HERE!

DONATE





SOURCES & IMPORTANT NOTES

Where this data comes from

- Nationwide Survey of more than 500 Plus parents asking in-detail about the situation based on our target age group.
- PIB / MoSPI — Comprehensive Modular Survey: Telecom 2025 (household device & internet access)
- ASER 2024 — National Findings (14–16 year-old digital use & safety skills)
- NCRB — Crime in India 2024, analysed by CRY – Child Rights and You (crimes against children, POCSO, cybercrime)
- NCMEC — CyberTipline data 2024–2025 (online enticement, sextortion, AI-generated exploitation)
- National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal — cybercrime.gov.in · Helpline 1930 · Childline 1098

Child Safe India is an independent awareness and practical-guidance initiative. This report is not legal, medical or psychological advice and does not claim government affiliation or approval. Aggregate survey insights are anonymised. If a child is in immediate danger, contact local police or emergency services.