Safeguarding Snapshot - 13.11.26

Com Groups - Safeline

Com Networks (also known as The Com and including groups such as 764) are online groups of people who set out to cause serious harm, both online and offline, through physical, sexual and financial crimes. Members gain status within the group by obtaining the most extreme and disturbing content. This includes coercing young people into recording or sharing images of sexual or physical abuse, either of themselves or of others.

Com groups operate mainly on gaming servers, in private chat groups and on mass messaging apps such as Telegram. They target young, impressionable users and manipulate them into harming themselves and others. Once a child is drawn in, they can be forced to film incriminating videos, hand over sensitive information and even self-harm, all backed by organised blackmail. The risk is hard to overstate.

For more information on this please refer to the **Safeline website**.

Further information

Sky News have created a documentary about Com Networks and can be found on YouTube here (Graphic content warning): **https://news.sky.com/share/13589009**

Additional resources

- **Online Harm Groups - NWG Network**
- **Understanding Com Networks: A Safeguarding Update for Families and Professionals - Safer Schools**