

# What is Extra – Familial Harm

Extra-familial abuse is linked to 'contextual safeguarding' or 'complex safeguarding'.

These concepts refer to harm that occurs to children outside of their family system, often during the adolescent years because at this age their social networks widen.

These networks can have a significant influence over an adolescent's understanding of social norms.

A large proportion of child exploitation takes place in public spaces (parks, stairwells, high streets etc.) so it is these locations that often require a professional response to safeguard young people from exploitation rather than solely focusing on the child and their family.

- More prevalent in older children
- Parent/child relationship impacted
- Child believed they are in real relationship
- Teenage Domestic abuse
- Physical aggression to parent common
- Parents often blame themselves
- Missing incidents
- Unexplained belongings
- Threats to family from perpetrators
- Used to recruit others
- Online and face to face linked
- Professionals attitude may see child as the problem not the abuse