- « Raising society's awareness »
- « Focus on prevention »
- « Be vigilant »
- « Listen to and believe the child disclosing violence »

## Learning from victims and survivors of sexual violence





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### Learning from victims and survivors of sexual violence

The European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse takes place on 18 November. To raise national awareness of child sexual violence, we are giving the floor to victims and survivors. Read their testimonies and wishes here.

The testimonies have been collected by the Department for Children's Rights of the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth to support the <u>Council of Europe campaign</u>. The 2023 edition of the European Day focuses on "Learning from victims/survivors of childhood sexual violence to inspire policy change".

I wish the discussion were normalised, because not talking about this issue increases

# the victims' feelings of guilt and shame.

I also wish that society would understand that over 90% of perpetrators are people in the child's circle of trust.



Testimony collected by the Department for Children's Rights of the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth.

### Watch out for introverted young people,

they're more reserved and one might miss something.

We don't take enough account of the psychological violence that children suffer at the hands of their parents on a daily basis. One has the impression that only physical violence is taken into consideration.

Beware of the silos between services and the withholding of information covered by professional secrecy, which leads to a narrow view of the overall situation – to the detriment of the victim.



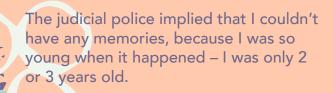


Our rule of law and the prevention offered in schools must improve as quickly as possible, sentences must be respected and trials must be initiated immediately. To this day, my father is free and has faced

### no consequences despite the court's judgment.

Sexual crimes are always terrible and should never be taken lightly.

### I wish they had believed me.



I would have needed more support from my mother. She should have come into the room when she heard me say "Ouch, it hurts". She should have tried to find out more and asked more questions.





My wish is that society becomes aware of the fact that

### sexual violence often takes place between siblings



and that it is important for parents to be vigilant and look after their children themselves, rather than leaving them with their older brother, for example;

that children don't get exposed to pornography as it encourages them to reproduce the acts on other children;

that child victims don't have to hide behind masks and that they are believed.

#### Help and support services in Luxembourg www.violence.lu





DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse



