

Does Language Matter When Reporting?

At youthSpark, there is NO such thing as a child prostitute

“Teen/Child Prostitution” (Teen/Child Prostitute)	CSEC (Sexually Exploited Child)
<p>A young person who has made a conscious and poor choice to have sex for money or to enter the commercial sex industry.</p> <p>Provides no context or answers for “choices” made by youth involved.</p> <p>A “bad kid” who is resistant to help and possibly not worth the effort.</p> <p>An insult or derogatory term that is associated with negative stereotypes and long-lasting stigmatization.</p> <p>Supports the misunderstandings and myths of the issue and how youth are involved.</p> <p>Wrongly equated with a “profession” or work/job.</p> <p>A juvenile offender and criminal who deserves the consequences of sexual violence, social isolation, incarceration.</p> <p>The child is at fault for their circumstances and denies social responsibility and accountability to address as an issue.</p>	<p>A child not developmentally, legally, or socially able to make the “choice” to have sex for money or to enter the commercial sex industry.</p> <p>Indicates multiple factors impact how and why youth are involved.</p> <p>A young person who deserves intensive support and services.</p> <p>A child who has been sexually used, coerced, or manipulated and violently controlled for another person’s profit.</p> <p>Understands how inequality, power and imbalance affect the issue and how youth are involved.</p> <p>Takes into consideration the vulnerability and manipulation of children.</p> <p>Defines what has happened to the child as a form of child abuse rather than label the child based on their actions and behaviors.</p> <p>Indicates a system of violence against children and calls for social responsibility and accountability to address an issue.</p>

Using the correct language can determine whether

- The child is seen as a victim **or** a criminal
- The child receives needed supports and services **or** is detained and arrested
- The blame is placed on the child **or** blame is placed on the exploiter