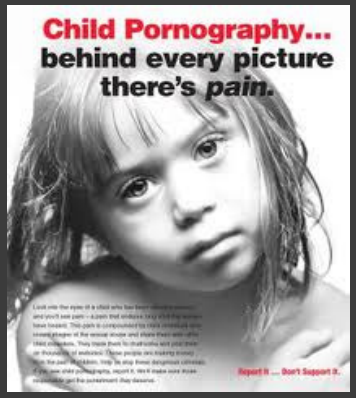

Nature and scope of the problem of misuse of new technologies in the abuse and exploitation of children

Eastern Europe/ Hungary

Thematic discussion on protecting children in a digital age: the misuse of technology in the abuse and exploitation of children

UN Economic and Social Council
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Twentieth session

Vienna, 12 April 2011

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Is cycling dangerous?

USA: 4.4 million children (age 5-17) per year get injured during sport or leisure time activity;
10-40% in bicycle accident

Hungary: 2000-2500 children per year get injured or die in traffic accident;
16-20% in bicycle accident

	Number of children under 14	**Seriously injured or died in *traffic accident***	**Seriously injured or died in *bicycle accident***
Hungary 2004	1.606.000	2533 ~ 150/100.000	488 ~ 30/100.000
Austria 2004	1.333.505	3872 ~ 300/100.000	833 ~ 60/100.000

1. Typology of risks and threats to children and the effects of new technologies in Europe (EU Kids Online, 2009)

a./ rank ordering of risks

fairly similar across countries

- ***giving out personal information***
  (appr. half of online teenagers)
- ***seeing pornography online***
  (appr. 4 in 10 teenagers)
- ***seeing violent or hateful contents***
  (appr. 1/3 of teenagers)
- ***being bullied or harassed***
  (appr. 1 in 5 or 6 teenagers)
- ***receiving unwanted sexual comments***
  (1 in 10; 1 in 3 or 4; 1 in 2 teenagers)
- ***meeting an online contact offline***
  (1 in 11 – 9% - online teenagers)

1. Typology of risks and threats to children and the effects of new technologies in Europe (EU Kids Online, 2009)

b./ gender differences in risk

- **boys**
  - seek out pornographic or violent content more
  - are more likely to meet somebody offline
  - are more likely to give out personal information
- **girls**
  - are more upset by violent and pornographic content
  - are more likely to chat online with strangers
  - are more likely to receive unwanted sexual comments
  - are asked for personal information more often
- **both** appear at risk of online harassment and bullying

1. Typology of risks and threats to children and the effects of new technologies in Europe (EU Kids Online, 2009)

c./ *SES differences in risk*

Children from lower-class families are more exposed to risk

Safety awareness programmes and media literacy interventions could usefully target less privileged families, schools and neighbourhoods

2. Global trends and patterns in the misuse of new technologies in the abuse and exploitation of children, and how the reporting and analysis of such trends and patterns can be facilitated through improved data collection

- Data collection – ***top down*** versus ***self-regulation***

- Latency, hotlines, INHOPE

A Member of
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF INTERNET HOTLINES
INHOPE

STOP
>illegális tartalom bejelentése<
www.internethotline.hu

3. The role of the private sector in new technologies and other relevant areas and how the private sector can help to address the problem of abuse and exploitation of children

Complex prevention

private sector (business)

ISPs

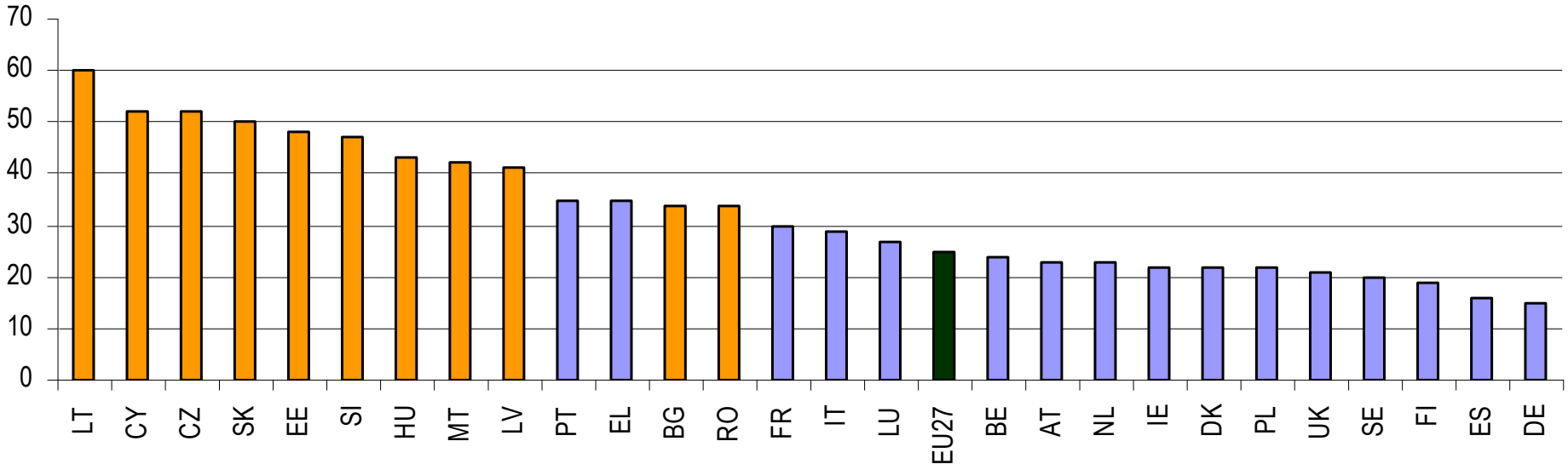
schools

- awareness raising
- developing more effective filter softwares
    - filter software: advantages and disadvantages

4. Awareness of danger and prevention tools of the adult society

Transition countries (joined EU after 2004) have a bigger proportion of parents who set no rules for their children for internet usage.

Proportion of parents who set NO RESTRICTIONS when their child uses the Internet, by country (Eurobarometer, 2008)



Typical parental patterns and strategies in Eastern Europe: time control and reactive measures (sanctioning)

5. An illustration - domestic characteristics of online child abuse

„Budapest Survey"
(2009, Katalin Parti – György Virág)

Data recording: Nov-Dec, 2009

Sample: Budapest, 16 year-old pupils (9-10th grade),

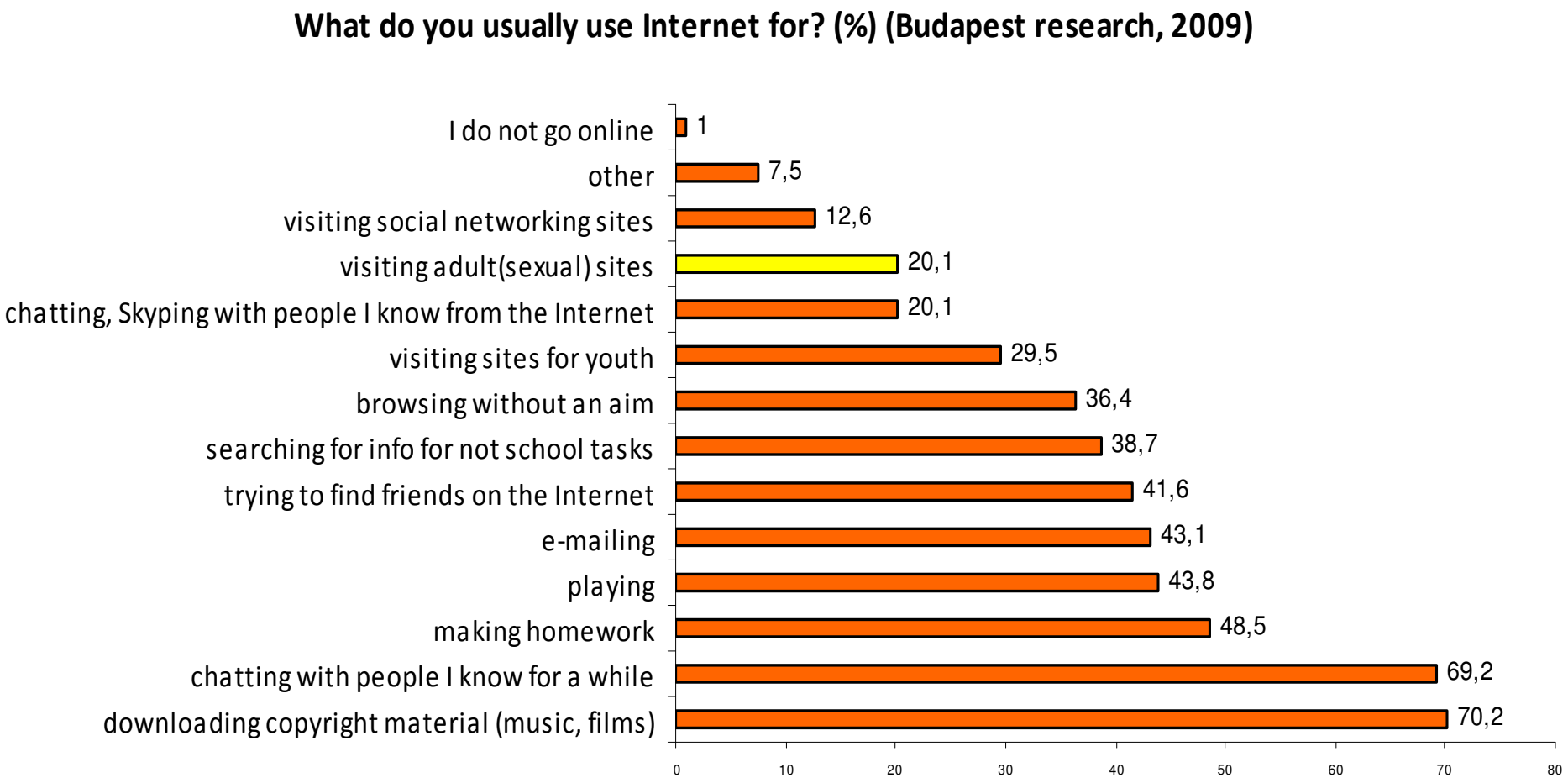
Stratification: school type and grade

1161 reliable questionnaire

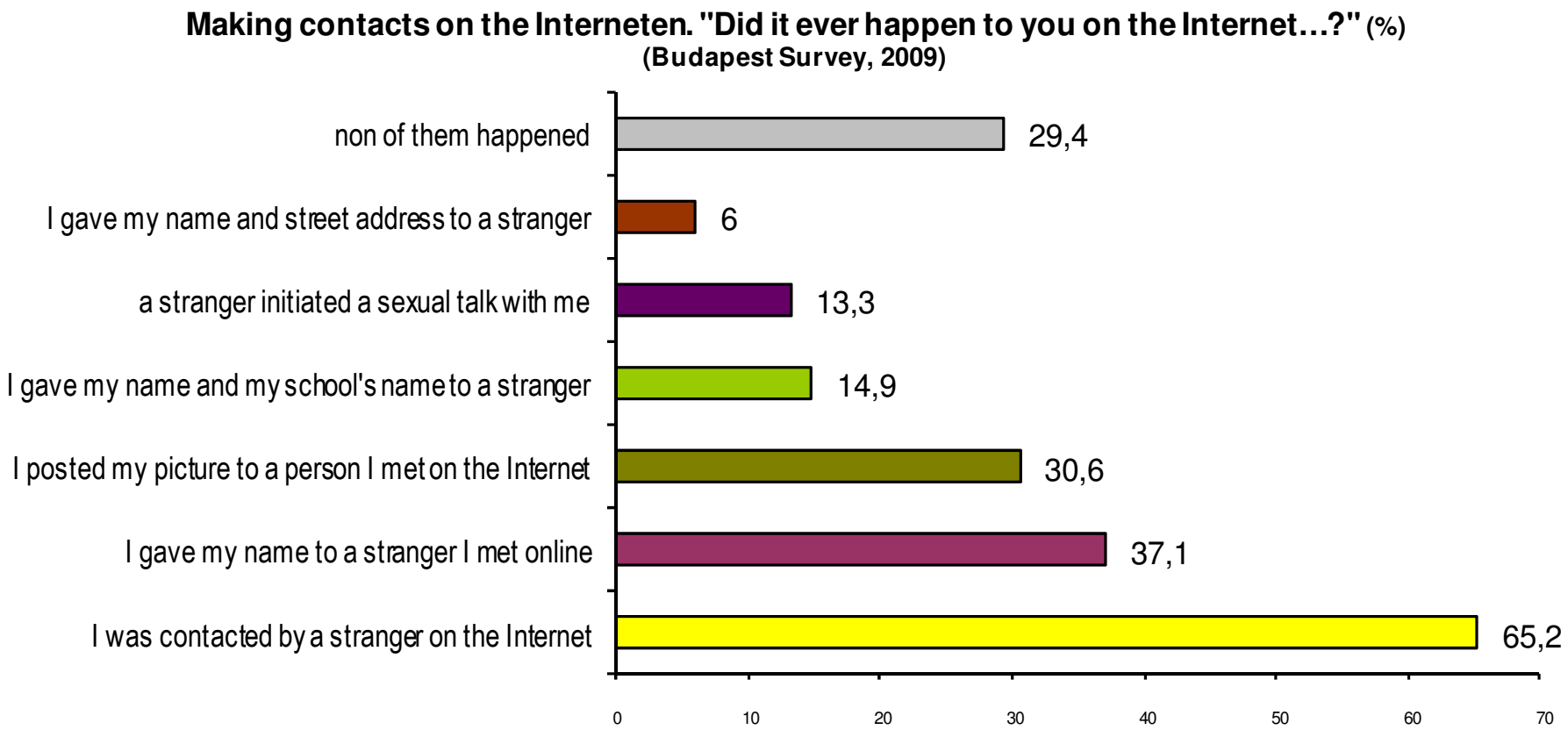
Method: Online questionnaire, Self-reporting

RESULTS

1. Kids search for sexual materials online and open them deliberately



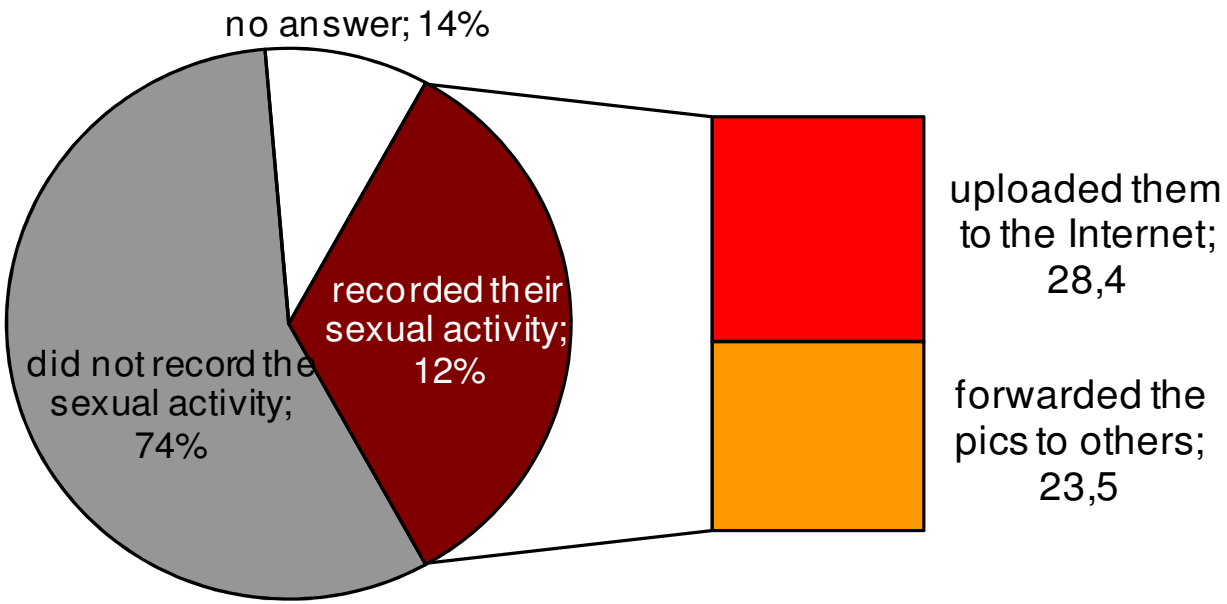
RESULTS
2. …chatting, befriending strangers online



RESULTS

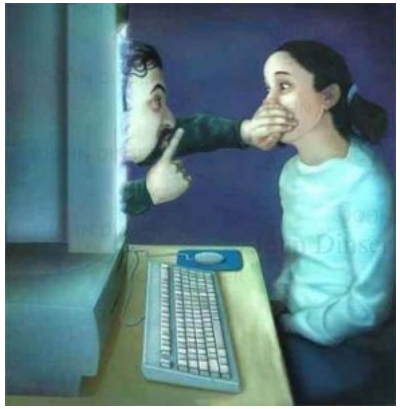
3. …they record their sexual acts and forward the depictions to others

Did couples (dates) recorded their intimate acts? (%) (100% = those who have already had a partner) (Budapest research, 2009)



6. Demolishing the taboo

- Meeting strangers online does not have an abusive outcome for most of the times:
- „grooming”(luring children online in order to sexually abuse them offline) is rare:
  - 1 in 12 children (8%) have met an online contact offline: the risk rarely has a harmful experience.
  - 1% of all children (or 1 in 7 of those who went to a meeting) have been bothered by such a meeting



Budapest Survey supported: offline personal relationships following the online contact making are a **decision of both partners**, and the partners are from the **same age-group**

Offline sexual abuse is very low proportion of the cases

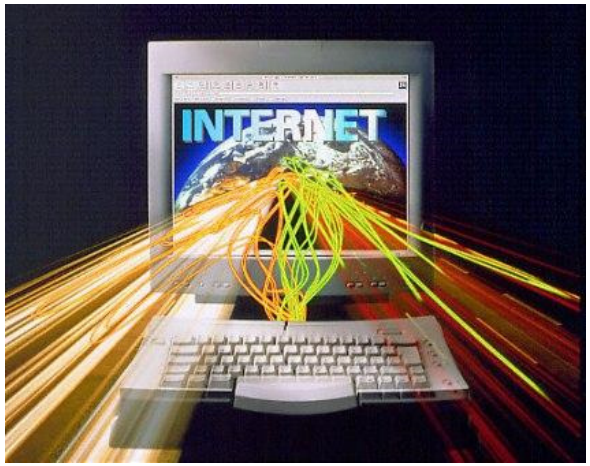
- **Budapest Survey:**

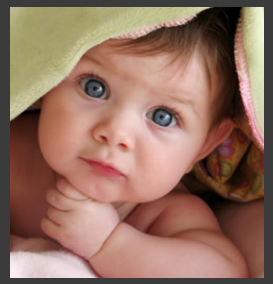
65% of the answerers **were befriended by strangers** on the internet

34% of them met the stranger **offline**

12% of them had sex with the stranger offline (100%=421 answerers), deliberately
5,3% of them were sexually harassed offline (61 answerers) and
1,6% answered that they were **sexually abused** (raped) offline (19 answerers)

Conclusion, or cycling versus surfing





Thanks for your attention

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