


Words Matter:

What to say, and what not to say, when referring to crimes against children.

A summary of the Luxembourg Guidelines - Terminology Guidelines for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse


Do not say:

- ✗ Child pornography
- ✗ Child porn
- ✗ Child prostitution
- ✗ Child sex tourism



These terms imply a level of consent. A child can never consent. This is a crime.

- ✗ Paedophile



This is a specific psychological condition.

Instead, say:

- Child sexual abuse material
- Child sexual abuse
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child sexual exploitation material
- Online child sexual exploitation
- Child sex offender
- Perpetrators of sexual crimes against children

[Find the complete Luxembourg Guidelines here.](#)