Problematic Collecting

Exercise: My Collecting

Do you collect other things, as well as indecent images of children, for example stamps, coins or model cars? If you do, then it might be better to complete this exercise using one of those non-offending examples first. Then complete it a second time concentrating on the sexual images of children. It might be that you can compare the two and identify themes between them. This will help you later on when you are looking at what purpose collecting is serving for you.

From the examples below, circle the three reasons that you most identify with.

- 1. I get pleasure from a sense of completion and order
- 2. I find great value in the rarities and hard to come by items of my collection
- 3. I take pride in my collection
- 4. I like to compare my collection with other collectors
- 5. I have memories of sentimental attachments to my collection
- 6. Any other reasons

Write a few sentences explaining why you have circled your top three reasons.

In what way are they more important to you than the others?