



# Public Perceptions of the Risk of Child Crime in COVID-19

Author: Vicky Chen

Mentor: Tatiana Ringenberg

Indiana University UROC Fall 2021 Research Project

## MOTIVATION

My research projects involves increasing resiliency of both children and child caregivers to online child crime.

- Researchers found child crime increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Unclear whether or not caregivers are aware of the increase.

## IMPACT

The reason this topic is important is that the number of child crimes has increased. Many people still don't realize that this is a social problem. We want to increase the public awareness of the risk of child crime.

Legislators and law enforcement can identify gaps in public knowledge.

## METHODOLOGY

- We developed the survey based on previous research.
- We asked questions related to:
  - Demographic
  - Perceptions of grooming law
  - Perceptions of grooming during COVID-19

## AIMS

- Identify public perceptions of risk of child crime since COVID-19 pandemic.
- Compare perceptions to crime statistics for both online and offline child crime.
- Identify gaps in knowledge for training.

## PROGRESS

- Background research about public perceptions of the risk of child crime.
- Identity statistics related to child crime.
- Created survey of the public perceptions by modifying existing survey on crime perceptions.
- Collected 250 responses.

## CHALLENGES

- First time to using Qualtrics, so I spent some time exploring how to use it.
- Reading different research articles and find out useful information.

