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 - It is not openly discussed within the culture, but the fact that people consider 'sex' as something they can trade could implicitly facilitate the sale and sexual exploitation of children. When the Nth room case went viral and even after the reactive law(revision) was made to eradicate sale and sexual exploitation of children (and women), certain group of people(mostly male) continuously raise the question on their 'rights to watch porn'.
 - They do not realize that it is a crime and what they watch is criminal contents. People still see it as 'pornography' and they continuously search online for such materials. Luckily after the police declared that they are after ones who watched and purchased Nth room contents(CSAMs), people began to regret and be careful (a man even committed suicide due to the fear of shame); however, there are still many posts complaining about "feminists' hate against male" and "disturbing their rights to watch porn or to satisfy their sexual desire". (This shows the underlying thoughts of such groups in Korea(male online community) that fighting against sale and sexual exploitation is what "feminists" do and "feminists" take such actions because they hate men and do not understand men's desire. (It is my personal opinion only)
 - There is an accepted culture of 'pornography' in Korea – it is illegal, but people still watch pornography and consider this as a 'men's culture' which has been opposed by many NGOs and Women's organizations for decades. This can bring a huge problem (and do now) with the children because they easily can have access to such contents and receive very twisted perspectives on sexuality.
 - Also, before the revision made in 2020, children who has been victimized by sale and sexual exploitation of children were considered as 'involved children' – which means that they are not victims but they voluntarily involved in the crime(prostitution). This was finally removed from the legal system and revised (all children shall be considered as victim now), but just knowing that fact that such laws existed until last year can tell how low the awareness is on the sale and sexual exploitation of children.
 - Additionally, there is a traditional practice in the business that provides 'entertainment' for the business partner or someone to lobby. And the entertainment includes dinner, alcohol, and women. And people very often say that "younger is the better" and this wide spread twisted culture may involve and/or manifest sale and sexual exploitation of children.
2.
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 - In Korean laws, both male and female can be a victim of sexual violence; however, the annal intercourse is not considered as a 'intercourse of genitals', so it would be considered as 'using other body parts' which means less punishment.
 - There is not concept of non-binary genders in our legislation, but considering that laws are applied to all gender (it is simply defining a 'person'), it can be widely applied to all gender forms.

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| ACT ON THE PUNISHMENT OF ARRANGEMENT OF COMMERCIAL SEX ACTS, ETC. | Article 2(Definition) <p>(1) The terms used in this Act shall mean as follows: <Amended by Act No. 11048, Sep. 15, 2011></p> <p>1. The term "sexual traffic" means committing any of the following acts for an unspecified person or becoming a partner thereof in return for receiving or promising to receive money, valuables or other property gains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Sexual intercourse; (b) Pseudo-sexual intercourse using parts of the body, such as the mouth and anus, or implements; |
| Article 4(Prohibited Acts) | |

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| | <p>No person shall engage in any of the following acts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. sexual traffic; 2. Arranging sexual traffic, etc.; 3. human traffic aimed at sexual traffic; 4. Employing or recruiting other persons for the purpose of having them engage in acts of selling sex, or brokering or arranging jobs in awareness that sexual traffic takes place; 5. Conducting acts referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 and advertising a business place in which such acts take place. <p>[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 10697, May 23, 2011]</p> |
| <p>ACT ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGAINST SEX OFFENSES</p> | <p>Article 13(Buying sex of child or youth, etc.)(1) Any person who buys sex of a child or youth shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for at least one year, but not more than ten years, or by a fine of at least 20 million won, but not exceeding 50 million won., (2) Any person who entices a child or youth so as to buy sex of him/her or solicits a child or youth to prostitute shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than one year or by a fine not exceeding ten million won. (3) a person who commits any acts include in paragraph (1) or (2) against children under 16 or children with disabilities shall be receive additional punishment up to 1/2 of original punishment. <Newly Inserted 2020.5.19., 2020.12.8.></p> <p>Article 14 (Coercive Conduct, etc. against Children or Youth)(1) Any of the following persons shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least five years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A person who compels a child or youth to become the counterpart in buying sex of a child or youth by threat or assault; 2. A person who compels a child or youth to become the counterpart in buying sex of a child or youth by placing them into a troubling situation by means of advanced payment or other debt, or by a deceptive scheme or force; 3. A person who compels a child or youth to become the counterpart in buying sex of a child or youth by taking advantage of the child's or youth's status under his/her protection or supervision due to his/her duties, employment, or any other relationship; 4. A person who, for business purposes, entices or solicits a child or youth to become the counterpart in buying sex of a child or youth. <p>(2) When a person who commits an offense prescribed in paragraph (1) 1 through 3 receives all or part of the consideration therefor, or demands or promises such consideration, he/she shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least seven years.</p> <p>(3) Any person who entices or solicits a person to become the counterpart in buying sex of a child or youth shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than seven years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won.</p> <p>(4) Any person who attempts to commit an offense prescribed in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be punished.</p> <p>Article 15 (Business of Arranging Prostitution, etc.)(1) Any of the following persons shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least seven years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A person who provides a place for buying sex of a child or youth as a profession; 2. A person who arranges to buy sex of a child or youth or a person who provides information on the arrangement thereof through an information and communications network as a profession; 3. A person who provides capital, land, or a building knowing that it will be used for crimes referred to in subparagraph 1 or 2; 4. A person who helps a business place providing a place to buy sex of a child or youth or arranging it as a pimp, to hire a child or youth as a profession. <p>(2) Any of the following persons shall be punished by imprisonment with labor</p> |

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| | <p>for not more than seven years or by a fine not exceeding 50 million won:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A person who entices, solicits, or coerces any third person to buy sex of a child or youth for business purposes; 2. A person who provides a place for buying sex of a child or youth; 3. A person who arranges to buy sex of a child or youth or a person providing information on the arrangement of the purchase thereof through an information and communications network; 4. A person who promises any act referred to in subparagraph 2 or 3 for business purposes. <p>(3) Any person who entices, solicits, or coerces any third person to buy sex of a child or youth shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than five years or by a fine not exceeding 30 million won.</p> |
| CRIMINAL ACTS | Article 29 (Punishment of Attempts) The punishment for attempted crimes shall be specifically provided in each Article concerned. |

*(under) sexual abuse of children

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| Imitative rape, indecent act by compulsion against child under 13 | <p>ACT ON SPECIAL CASES CONCERNING THE PUNISHMENT, ETC. OF SEXUAL CRIMES</p> <p>Article 7(Rape of, or commission of indecent acts by compulsion on, minors under age of 13)</p> <p>(2) A person who, through violence or intimidation, commits any of the following acts on a minor under the age of 13 shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least seven years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inserting the genitals into the inner part of the minor's body (excluding genitals), such as the mouth or anus; 2. Inserting a part of the body (excluding genitals), such as fingers, or implements into the minor's genitals or anus. <p>(3) A person who commits a crime prescribed in Article 298 of the Criminal Act on a minor under the age of 13 shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for at least five years. <i><Amended by May 19, 2020></i> *translated by ECPAT Korea</p> <p>(4) A person who commits a crime prescribed in Article 299 of the Criminal Act on a minor under the age of 13 shall be punished according to the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (3).</p> <p>(5) A person who, through fraudulent means or by a threat of force, has sexual intercourse with or commits an indecent act on a minor under the age of 13 shall be punished according to the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (3).</p> |
| Imitative rape and indecent act by compulsion against child over 13 and under 19 | <p>ACT ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGAINST SEX OFFENSES</p> <p>Article 7(Rape, Indecent Act by Force, etc. of children or youth)</p> <p>(2) Any person who commits any of the following acts by assaulting or threatening a child or youth shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least five years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Putting genitals into a part of the body of the child or youth (excluding genitals), such as the mouth or anus; 2. Putting a part of the body (excluding genitals), such as fingers, or implements into the genital or anus of the child or youth. <p>(3) Any person who commits an offense prescribed in Article 298 of the Criminal Act against a child or youth shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for a limited term of at least two years or by a fine of at least ten million won, but not more than 30 million won.</p> <p>(4) Any person who commits an offense prescribed in Article 299 of the Criminal Act against a child or youth shall be punished in the same manner as prescribed in paragraphs (1) through (3).</p> <p>(5) Any person who has sex with or commits an indecent act against a child or youth by a deceptive scheme or by force shall be punished in the same manner as prescribed in paragraphs (1) through (3).</p> |
| Child abuse by child's protector | ACT ON SPECIAL CASES CONCERNING THE PUNISHMENT, ETC. OF |

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| | <p>CHILD ABUSE CRIMES</p> <p>Article 2(Definition)</p> <p>4. The term “crime of child abuse” means any of the following child abuse crimes committed by a child’s protector:</p> <p>(f) Crimes falling under Article 297 (Rape), Article 297-2 (Imitative Rape), Article 298 (Indecent Act by Compulsion), Article 299 (Quasi-Rape or Quasi-Indecent Act by Compulsion), Article 300 (Attempts), Article 301 (Inflicting or Causing Bodily Injury of Another by Rape, etc.), Article 301-2 (Killing Another or Causing Death of Another by Rape, etc.), Article 302 (Sexual Intercourse with Minor, etc.), Article 303 (Sexual Intercourse by Abuse of Occupational Authority, etc.), and Article 305 (Sexual Intercourse or Indecent Conduct with Minor) among the crimes of rape and indecent conduct set forth in Chapter XXXII of Part II of the Criminal Act;</p> |
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- b.
- Even though there are legislations which can be applied to all genders, the actual services/supports provided for victims are mainly focused on females. For example, most of shelters for victims are for females only and often male victims are denied from the shelter because he can “cause harm” to the victims.
- And the social norm in Korea is very biased in gender-wise. When we discuss about the sale and sexual exploitation of children, people perceive victims as females for most of times. And majority of people believe that men are stronger than females thus have more ability to recover quickly (without help) – some even say that it’s just like a “punch in the face for men”. This biased and twisted gender norm is making it difficult for male victims to report the victimization and even harder to visit a help center. They are afraid of labeling and shame; they are afraid of being considered as ‘gay’ and questioned their masculinity. So even though we have legislation, policies, and service systems for all genders, in reality, it is hard to say that they are applied to all genders.
- Also, there are lack of experienced service providers (counselor, social workers, police officers, etc.) with experience of male victims. Thus, when the case is received at a help center, service workers tend to ‘send around’ the victim to another center who probably has a experience with male victim case.
- In case of non-binary case, even service providers in Korea are not familiar with the concept, so it is impossible for victims to get the full support(especially emotional).

3.

- Positive side of Korean legislation is that it does not limit the definition of victim based on sex. Before 2013, only women were considered as a victim of sexual crimes; however, after the revision, all the terminology was revised as ‘a person’ who has been victimized. Therefore, all the laws related to sexual crimes now can be applied to all people no matter what gender/sex they are.
- Starting from 2013, after the revision, the Sunflower Center(National level One-stop center for sexually violated victims) began a promotional project for male victims. They published information booklet for males and advocated that males can also be a victim – and it is not something to be ashamed of. Now all the male victims can received medial, psychological, investigative, and legal service from the Sunflower Center; and from many other organizations.

4.

- Please refer to the above answers
- (for more information, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family is managing the Sunflower Center and working with numbers of NGOs and organizations in order to protect children and eliminate sexual abuse/exploitation of children)

5.

- There are many online grooming cases of boys; there are also cases that boys are lured by the perpetrators that they will make a ‘deepfake’ image for them – and if

the boy make request or make a payment for the illegal contents, the perpetrators use it to blackmail the boy and force him to make sexual exploitation contents.

- In the context of the eradication and prevention of the sale and sexual exploitation of children, there are still bias that boys are 'perpetrators'; some think that they boys were victimized because they first accessed to the illegal website or content.
- Besides such bias, it is also hard for boys to admit that they have been victimized. In order to help all children, this gender bias must be discussed and eliminated.

6.

- There are many measures aimed at reducing vulnerability of children with disability; there are numbers of centers specifically for sexually violated victims with disability, and there are manuals for treating them.
- However, there is no specific center/organization or manuals for different types of genders. (gender-responsive). I believe that is because we still consider the victims as females only and it has been less than a decade that we started to see males as a victim. Also, the concept of 'many' genders and non-binary is not even familial with people yet.

7.

- The system itself is well built in Korea; thus what we need is to raise awareness of both service providers and the public. We must let people to clearly acknowledge that boys can be a victim and it is not their fault, and the boys need the same support as girls. Also, we should look into boys who visit the centers for education order (from the court for sexually delinquent behavior) and find out whether the boy has been abused or not.
- Also we must provide specific guidelines for boys' cases and the center/organization/shelter specifically for boys should be provided.

8.

- I think there should be more required trainings for service providers and government officers(include social workers) regarding the genders. Especially for non-binary, there are still very low or lack of understanding of it. It is important to train the service providers to know that they are not different, and they shall be treated without discrimination. (It is very important to train them because they are the first helpline that victims will face)

9.

- The development of online network(ICT) and the lack of supervision are exacerbating the sale and sexual exploitation of children. The crime is abusing the online system and we are a step behind the perpetrators. Offenders have more access to children using the internet and children are too open to the online community.
- Also, the discrimination of adults that only 'delinquent' or 'promiscuous' children are victimized by sale and sexual exploitation of children must be eradicated within our society. People are putting the blame on children – in order to escape from the responsibility or facing the consequence of wrong traditions.
- To be honest, people must stop blaming children using the 'italgae'(it's a twitter account where children upload nude images). It's adults' fault that children think that uploading nude pictures will help them get attention. And if there is no demand, there won't be supply! People must stop blaming children.