

## Child sexual abuse material networks on the darkweb: a multi-method approach

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## CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL NETWORKS ON THE DARKWEB

A multi-method approach

Madeleine van der Bruggen

Because of the development of the internet and the associated digital opportunities, the crime of the possession and distribution of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) has gone through tremendous changes and developments over the last decennia. Nowadays, many CSAM offenders access and distribute CSAM through the Darkweb, the hidden and encrypted part of the internet. This book offers a description of the criminal process and the organization of CSAM fora on the Darkweb. Moreover, it describes how 'keyplayers' on such fora can be identified, and distinguishes various profiles and behavioral patterns of offenders active on Darkweb CSAM fora. Finally, the book describes how trust on the online fora is established. The studies described in this book provide an important, evidence-based contribution to the current knowledge on online сsам offending. Extensively discussing practical implications for law enforcement and other professional organizations, this book is of relevance to academics as well as practitioners.

Madeleine van der Bruggen works as a senior researcher for the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children. Previously, she worked as an operational specialist for the Dutch National Police's Child Exploitation Unit. In this capacity she consulted in national and international investigations, and offered psychological interview advise, conducted risk assessments and developed offender profiles. From 2019 onwards, Madeleine became the chair of the INTERPOL Specialists Group on Crimes Against Children's Victim Services & Offender Management working group.

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