

## Victim Impact Statement for [REDACTED] Series

I am a 19 year old girl who's innocence was taken from me far too soon. I was sexually abused for years as a very young girl and will forever be a victim of child pornography. I was just 3 years old. A normal, sweet, innocent little girl when he hurt me. Now I'll never be normal. As I get older, I'm still learning all the different ways I was affected by the abuse and by the exploitation. I was never able to live the normal childhood that every kid deserves. I never really got the chance to be a kid. My abuser took my innocence-my childhood- and it's something I can NEVER get back. All I have left of my childhood is a few broken memories of good times, and disgusting flashbacks of the horrible abuse I endured. I struggle to remember the happy times with my family because when I think about what life was like as a child, that's all that comes to mind. Instead I try my hardest to not think about my childhood at all.

The abuse started when I was only 3 years old or maybe even younger. The man that did this to me was a man living with my family whom my sisters and I called our "uncle" Charlie. This man had us all very well groomed, it's disgusting. He made us think he loved us and made us trust him and do as he said. I now know he used common techniques to make us trust him. He'd always take me to the store and buy me candy and anything else I wanted. That's all it takes to gain the trust of a 3 year old. If we didn't keep the abuse a secret, he said my family would die-but if we did as he said- nothing bad could ever happen. He would wake me up every night and abuse me sexually. I remember he'd put his fingers inside my vagina and it would hurt a lot. He would try to put his penis inside me but I was too small and it always hurt too much. Some days, I would tell him I was too sore in hopes he wouldn't hurt me again that night. He would always record what he did to me. He had a video camera on a tripod always filming. Then he put me all over the internet for my abuse to continue. My life will never be normal.

My abuse has been plastered all over the internet for the world to see. This makes me feel disgusting, like I'm going to be trapped in this abuse forever. I may not be being abused directly anymore, but just the the fact that there a millions of people that can be delighting in my abuse at any given moment- is torture. It's just like going through it all over again-maybe

even worse-the mental abuse from exploitation will never end. It would be nice if I could just 'get over it' but when it's NEVER OVER, it's sort of hard to just move on. This is something I have to live with. Every day of my life I'm reminded of what I went through. When I'm in public, I can't control my thoughts. Sometimes, when I see a stranger looking at me peculiar, or even smiling at me, I can't help but think to myself "what if they recognize me-my face doesn't look much different-etc" and then I get this overwhelming feeling I can't control, it's hard to describe. I sometimes get overwhelmed by the simplest contact with strangers, men in particular. I worked in a fast food joint from 16-18 years old at a truck stop; that was hell. I was constantly being propositioned and almost always by much older men. I tried so hard to ignore the thoughts every time, but sometimes I would become so consumed in my thoughts that I'd have to swap positions with coworkers at work to avoid contact with such customers. I feel I was robbed of not only my childhood, but I was robbed of my chance to ever lead a normal life and that hurts me.

Dated: August 2019