

# Dating Sites and the Japanese Experience

National Police Agency

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# **Present State of “Dating Sites”**

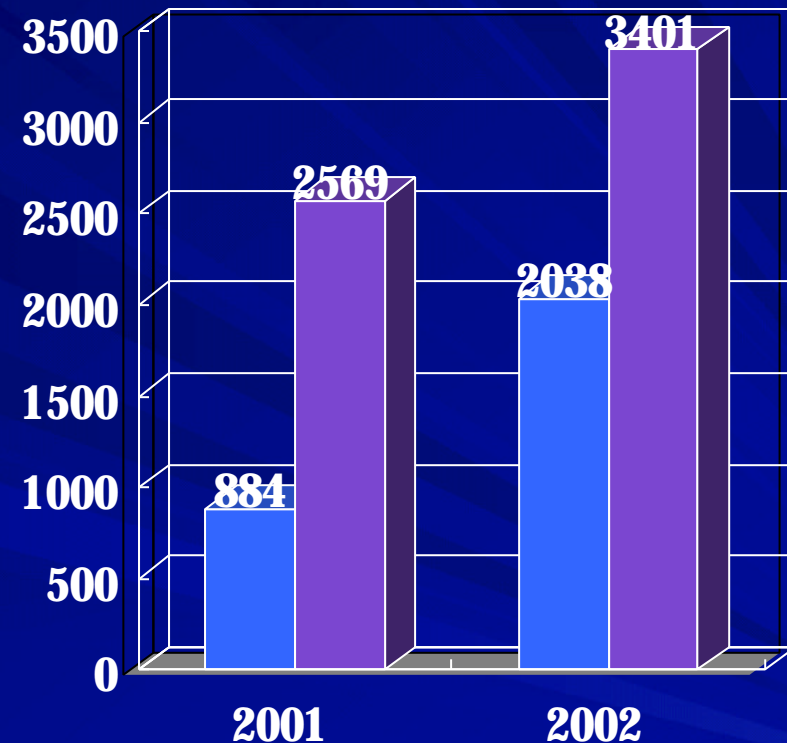
# Number of “Dating Sites”

- Accessible from PCs

- 2001: **884**
- 2002: **2,038**

- Accessible from i-mode Cellular Telephones

- 2001: **2,569**
- 2002: **3,401**



\* Numbers are estimations based on surveys conducted by National Police Agency in September of the respective years

■ PC ■ Cellular

# “Dating Site” Business Models

- Of the 400 sites that were related to crime
  - 129 (36.5%) were FREE sites
  - 29 (8.2%) were PAY sites

\* Numbers of the first half of 2002. Percentages are against number of sites of which their business model is known (pay or free)

- Why there are many free sites
  - Banner advertisements
  - Selling E-mail address
  - Low running costs, etc...



# “Dating Site” Business Models

Pay/Free Distinction		Number of Arrests		
<b>Pay</b>		224	56.0%	63.5%
	Both Sexes	(29)	(7.3%)	(8.2%)
	Male Only	(174)	(43.5%)	(49.3%)
	Unknown, etc.	(21)	(5.3%)	(5.9%)
<b>Free</b>		129	32.3%	36.5%
<b>Unknown</b>		47	11.7%	
<b>Total</b>		400	100.0%	100.0%

# Use of “Dating Sites” by Children

- **83.1%** of high school students, **23.1%** of junior high students **own cellular phones**
- Of high school students, **22.0% of females** and **18.4% of males** have used “dating sites”.
- Of high school students that have used “dating sites”, **43.2% of females** and **27.8% of males** have **actually met** their date.

\* “Report of the Research Conducted on Measures against Internet Contents Harmful to Youth”, March 2002. Survey conducted against 2<sup>nd</sup> grade high school and junior high students

# Use of “Dating Sites” by Children

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Used</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>No Ans.</b>
<b>Total</b> (%)	539 (100.0%)	67 (12.4%)	455 (84.4%)	17 ( 3.2%)
<b>Male JH</b> (%)	147 (100.0%)	3 ( 2.0%)	139 (94.6%)	5 ( 3.4%)
<b>Female JH</b> (%)	126 (100.0%)	9 ( 7.1%)	113 (89.7%)	4 ( 3.2%)
<b>Male H</b> (%)	98 (100.0%)	18 (18.4%)	77 (78.6%)	3 ( 3.0%)
<b>Female H</b> (%)	168 (100.0%)	37 (22.0%)	126 (75.0%)	5 ( 3.0%)

\* JH = Junior High School Student; H = High School Student

# Issues Concerning “Dating Sites”



# Child Crime Damages Resulting from “Dating Site” Use

- Sharp Rise in Damages

- Approx. **260% increase** in arrests related to “Dating Sites” for first half of 2002 (793 arrests, opposed to 302 in same period a year before).
- Approx. **300% increase** in **child prostitution** (400 arrests, opposed to 133 in same period a year before).
- Approx. **360% increase** of **Violation of Youth Development and Protection Ordinance** (213, opposed to 59 in same period a year ago).
- Crimes causing **serious danger to life** also **increased**. 15% increase in rape and 313% increase in blackmail.

# Child Crime Damages Resulting from “Dating Site” Use

		First Half of 2002	2001 First Half		Increase/ Decrease
<b>Serious Crimes</b>	<b>Murder</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-80.0 %</b>
	<b>Robbery</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>200.0 %</b>
	<b>Rape</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>15.0 %</b>
	<b>Kidnapping</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
	<b>Indecent Assault</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>57.1 %</b>
<b>Assault</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-50.0 %</b>
<b>Injury Infliction</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>120.0 %</b>
<b>Intimidation</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>62.5 %</b>
<b>Blackmail</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>312.5 %</b>
<b>Theft</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>-7.1 %</b>
<b>Fraud</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>62.5 %</b>
Violation of Child Prostitution and Child Pornography Law	<b>Child Prostitution</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>200.8 %</b>
	<b>Child Pornography</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Violation of Youth Development and Protection Ordinance</b>		<b>213</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>261.0 %</b>
<b>Others</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>73.3 %</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>793</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>162.6 %</b>

## Child Crime Damages Resulting from “Dating Site” Use

- Majority of Victims are Children
  - **86%** were **children**
  - **48.4%** were **high school females**
  - **25.0%** were **junior high females**

# Increase/Decrease in Number of Child and Female Victims

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>2000</b>	102	71 (69.6%)	96 (94.1%)
<b>2001</b>	757	584 (77.1%)	699 (92.3%)
<b>First Half</b>	283	211 (74.6%)	265 (93.6%)
<b>2002 First Half</b>	692	595 (86.0%)	647 (93.5%)

Note: Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage against total number of victims.



# Composition of Victims

	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
High School	335 (48.4%)	8 (1.2%)	343 (49.6%)
Junior High	173 (25.0%)	2 (0.3%)	175 (25.3%)
Total	508 (73.4%)	10 (1.4%)	518 (74.9%)

Note: Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage against 692, the total number of victims in the first half of 2002.

# Child Prostitution Cases Involving “Dating Sites”

- Majority of Cases Initiated by Female
  - **93.8%** (198 cases) of the 211 cases of which the solicitation method is known, were **initiated by female child**.
  - **6.2%** (13 cases) were **initiated by adult male**.

# Child Prostitution Cases Involving “Dating Sites”

- Majority of Solicitations are for “Enjo Kosai (Compensated Dating)” \*
  - 29.3% (62 cases) were offers for dating that includes sexual intercourse
  - 27.5% (58 cases) were offers for dates in exchange for money
  - 25.6% (54 cases) were offers that were posted on “Dating Sites”
  - Total of the above amounts to 82.4% (174 cases)

\* Also referred to as “Patronage Dating,” or “Schoolgirl Prostitution.”

# Child Prostitution Cases Involving “Dating Sites”

- Mail Friends Have Also Lead to Crime Cases
  - 17.6% (37 cases) of solicitations not classified as illegal (such as calls for mail friends) lead to crime cases



# Breakdown of Solicitations in Child Prostitution Cases

Sex	Type of Solicitation (Example Messages)	Number (%)	
<b>From Female (Child)</b>  <b>198 (93.8%)</b>	<b>General messages</b> (self-introductions, “I'm bored,” “Let's have fun”)	<b>34 (16.2%)</b>	
	<b>Solicitations for paid dating</b> “Send me a mail if you can meet me Sunday for 30,000 yen.” “I'm a teenager in high school. Let's get together if you're somebody who can give me pocket money. Send profile.”	<b>50 (23.7%)</b>	<b>Illegal Solicitation</b> <b>174 (82.4%)</b>
	<b>Solicitations for dating posted on Enjo Kosai Sites</b>	<b>54 (25.6%)</b>	
	<b>Solicitations for sexual intercourse</b> (Soliciting Enjo Kosai) “Buy my virginity. I'm an innocent 15-year old.” “I'm in the 2nd year of junior high. I'm interested in sex and I play with myself every day. If you're nice, teach me.” “I want to try real sex! I'm bored with playing with myself. Somebody with lots of money please make me feel good.”	<b>60 (28.4%)</b>	
<b>From Male (Adult)</b>  <b>13 (6.2%)</b>	<b>Solicitations for sexual intercourse</b> (Soliciting Enjo Kosai) “Will pay 50,000 yen maximum for Enjo Kosai.”	<b>2 (0.9%)</b>	
	<b>Solicitations for dating posted on Enjo Kosai Sites</b>	<b>0</b>	
	<b>Solicitations for paid dating</b> ”Awaiting messages from high school girls short in pocket money.”	<b>8 (3.8%)</b>	
	<b>General messages</b> (mail friends, “Let's meet,” “Contact me”)	<b>3 (1.4%)</b>	

# Damage from Use of Cellular Telephone “Dating Sites”

- Cellular Telephones Were Used in Majority of “Dating Site” Crime Cases
  - 95.6% (758 cases out of 793) involved the use of cellular telephones in the first half of 2002, growing from 56.7% in 2000.
  - In child prostitution cases, 97.5% (390 out of 400) involved the use of cellular telephones.

# Cellular Telephone Use in “Dating Sites” Crimes

	2000	2001	2002 (First Half)
“Dating Sites” Crimes	59/104 (56.7%)	714/888 (80.4%)	758/793 (95.6%)
Of the above, Child Prostitution Crimes	26/40 (65.0%)	311/379 (82.1%)	390/400 (97.5%)

- Figures are:  
Cellular telephone use / Total cases  
(percentage of cellular telephones use)



# Damage from Use of Cellular Telephone “Dating Sites”

- Majority of Child Crime Victims Used Cellular Telephones
  - **96.0%** (571 out of 595) of **“Dating Site” case child victims** in first half of 2002 used cellular telephones.
  - **97.0%** (357 out of 368) of **child prostitution case victims** used cellular telephones.



# Child Victims of “Dating Site” Crimes Using Cell Phones

	<b>“Dating Site” Crimes</b>	<b>Child Prostitution</b>
<b>Victims (Total)</b>	692	368
<b>Children</b>	595	368
<b>Involving Cell Phone</b>	571 (96.0%)	357 (97.0%)

# **“Dating Sites” Related Arrest Statistics of 2002**

# Number of Arrests Related to “Dating Sites”

- Statistics released by NPA on February 2003.
- Statistics show number of arrests based on reports to NPA as related to so-called “Dating Sites” including electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms.

	2000	2001	2002	Increase
<b>Violation of Child Prostitution and Child Pornography Law</b>	41	387	813	210 %
<b>Violation of Youth Development and Protection Ordinance</b>	20	221	435	200 %
<b>Serious Crime (Murder, Theft, Rape, etc.)</b>	15	73	100	140 %
<b>Violent Crime (Assault, Injury Infliction, Intimidation, Blackmail)</b>	7	66	128	190 %
<b>Others (Child Welfare Law Violation)</b>	21	141	255	180 %
<b>Total</b>	104	888	1,731	190 %

# Characteristics of Arrested Crimes Related to Dating Sites

- **190% increase** compared to the year before.
- **210% increase** to 813 cases (approx. 47% of total) in **violation of Child Prostitution and Child Pornography Law**, and **200% increase** to 435 cases (approx. 25% of total) in **violation of Youth Development and Protection Ordinance**. This amounts to approx. **72% of total cases**.
- Cases **involving cellular phones** were 59 (approx. 57% of total) in 2000, 714 (approx. 80%) in 2001, and 1672 (approx. 97%) in 2002 indicating **steady increase**.
- **84%** (1,273) of a total of 1,517 crime victims **were children** under age of 18.
- **Arrested juvenile suspect are also increasing** from 10 (approx. 11% of total) in 2000, to 110 (approx. 13%) in 2001, and 297 (approx. 20%) in 2002.



# **Supplement: Sample Crime Cases Related to Dating Sites**

# Supplement: Sample Cases

## ● Murder Case

- September: Miyagi Prefecture
- Unemployed male, 36, murdered a female high school student, 16, he met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones.

## ● Robbery and Sexual Assault Case

- August: Hyogo Prefecture
- A high school student, 18, and an university student, 19, after conspiring, sexually assaulted a female junior high school student, 15, they had met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones; while suppressing her resistance through blackmail, the pair robbed a purse and other items.

# Supplement: Sample Cases

## ● Abduction and Confinement Case

- January: Shizuoka Prefecture
- A driver, 29, who was refused dating by a female high school student, 17, he met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones, conspired with an unemployed male, 21, and forced the student into a car, and drove her to his house, where he illegally confined her.

## ● Injury Infliction Case

- April: Aichi Prefecture
- A male high school student, 17, got into an argument in his room with a female junior high school student, 14, he met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones and inflicted injury on her by beating her.



# Supplement: Sample Cases

## ● Blackmail Case

- August: Fukushima Prefecture
- A company employee, 41, demanded to a female high school student, 17, he had met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones that she meet with him again, saying that he would distribute photographs taken when the two had dated.

## ● Fraud Case

- December: Fukuoka Prefecture
- A cleaner, 22, told a female high school student, 17, he met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones that brand-name bags could be bought cheaply and fooled the student out of her money.



# Supplement: Sample Cases

- Violation of the Law on Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and Theft Case

- September: Saga Prefecture
- An unemployed male, 26, promised payment for and had sexual intercourse with 4 female high school students, etc., all aged 16, he had met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones, and stole their cash, handbag, etc

- Violation of the Law on Child Prostitution and Child Pornography Case

- September: Metropolitan Police Department
- Operator of a cram school, 42, promised payment for and had sexual intercourse with a female junior high school student, 13, he had met through a “Dating Site” for cellular telephones.

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Thank you.