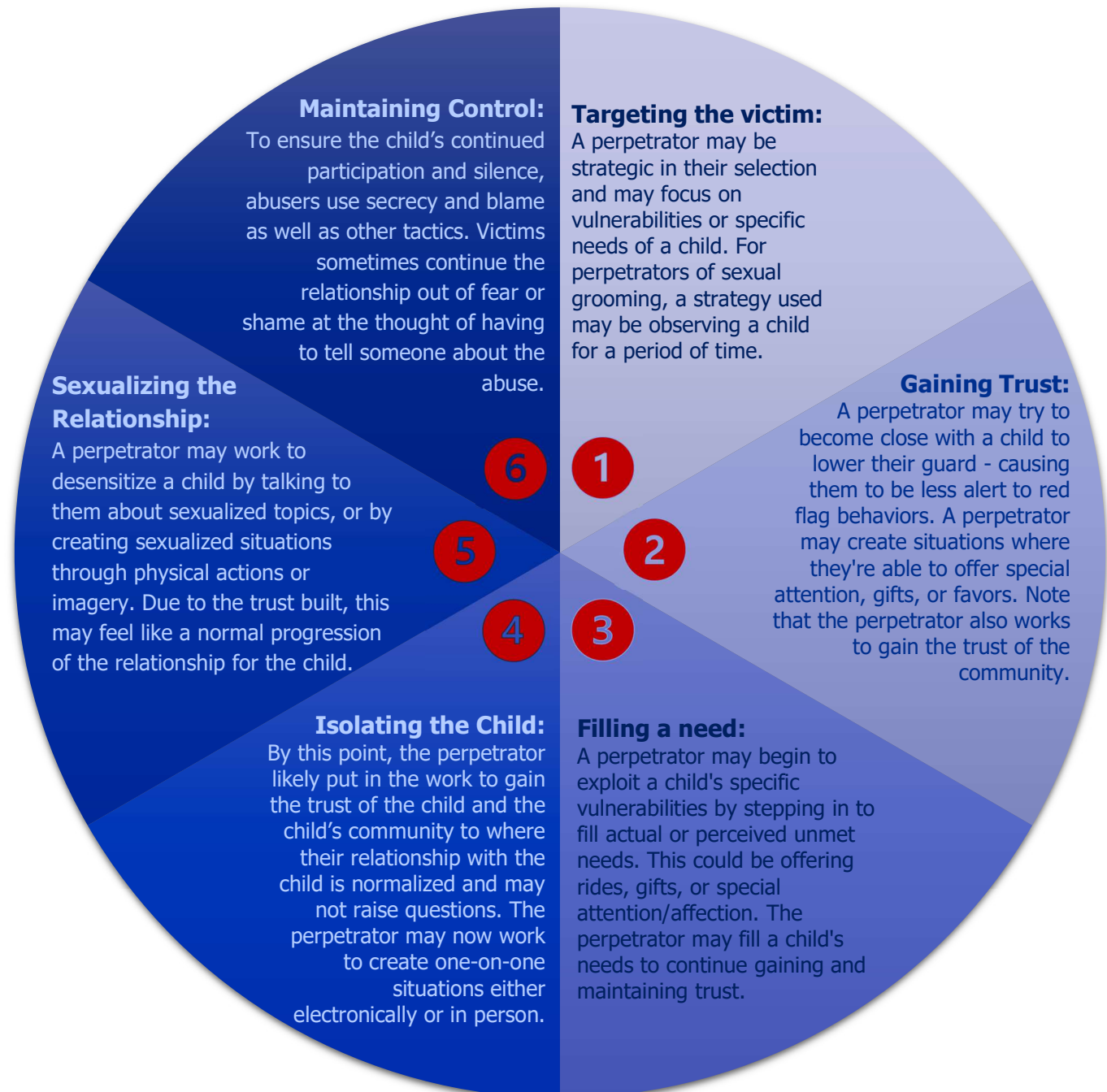


THE SIX STEPS OF GROOMING

Preventing Abuse Starts with Awareness

Understanding sexualized grooming helps adults recognize the subtle tactics an abuser may use to gain a child's trust and lower their defenses. Prevention starts with knowledge, and informed adults are key to stopping abuse before it begins.

While the grooming process may look different in each case and may not always be a linear process, it's still important to have knowledge of the most common stages of the process to be able to detect concerning behaviors. Below is a graphic that outlines the six primary steps of the grooming process.



If you or someone you know suspects child abuse or child sexual abuse, please report to your local law enforcement agency and the U.S. Center for SafeSport (<https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/>).