# CONTENTS

Acknowledgements

**PART I  THE THEORETICAL AND POLICY CONTEXT**

1  Conceptualising Children as ‘Risk’: An Introduction   3
   Defining Terms   5
   Public and Official Discourses on Sexual Offending Concerning Children   11
   Framing the Debates   17
   A Brief Note on the Primary Research   19
   Recurrent Themes   20
   Structure of the Book   23

2  Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse: A Contemporary History of Concerns   27
   The Early Emergence of Child Abuse: Intra-Familial Abuse   29
   Extrafamilial Abuse: The Predatory Stranger   36
   Institutional Child Abuse   40
   Online Grooming and Abuse   43
   Child Sexual Exploitation   48
   Conclusion   53

3  The Social and Political Construction of Sexual Offending Concerning Children   55
   Conceptualising Childhood   57
   Sex, Sexuality and the Sexualisation of Children and Young People   63
   Hierarchies of Blame: Sexual Offending and Victimisation Concerning Children   68
   Children at ‘Risk’ and the Relevance of Children’s Rights   74
   Conclusion   82

**PART II  CHILDREN AS ‘RISK’: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DISPLAY HARMFUL SEXUAL OR EXPLOITATIVE BEHAVIOUR**

4  The Emergence of Harmful Sexual Behaviour   87
   The Emergence of the Problem   88
   The Media and a ‘Culture of Sex’   91
## Table of Contents

1. **‘New Media’: Social Media, Mobile Phones and Changing Modes of Communication**
   - Changes in Dating and Courting Rituals: The ‘Third Hand Removal of Emotion’
   - Access to Pornography: ‘Two or Three Clicks Away’
   - ‘Corporate Paedophilia’: Video Games and Music Videos as ‘Pornography’
   - ‘Gang’ or ‘Partying Culture’
   - The Experiential Sexualisation of Children
   - Gender and Sexual Identity
   - Resilience
   - Normalisation and the ‘New Normal’
   - Conclusion

2. **Gender and Sexual Identity**

3. **Resilience**

4. **Normalisation and the ‘New Normal’**

5. **Peer-to-Peer Grooming: A Reappraisal**
   - Contextualising Peer-to-Peer Grooming
   - Similarities: Problems in Defining Scope and Pinpointing Intention
   - Differences: Proximity and Speed
   - Power and Control
   - Vulnerability
   - The Exploitation of Personal and Social Contexts
   - Trust and Normalisation
   - Entrapment
   - Conclusion

6. **The Nature and Scope of Peer-to-Peer Exploitation and Abuse: Towards a Typology of ‘Harm’**
   - The Nature and Extent of Peer Abuse
     - Age
     - Gender
     - The ‘Dark Figure’ of Peer-Based Abuse
   - A Taxonomy of Peer-to-Peer Abuse
   - Sibling Abuse
   - Peer-to-Peer Forms of Institutional Abuse
   - Peer-to-Peer Online Abuse: Sexting and Cyberbullying
   - Peer-Based Child Sexual Exploitation: ‘Line Ups’
   - Partying Culture: ‘Chemsex Parties’
   - Conclusion

7. **Legal and Societal Responses to ‘Risk’**
   - Legislative and Policy Responses
   - The (De)Criminalisation of Sexting
   - The ‘Confusion of Years’: Age-Based Anomalies Within Legislative Frameworks
   - Evidential and Practical Difficulties in Investigating and Prosecuting
   - HSB: Intention and Consent
   - System Tensions

© in this web service Cambridge University Press
www.cambridge.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Societal and Familial Responses to Risk</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Dimensions of HSB</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Familial Responses</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART III  FUTURE APPROACHES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8  Conclusion: Reimagining ‘Risk’</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving Beyond ‘Risk’</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency, Resilience and Citizenship</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridging the ‘Normalisation Gap’</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appendix: Research Methodology</strong></td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>