‘Suzanne Ost forcefully and convincingly argues that our concerns to protect children from sexual abuse as expressed through our remarkably intense legal and social responses to the phenomena of child pornography and sexual grooming are exaggerated, misguided, and narrow-minded and might in fact harm children... Those interested in how law... criminalizes child pornography and grooming will find a rich account of legal reasoning in this book. Ost’s keen eye for legal developments in this area in Canadian, American, and international jurisdictions adds a significant comparative element to her English study. This book is a timely, rational antidote to the sex panic urging people to remove the naked body of a child from art galleries, photo albums, and the beach.’

D Lacombe (2010) 44(2) *Law and Society Review* 407-409.

‘This book makes a decidedly valuable contribution to the literature and debates on sex offending against children and child protection on a number of important levels. It is the first British book to provide a balanced perspective by going beyond purely legalistic discourses in child pornography and sexual grooming and providing a detailed theoretical and critical account of the philosophical underpinnings of current legal and social responses to these problems. It provides a readable and accessible account about the dangers inherent in the current moral panic surrounding all forms of offending against children and the resulting ever expansive forms of criminalization of such behaviour. In this, perhaps the greatest strength and contribution of this book are its important message that, despite best intentions, the nature of current UK responses means that children are not being effectively protected from harm or exploitation.’

A-M McAlinden, (2010) 50 *British Journal of Criminology* 582-586.

‘Suzanne Ost... pushes her materials in new directions to argue that we should be less concerned with child sexual abuse and also consider the various other ways that children are exploited... Crucial in all of this is her contention that we need to abandon the dominant social construct of childhood vulnerability and, instead, empower children to let them explain how childhood should be understood and experienced.’

D Wilson, (2010) 49(2) *The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice* 199-200.

‘Unlike some writers, Ost actually uses and synthesises her cited materials, mixing them with her own survey of experienced police officers, plus analyses of North American practice. These are all integrated within her own, perhaps uniquely well-informed opinions… As readers proceed… through her consistently deep coverage… they may struggle to hold on to their preconceptions. In particular, she raises some uncomfortingly convincing arguments about the autonomous rights of older children…’

C Barton, (2009) *Fam Law* 1224.