



Tessa Cole, MSCJ
Director of Research

Tessa Cole serves as the Director of Research at Street Grace, bringing in years of expertise in cyber victimization and statistical analysis. Her main research applies to cyber victimization and the methods in which perpetrators utilize technology to victimize others, such as cyberbullying. Additionally, her research interests delve into the psychology and cognitive processes that increase the likelihood of cyber victimization.

Prior to this position, she taught criminal justice and criminology college courses as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Georgia State University. While in this position, she has conducted online experiments to examine the prevalence of cyber victimization and perpetrators modus operandi and published research related to these findings. While conducting the aforementioned research, Tessa served as a mentor to undergraduate students seeking job placement in the Georgia State University Pipeline Mentorship Program. She is currently a Crisis Hotline volunteer and the Twitter editor for the International Criminal Justice Review. Additionally, she worked as a correctional officer at the state and federal level in Tennessee.

Tessa received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Berry College and her master's in criminal justice from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Georgia State University (ABD). Her accolades include the Andrew Young Dean's Fellowship recipient for maintaining an outstanding academic performance, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Department of Social, Cultural and Justice Studies Outstanding Graduate Student in 2018, and the Berry College Inspirational Student-Athlete of the Year in 2016.

About Street Grace:

Street Grace is a faith-based organization that utilizes evidence-based demand reduction strategies to eradicate the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) through **prevention, protection, policy and pursuit.**

CSEC is sexual activity with a child in exchange for something of value given to the child or a third person.