



Cyber Summit

Safe Community Coalition
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Power Point Presentation – notes from presentation by Iris Beckwith, connectED4safety LLC

Key Areas of Concerns

- 1) Cyber-Safety
 - Social Networking
 - Online predators
 - Child pornography
 - Stalking
- 2) Cyber-Ethics
- 3) Cyber-Security
- 4) Internet Addiction
 - Games
 - Second life sites
 - Cell phones/text messaging

How are Kids Connected?

- Laptops
- Webcams
- Hotspots and Wi-Fi
- Cell Phones
- i pods
- Facebook, My Space
- Online gaming
- 2nd life sites (creating an avatar (animated character) and imaginary life)
- Online shopping (use of parent credit cards?)

Social Networking

- My Space (13 years minimum age requirement) & Facebook (14 years minimum age requirement)
- Gives teens access to peers, school and “community” information
- Advocacy- social & political
- Provides a way to “try on” other personalities

Cyber-Security: Social Networking Concerns

- Posting “tmi” (too much information)
- Posting personal information that can be easily accessed
- Posting private- only as safe as their “friends”

- Employers and college admissions
- “tagging” by others on their pages
- Digital dust is forever
- Cyberbullying, harassing, and stalking

Social Networking: What to teach children

- think before posting personal information or saying something about someone else
- keep passwords and pages private
- use music that is purchased legally
- don't agree to meet someone you meet online without talking to a parent
- think before taking or posting photos- who will see them?
- Check to see what friends are saying about them on message boards and pages
- Know where they are “tagged”

Social Networking: What Parents Can Do

- enforce age requirements on social network sites
- join sites as a member
- have ongoing discussions with your child and occasionally visit their sites with them
- use tools that are available such as: *Norton Family Resources, Symantec, Parent Care Download for MySpace, www.ikeepsafe.org*
- Talk about consequences for inappropriate postings and cyberbullying
- Remember that kids need parents to “parent”

Teens, Drugs and the Internet

- In June 2008 alone, nearly 1 million teens viewed online videos promoting alcohol and drug use (Nielsen online)
- Of the 1.2 million substance –related videos viewed by teens
 - 39% portrayed explicit use
 - 85% of videos had comments posted that promoted use
 - 35% of viewers were younger than 16
 (Center for Substance Abuse Research at the University of Maryland)

Cell Phone photos: Do they want to see it on the news?

- Michael Phelps photo

Cell Phones: “Sexting”

- Grades 7-12 over 26% do this
- Grades 4-6, 12% do it
- Sending provocative pictures by cell phones
- In some jurisdictions, kids are being charged under child pornography laws

YouTube: What are kids posting? Will it affect them in the future?

Cyber-Security: Online Predators

- 42% of 7th-9th graders spoke with at least one online stranger within the past year. (Survey of Internet and at-risk behaviors, RIT, 2008)
- 9% accepted an online invitation to meet someone in-person and 10% have asked someone online to meet them in person.

Online predators: Their playground

MySpace: 90,000 Registered Sex Offenders removed from the site (February 3, 2009)

What about the unregistered offenders?
Other networking sites are not removing as many

Child Pornography & the Internet

- There are approx. 500,000 registered sex offenders in the US alone (DOJ)
- Child pornography is one of fastest growing online businesses

Online Predators: What Parents Can Do

- Have age-appropriate, ongoing conversations with kids about their online activities
- Reserve the right to check “Friends” and “buddy lists”
- Talk to kids about using Skype or webcams
- Network with other parents
- Have age-appropriate rules and limitations
- Watch for changes in kids behaviors
- Report suspicious contacts to NCMEC: www.cybertipline.com or by calling 1-800-843-5678.

Cyber-ethics: Key Issues for Kids

- Cyberbullying
- Downloading & Uploading
- To Post or Not?
- Plagiarism, Hacking, Viruses, etc.
- Online Games

Online bullying, harassment & stalking

- when someone uses the internet or connected technology to post or send images, post photos or statements that are threatening, hurtful, intended to embarrass another person, or are stalking in nature

Consequences

- Anger, Depression, Revenge, Fear of going to school, decrease participation in extra-curricular activities, fear of personal safety, suicidal ideation, self-medicating- drugs and alcohol

What to teach our children

- talk to them about cyberbullying and how it feels to be bullied (develop empathy)
- talk about online posting- nothing is private
- you are a “safe” resource
- talk about consequences if they are a cyberbully
- talk about strategies if they see cyberbullying: block, don’t open or read; ignore- don’t respond; don’t add to the frenzy; tell someone- until they take action

Online Bullying and Harassment: What Parents Can Do

- Have ongoing conversations with your children
- Talk to teacher/principal/counselor
- Contact parents?
- Save the evidence
- Contact the bully’s isp- abuse@isp.com
- If you believe a crime has been committed, contact the police
- Support your child and keep lines of communication open
- Seek out resources online and offline

Cyber-ethics: Downloading music

- Know the law
- Recording Industry Assoc of America (RIAA): <http://76.74.24.142/F4781C3B-6344-DAD7-7E1D-918A7253E522.pdf>

Cyber-Security: Keeping your privacy safe

Secure Connections – Use secured financial sites- back-up files- update virus protections- back-up files – keep Password's private

Internet Addiction: Are they “too” connected?

- text during class, while walking, text more than talking
- break school rules about texting
- go on Facebook multiple times a day
- worry that they'll miss something if they aren't connected
- lines are blurred between their online and offline lives.

What can Parents Do

- set up age-appropriate time limits for internet and other digital activities
- know who they are playing with in online games
- set limits on text messages
- network with other parents
- encourage outside activities and make family time a priority
- limit use of technology in the bedroom
- watch for warning signs
- don't be afraid to parent