Cyber-Challenges: Policies, Planning and Prevention

Online Safety for Communities of Faith

Technology is not ALL bad

Internet and cell phones are amazing tools, but they can be misused by people.

Technology is not all bad

- More teens report positive personal outcomes than negative ones from interactions on social network sites: 78% report at least one good outcome.
- 65% of social media-using teens have had an experience on a social network site that made them feel good about themselves.
- 86% of online and cell phone-using teens say they have received general advice about how to use the internet responsibly and safely from their parents.

All statistics taken from Pew Internet Teens, Kindness and Cruelty on Social Networking Sites, November 2011.
2010 Kaiser Family Foundation Study

- Children between 8 and 10, on average, spent nearly eight hours a day using electronic media outside of school.
- Tremendous surge during 11-14 year old years
- 28% of youth say that they have time limit rules related to media
  “Children who live in homes that limit media opportunities spend less time with media. For example, kids whose parents don’t put a TV in their bedroom, don’t leave the TV on during meals or in the background when no one is watching, or do impose some type of media-related rules spend substantially less time with media than do children with more media-lenient parents.”


American Academy of Pediatrics

October 2013 Updated Suggestions For Parents:

- Parents can model effective “media diets” to help their children learn to be selective and healthy in what they consume. Take an active role in children’s media education by co-viewing programs with them and discussing values.
- Make a media use plan, including mealtime and bedtime curfews for media devices. Screens should be kept out of kids’ bedrooms.
  www.aap.org

Don’t Stop Talking to Parents.

Common characteristics of children at risk for online sexual solicitation

- Girls
- Older teens
- Troubled youth
- Frequent Internet users
- Chat room participants
- Children who communicate online with unknown people
- Teens struggling with sexual identity
What are offenders looking for?

1. Mentioning sex in any fashion online (in the profile, as a screen name, in a posting, via their email)
2. Neediness – “Neediness is very apparent when a child will do anything to keep talking to you. Also that they are always online shows a low sense of parental contact or interest in the child.”
3. The Screen Name – looking for young sounding SNs like Josie14

Research by L. Alvin Malesky, Jr., “Predatory Online Behavior: Modus Operandi of Convicted Sex Offenders in Identifying Potential Victims and Contacting Minors Over the Internet.” Journal of Child Sexual Abuse, Vol. 16 (2), 2007. This study surveyed male inmates at the Federal Bureau of Prison’s Sex Offender Treatment Program who perpetrated or attempted to perpetrate contact sex offenses against minors they communicated with via the internet.

Children as “Ideal” Victims

- Naturally curious
- Easily led by adults
- Need for attention/affection
- Need to defy parents/guardians
- Children as witnesses

- Child Molesters: A Behavioral Analysis
- For Professionals Investigating the Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Fifth Edition, 2010
- Kenneth V. Lanning
- Former Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- NCMEC/FBI

Who forms your net?
Faith Organizations
What are your rules for online communication adult/student?

- None
- "ministry related"
- Group pages only
- Keep a record
- CC Parents

Internet Safety Beginnings
Keep passwords private and change them frequently.
Remember: Junior High friendships may not last forever.
Building your Online Footprint

Social Networking Profiles

What to avoid:

• Open Profiles
• Hateful language
• Full birthday
• Schedule
• Applications can be risky!
• Address and phone numbers
• Incriminating or inappropriate photos

Why don’t children/teens disclose?

5% of youths who were solicited sexually indicated that they reported the incident to law enforcement, school authorities, their Internet service provider, or their parents (Wolak, J., Mitchell, K., & Finkelhor, D. (2006). Online victimization of youth: Five years later. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Bulletin - #07-06-025. Alexandria, VA).

Number One Lure

Victims in sex crimes committed by people they met through the Internet were primarily 13-15 year old girls (75%). Half of the Victims were described as being in love or having close bonds with the offender.

“Attention and Affection” Lure

Remember: Adults who really love you, love you no matter what.

Source: Crimes Against Children Research Center, University of New Hampshire. Information obtained from a National Law Enforcement Survey conducted between Oct 01 and July 02.
Watch for the Emotional Traps

• I will love you IF you send this to me...

• No one cares about you, but I do.

• You will get in just as much trouble.

It is NOT your fault.

Terry, 56. Scott, 31. Their victims (14 and 13) did get away safely.

Common Sense Media

11 Social Media Tools Parents Need to Know About Now

Twitter
Instagram
Snapchat
Tumblr
Google+
Vine
Wanelo
Kik Messenger

Ooovoo
Preed
Ask.fm

http://www.commonse
nsmedia.org/blog/11-sites-and-apps-kids-are-heading-to-after-facebook

How We Educate Must Change

• Listen and respond to your gut instinct
• Advocate for each other – report illegal online behavior
• Guard personal and EMOTIONAL information online
• Do not agree to meet people from online without parental consent AND involvement
• Identify adults (5) who can serve as mentors
Online Footprint

- Online behavior today can have impact for tomorrow. Don’t limit opportunities.
- Electronic communication is NOT anonymous.
- Save any questions about your body for your 5 adults in person.
- Once you click “Send” you can’t take it back. Be careful using the Internet when you are angry or upset.

Cyberbullying

“...the process of using the Internet, cell phones or other devices to send or post text or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person.”
- Natl. Crime Prevention Council

What is bullying? (Coloroso definition)

- Not about anger
- Not about conflict
- It’s about CONTEMPT
  - Sense of entitlement
  - Intolerance toward differences
  - Liberty to exclude
Bullying in Schools

Bullying in Schools: The Power of Bullies and the Plight of Victims
Annual Review of Psychology
Vol. 65: 159-185 (January 2014)
Jaana Juvonen and Sandra Graham
Analyzed more than 140 studies

"Band-Aid solutions, such as holding one assembly a year that discourages bullying, do not work," said Jaana Juvonen, a UCLA professor of psychology and lead author of the review. http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/schools-have-limited-success-in-reducing-bullying

Other Findings

• Most effective – Most comprehensive programs. They do require commitment and school resources to be successful.
• Verbal aggression and exclusion are bullying tactics not limited to one gender.
• GLBTQ students and students who are overweight tend to get bullied significantly more than other students.
  – Special Education students also high risk target
    • (S. Zeigler and M. Rosenstein-Manner)

• Children with social connections — even just one friend — are at less risk of suffering severe symptoms after being bullied. Schools could do a better job of preventing bullying by making sure students are not isolated (lunch).
• Bullies are considered the "cool" kids.
• Nearly three in four teenagers say they were bullied online at least once during a 12-month period.
Juvonen recommendations

“Look for “everyday teachable moments” throughout the day when a dialogue about discrimination, marginalization, or unequal rights... presents itself. Instead of awkwardly sitting down to “talk about bullying” with your children, Juvonen recommends using real-life examples in the moment to create a dialogue about what drives people to make someone else feel “less than” or treat them like a second class citizen.

For history and English teachers, Juvonen said that using historical examples and literature that illustrate violations of human rights is an effective way to weave anti-bullying messages into the conversation. Juvonen believes these examples resonate more deeply than a lecture solely about bullying taking place in an auditorium.”

http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-athletes-way/201404/what-tactics-motivate-bullies-stop-bullying

Dorothy Counts was one of 4 black students selected to integrate all white schools in Charlotte, North Carolina. On September 4, 1957, the 15 year-old had no idea of the hostile crowds that awaited her. She was harassed, vilified, and spit upon. Dot’s parents feared so much for her safety that they pulled her out after 4 days of enduring this abuse.

http://www.beyondblackwhite.com/dorothy-counts-brave-sense-duty

Cyber-Bullying

*Laugh at it & you’re part of it*

Bystanders can become perpetrators by forwarding on hurtful material.

21% of social media-using teens who have witnessed online cruelty say they have joined in.

(Pew Internet Study, Kindness/Cruelty, November 2011).
How does Cyberbullying differ from other forms of bullying?

- Targets don’t always know WHO is bullying them
- Potential to go viral
- Can be done from almost anywhere
- Goes on for a long time

“The people who bullied me when I was younger made my life a living hell. Because of them, I hated everything, including myself.” —Daniel, 18

Words Wound, by Patchin and Hinduja (2014)

Empathy

Empathy - the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

The word 'empathy' comes from Ancient Greek: ἐμπάθεια (empathia, “passion”) + πάθος (pathos, “feeling”)

- Empathy is about connection
- Bullying behavior is about disconnection

4 Antidotes

1. Strong sense of self
2. Being a friend
3. Having at least one good friend who is there for you
4. Being able to successfully get into a group and get out when it doesn’t serve you well.

“The Bully, The Bullied, and the Bystander.” by Barbara Coloroso
It’s our last year and we want to make a difference. At a young age, you don’t know the difference between playful teasing and bullying. Doing it over the color pink is just so stupid.”

—David Shepherd of Central Kings Rural High School

Moved to Act

Bystander into Witness
Sexting

“Sexting” means sending or receiving a text message that has sexual content, usually a picture of a nude, semi-nude, or erotic picture or video via cell phone.

Peer Pressure

One in 10 children ages 10 to 17 has used a cellphone to send or receive sexually suggestive images. 1 in 100 has sent images considered graphic enough to violate child pornography laws.

Where are they getting the idea?

• Adult sexting scandals
• Sexual Images
• How does one get attention in 2016?
Where are they getting the idea?

93% of boys and 62% of girls were exposed to online pornography during their adolescence. Boys were more likely than girls to see the images at an earlier age, see more of the extreme images (rape) and view pornography more often.

"If participants in this study are typical of young people, exposure to pornography on the Internet can be described as a normative experience."


New Resource for Parents

www.itstimewetalked.com.au

The aggression in mainstream pornography is overwhelmingly directed towards women.

• In 94% of cases, the aggressive acts were directed at female performers.

And viewers see more than sex, aggression and degradation. They also see the performers’ responses to these acts.

• In 95% of incidents, the aggression was met with either a neutral or pleasured response by the woman being aggressed.

Change comes from...

• Help youth navigate the culture
  
• Change the culture
  – Make Healthy Easier

Abercrombie's sexy undies 'snap'

No stranger to controversy, retailer is under fire again for controversial children's clothes.

May 28, 2002: 11:42 AM EDT

NEW YORK (CNN/Money) - Abercrombie & Fitch, the retailer that has been criticized for sexually and racially provocative catalogs and designs, is under fire again. Several consumer advocacy groups said they have sent e-mails to A&F to protest the chain’s latest offering of thong underwear in children’s sizes with the words “eye candy” and “wink wink,” printed on the front.
Unconditional Love?

Just say No?

Talk about the fact that “No” is a complete sentence.

Boundaries
Consent
Communication

Be aware, even if you didn’t say no – you can still get support.

Why avoid this behavior?

• Online footprint can open doors or close doors
• Grooming behavior – used against younger children
  • Respect
  • Other ideas?
Respect

“Respect yourself and others will respect you.” ~Confucius, (551 BC-479 BC)

Small choices can lead to big patterns.

Character NOT Reputation

Online Positives

Positives
• Easier to stay in touch
• Freedom of expression
• Groups of shared interest
• Reconnect with long-lost friends
• Raise awareness/causes
• School projects
• Share pictures
• Positive online footprint

The good, the bad and the ugly

The negative aspects of social networking:
• Difficult to determine intent: joking, sarcasm, etc.
• Tempting to share too much
• Security/safety
• On-line popularity contest
• Time wasted, procrastination
• Personal reputation
• Cyber-bullying
• Tagging
Examples of Characters with Character

• “What if…”

What If…

• You were chatting with someone online who wanted to talk about your sexual experiences?
• What would you do if you received a sexual image over your cell?
• How would you deal with a significant other who didn’t seem to understand or hear the word - No?
• Your own ideas…

Connect Safely Guide


“As with all social media, respecting ourselves and others makes us safer. Our posts and comments reflect on us and others in our photos and videos. Whether serious or silly, they become part of our public image. Respecting others in how media is shared, tagged and commented on reduces risk to self and others. While most kids are smart about this, it doesn’t hurt for parents to be sure kids aren’t posting provocative images or having inappropriate interactions with people they don’t know…”

Protect Your Online Footprint

• Protect your emotional and personal information.
• Guard Passwords.
• Step away from the computer when you feel upset.
• Would you feel comfortable seeing this picture or image on a billboard?
• The online footprint can open or close doors.

Small Choices – Big Patterns

“It’s our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”

—Professor Dumbledore
Written by J.K. Rowling

Books

Barbara Coloroso

Patchin and Hinduja

wordswound.org
Books

• Macavinta and Vander Pluym

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