

Your Safety & The Internet

A Presentation By
Lieutenant Robert Garofalo
West Windsor Police Department
Computer Forensic & Investigative Unit



Why are We Here

- ☀ Because many kids your age are not here
- ☀ They will never see this lecture



Non-Family Abduction

Date: 2/4/2004

Case #: N/A

Author ID: RH3311



Last Name: Brucia
First Name: Carlie
Age: 11
Gender: Female
Height: 5-0
Weight: 120 lbs
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blonde
Race: white
Date of birth: 3/16/1992
Date of last contact: 2/1/2004

DEAD

Both photos shown are of Carlie. She was abducted from Evie's carwash on February 1, 2004 around 6:16 pm. The abductor is described as a white male with dark brown hair, 20-40 years old, approximately 5-10 and 200 lbs. He was last seen wearing a dark colored uniform shirt with a name patch, dark colored pants, and white shoes. Carlie was last seen wearing blue jeans and a red "T" shirt. She was carrying a pink backpack. Any additional information can be obtained by viewing the National Center's website, www.ncmec.org

**N.C.M.E.C. 800-843-5678 / Sarasota County, Fla. Sheriff's
Department 941-861-5800
NJSP Missing Persons Unit 609-882-2000**



Rachael Neblett

Rachael was stalked online by an anonymous bully.

She died by suicide on October 9, 2006.



More students disciplined following girl's suicide

March 30, 2010 | By the CNN Wire Staff

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More students have been removed from a Massachusetts school in the investigation of the alleged bullying campaign against a 15-year-old girl who committed suicide, a school official said Tuesday.

Nine students at the school have been charged in what a prosecutor described Monday as a months-long campaign of bullying that led to the suicide in January of Phoebe Prince.

"We have taken disciplinary action with an additional small group of students and they have been removed from the high school," Christine Sweklo, assistant superintendent of South Hadley, Massachusetts, public schools said Tuesday in a news release. She did not provide details on the number of students, their identities or what involvement they might have had in events leading up to the suicide.



Phoebe Prince, 15, who had recently moved from Ireland, committed suicide in January in Massachusetts.





Ryan Patrick Halligan

1989-2003



The last day I spent with my son, I was getting ready for a business trip. ... I took him to school like I always did that Monday morning -- it was the routine; I would drive the kids to school -- and we had a typical parting: "Ryan, I love you. Have a great day." "Dad, I love you." And I said, "I'll see you when I get back on Thursday."

The night before, I had helped him study for a quiz, because, you know, his progress report did come that weekend. It was pretty bad, so we really buckled down Sunday. ... So that day ... I called home to find out how he was doing, to find out how he did on that quiz he studied for. But also in the back of my mind, I was still thinking about the conversation we had the week before. ...

We had a great conversation. We ended the call like we always did. I said, "Ryan, I love you." "Dad, I love you." "I'll call you again tomorrow from Rochester." That was the last time I talked to Ryan.



The next phone call was from my wife, 6:00 in the morning, just as I was waking up in this hotel room in Rochester. When the phone rang, I immediately thought, now she's taking the kids to school; she's probably having a hard time finding his backpack or something. I was never prepared for what I heard.

My wife was screaming and crying hysterically: "John, you need to come home. You need to come home. Our son is dead. Ryan killed himself."

Kelly will tell you I hung up on her. What happened on my end is I dropped the phone. At first I said, "What?" I was in total disbelief, and she kept repeating it, and I just -- I dropped the phone.

I was so traumatized. I was so in shock. I was hoping somebody would just wake me up at this point, thinking this has to be a nightmare; this can't be true. But as I stood there, the reality sunk in, and I realized I needed to get home. ...

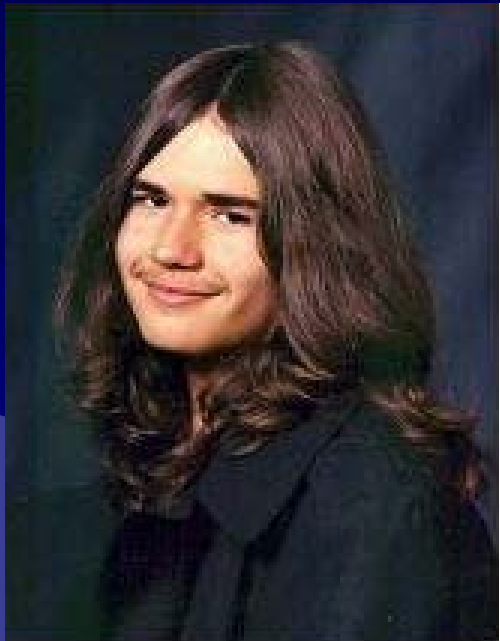




.....

And it didn't make any sense. I was so scared because I kept thinking back to that Oct. 1 conversation, thinking, "Oh my God, I messed up. I totally messed up. He really was serious. But this doesn't make sense. Why would he do this over a progress report?"





Jeffrey Johnston

Jeffrey's mother Debbie Johnston writes, *"With the keyboard as his weapon, the bully violated the sanctity of my home and murdered my child just as surely as if he had crawled through a broken window and choked the life from Jeff with his bare hands. It was not a death that was quick and merciful. It was carried out with lies, rumors and calculated cruelty portioned out day by day."*





His name was Josh Evans. He was 16 years old. And he was hot.

"Mom! Mom! Mom! Look at him!" Tina Meier recalls her daughter saying.

Josh had contacted Megan Meier through her MySpace page and wanted to be added as a friend. Yes, he's cute, Tina Meier told her daughter. "Do you know who he is?"



for six weeks Megan and Josh - under Tina's watchful eye - became acquainted in the virtual world of MySpace.



As for 13-year-old Megan, of Dardenne Prairie, this is how she expressed who she was:

M is for Modern

E is for Enthusiastic

G is for Goofy

A is for Alluring

N is for Neglected.

She loved swimming, boating, fishing, dogs, rap music and boys. But her life had not always been easy, her mother says.



She was heavy and for years had tried to lose weight. She had attention deficit disorder and battled depression. Back in third grade she had talked about suicide, Tina says, and ever since had seen a therapist.

But things were going exceptionally well. She had shed 20 pounds, getting down to 175. She was 5 foot 5½ inches tall.

She had just started eighth grade at a new school, Immaculate Conception, in Dardenne Prairie, where she was on the volleyball team. She had attended Fort Zumwalt public schools before that.



Amid all these positives, Tina says, her daughter decided to end a friendship with a girlfriend who lived down the street from them. The girls had spent much of seventh grade alternating between being friends and, the next day, not being friends, Tina says.

Part of the reason for Megan's rosy outlook was Josh, Tina says. After school, Megan would rush to the computer.

"Megan had a lifelong struggle with weight and self-esteem," Tina says. "And now she finally had a boy who she thought really thought she was pretty."



It did seem odd, Tina says, that Josh never asked for Megan's phone number. And when Megan asked for his, she says, Josh said he didn't have a cell and his mother did not yet have a landline.

And then on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2006, Megan received a puzzling and disturbing message from Josh. Tina recalls that it said: "I don't know if I want to be friends with you anymore because I've heard that you are not very nice to your friends."

Frantic, Megan shot back: "What are you talking about?"



SHADOWY CYBERSPACE

Tina Meier was wary of the cyber-world of MySpace and its 70 million users. People are not always who they say they are.

Tina knew firsthand. Megan and the girl down the block, the former friend, once had created a fake MySpace account, using the photo of a good-looking girl as a way to talk to boys online, Tina says. When Tina found out, she ended Megan's access.

MySpace has rules. A lot of them. There are nine pages of terms and conditions. The long list of prohibited content includes sexual material. And users must be at least 14.



"Are you joking?" Tina asks. "There are fifth-grade girls who have MySpace accounts."

As for sexual content, Tina says, most parents have no clue how much there is. And Megan wasn't 14 when she opened her account. To join, you are asked your age but there is no check. The accounts are free.

As Megan's 14th birthday approached, she pleaded for her mom to give her another chance on MySpace, and Tina relented.

She told Megan she would be all over this account, monitoring it. Megan didn't always make good choices because of her ADD, Tina says. And this time, Megan's page would be set to private and only Mom and Dad would have the password.



'GOD-AWFUL FEELING'

Monday, Oct. 16, 2006, was a rainy, bleak day. At school, Megan had handed out invitations to her upcoming birthday party and when she got home she asked her mother to log on to MySpace to see if Josh had responded.

Why did he suddenly think she was mean? Who had he been talking to?

Tina signed on. But she was in a hurry. She had to take her younger daughter, Allison, to the orthodontist.



Before Tina could get out the door it was clear Megan was upset. Josh still was sending troubling messages. And he apparently had shared some of Megan's messages with others.

Tina recalled telling Megan to sign off. "I will Mom," Megan said. "Let me finish up."

Tina was pressed for time. She had to go. But once at the orthodontist's office she called Megan: Did you sign off?

"No, Mom. They are all being so mean to me."

"You are not listening to me, Megan! Sign off, now!"

Fifteen minutes later, Megan called her mother. By now Megan was in tears.



"They are posting bulletins about me." A bulletin is like a survey. "Megan Meier is a slut. Megan Meier is fat."

Megan was sobbing hysterically. Tina was furious that she had not signed off.

Once Tina returned home she rushed into the basement where the computer was. Tina was shocked at the vulgar language her daughter was firing back at people.

"I am so aggravated at you for doing this!" she told Megan.



Megan ran from the computer and left, but not without first telling Tina, "You're supposed to be my mom! You're supposed to be on my side!"

On the stairway leading to her second-story bedroom, Megan ran into her father, Ron.

"I grabbed her as she tried to go by," Ron says. "She told me that some kids were saying horrible stuff about her and she didn't understand why. I told her it's OK. I told her that they obviously don't know her. And that it would be fine."

Megan went to her room and Ron went downstairs to the kitchen, where he and Tina talked about what had happened, the MySpace account, and made dinner.



Twenty minutes later, Tina suddenly froze in mid-sentence.

"I had this God-awful feeling and I ran up into her room and she had hung herself in the closet."

Megan Taylor Meier died the next day, three weeks before her 14th birthday.

Later that day, Ron opened his daughter's MySpace account and viewed what he believes to be the final message Megan saw - one the FBI would be unable to retrieve from the hard drive.

It was from Josh and, according to Ron's best recollection, it said, "Everybody in O'Fallon knows how you are. You are a bad person and everybody hates you. Have a shitty rest of your life. The world would be a better place without you."





Patrick Kohlmann

I am a thirteen year old boy at Udall Road Middle school in West Islip, NY. My name is Patrick Kohlmann and I am a victim of bullying. I am not afraid to stand up for what I believe in. I have been called many names and have been abused by my peers more times than I can remember.(examples are: being called a *gay fag*, being thrown into lockers, pushed down stairs, etc.)

I am tired of letting the bullies get away with what they are doing! I want this to end. It will not be easy and I realize this, but I would like to help others hoping that no one else will have to go through the torture that not only me, but thousands, maybe even millions have gone through.





CONNECTED, 24/7

A group of girls were fighting with one of their friends, Nicole. They created a "Rate Nicole" group on a social networking site. They posted embarrassing photos of Nicole from middle school and high school and invited their hundreds of "friends" to join the group to look at the photos, and tell Nicole how she stacked up. Cruel and crude comments were posted on the group's message board. One message said that some girls were planning to beat up Nicole. At school, Nicole got text messages on her cell phone saying, "Take a look at what everyone thinks of you."



CONNECTED, 24/7

Think About It

Sometimes you need to go online in order to do homework assignments. You want to have portable electronic devices for networking with your friends. But the more you are online or connected to cell networks, the more likely it is that you will be involved in harassing situations. You may not have posted a single comment—or maybe you did. You may not be the person getting abused or threatened. Yet it is very likely that you have witnessed it. Not everyone reacts the same way, but many teens say that when these kinds of bullying behaviors occur at any time of the day or night, both online and face to face, it can be very depressing.



CONNECTED, 24/7

Be CyberSmart![®]

- If you get online messages that seem threatening or vicious, print them out so you will have a record.
- If you know who is leaving the message, block that person.
- If the messages are upsetting or make you feel fearful, get help from a trusted adult.



ACCEPTABLE | SOCIAL | NETWORKING?

Ian made a plan to get back at Mike for telling some personal secrets about him. He created a fictional profile on a social networking site so he could carry on a fake online romance with Mike. The cyber romance went on for weeks. Mike was hooked by a person he thought was a student at a neighboring high school, a friend of his friends. At that point, Ian told all their friends about his trick on Mike. When asked why he did it, Ian said, "To teach him a lesson."



ACCEPTABLE SOCIAL NETWORKING?

Think About It

It's easy to try out new identities online, and many teens do it. Being online is all about expressing oneself with social networks, blogs, chat, messaging, and videos. But when self-expression is at the expense of another person, it's wrong. When does it cross the line from "just kidding" into *cyberbullying*? If the cruelty or threats are intentional and repeated, you're already there.



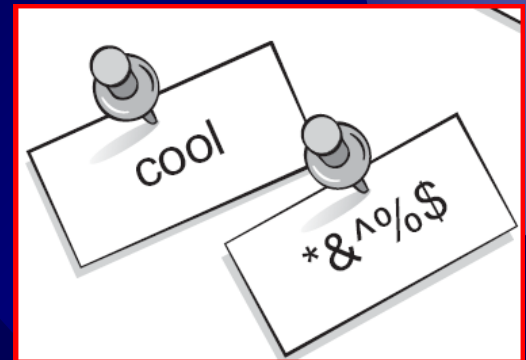
ACCEPTABLE SOCIAL NETWORKING?

Be CyberSmart!®

- Watch your words online. Before sending or posting, reread them to see if they can be misinterpreted.
- Use acronyms like *JK* (“just kidding”) to make sure others understand your intent.
- If you get angry, take the time to cool down and consider how to react before you click the Send button.



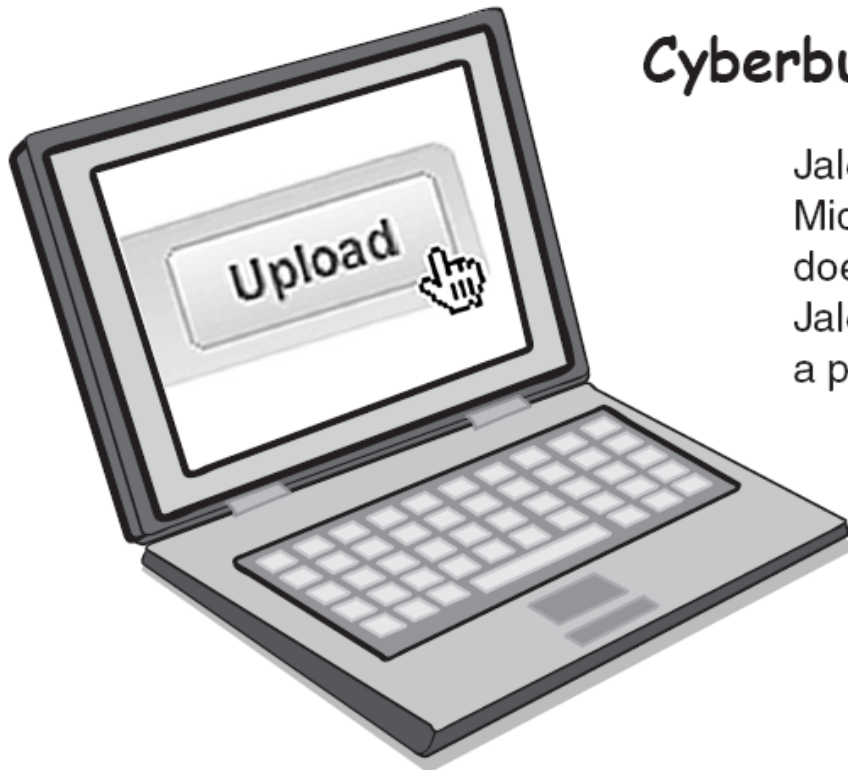
- In cyberspace, people can't see your facial expressions or hear your tone of voice.
- They have only two ways of judging what you're thinking.
- One way is by the words you choose.
- The other is by the manners you use.
- So, choose them wisely.



Online Bullies

- ★ Cyberspace has many positive experiences and can be a great resource for information and fun.
- ★ It is important to be able to handle any situation that may occur in cyberspace





Cyberbullying: Not a Pretty Picture

Jaleesa and Kim are friends at Jefferson Middle School. Kim tells Jaleesa that she doesn't want to hang out with her any more. Jaleesa is angry and upset. She uploads a photo of Kim from her cell phone that was taken at a slumber party two weeks earlier. Jaleesa sends the photo to everyone on her buddy list with a message attached: "Kim is such a ****."



Think About It One day you like someone. The next day you don't. Angry, you say something or post something online. It gets passed around quickly and easily. So now, everybody knows about it and everybody talks about it in school. While maybe you are mean only once, when you do it online your posting or message is repeated again and again as it gets passed around. Meanness multiplies.

When kids are intentionally and repeatedly mean to one another using cell phones or the Internet, it's called *cyberbullying*. Sometimes kids can handle cyberbullying and not get too upset. Other times, it can make kids feel angry, frustrated, sad, or afraid.



Cyberbullying: Who, Me? Why Should I Care?

Kevin sends his friend José a short video he made at home—a reenactment of a famous fantasy movie scene. José, laughing at how Kevin looks, shows it to some other boys at school. The boys laugh at Kevin too and decide to post it on a video-sharing Web site. Millions of people view Kevin's video. Nasty comments are posted. Every day, Kevin goes online to check and sees more comments like “idiot” and “fat nerd.” Every day, he goes to school and hears more cruel comments from his classmates.

Upload Video

You Tube

Dailymotion

metacafe

Y! VIDEO

REVERA

vimeo

veoh

blip.tv

To Multiple Sites



Cyberbullying: Who, Me? Why Should I Care?

What's the Problem? Imagine someone telling an embarrassing secret about you in front of a bunch of kids at school. Now imagine someone posting an embarrassing secret about you on the Internet.



Cyberbullying: Who, Me? Why Should I Care?

Think About It When kids intentionally embarrass another kid, that's just plain mean. Embarrassing or humiliating another kid using the Internet is *cyberbullying*. When José and the others posted the video online, they set up a cyberbullying situation. They made it easy for other kids in school, and kids all over the world, to join in with them and post hurtful words online—again and again.



Cyberbullying: Who, Me? Why Should I Care?

- Stop before you post photos and videos and think: Will it upset or harm another kid?

- Know when you are in over your head with a cyberbullying situation and ask a trusted adult for help.

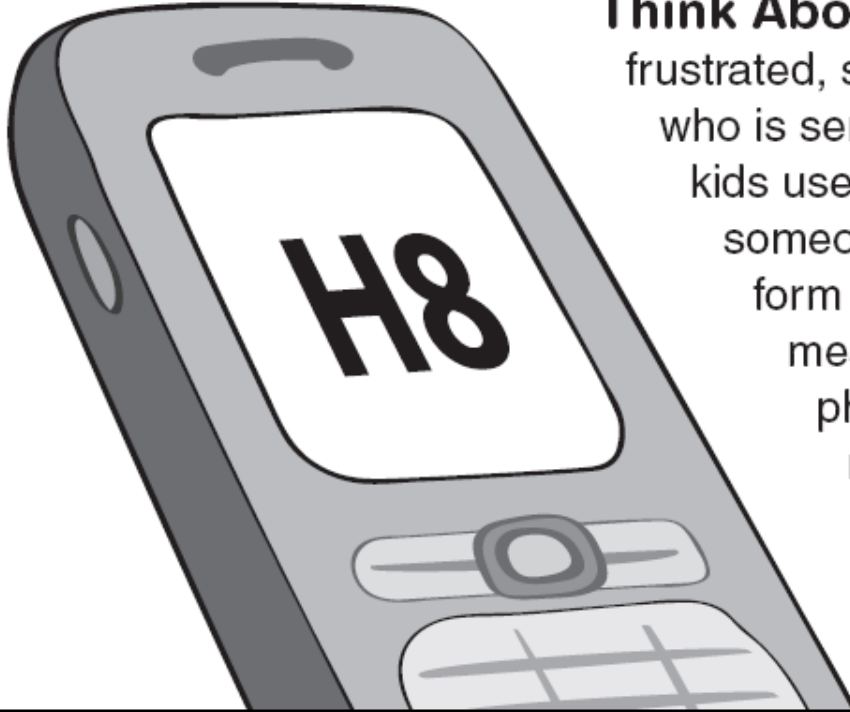


Cyberbullying: Crossing the Line

Eric gets a lot of pressure from his parents to do well in school. Other kids in school tease him because he tries so hard but still gets bad test scores. He gets instant messages and text messages during the day and at night. The word *loser* is in most of them. Eric thinks he knows who is behind the messages: Alexis, the most popular girl in the eighth grade. To get back at Alexis, Eric sends her this message: *I'm going to kill you for doing this. Your friends, too.*



Cyberbullying: Crossing the Line



Think About It *Cyberbullying* can make you feel angry, frustrated, sad, or fearful—especially when you don't know who is sending the harassing messages. Sometimes kids use language that says they want to hurt someone. When this kind of language comes in the form of an electronic message—an e-mail, instant message, or text message over computers or cell phones—it's hard to tell whether it is serious or not. No matter how a message is sent, words that say you intend to hurt someone are taken very seriously by schools, parents, and the police.



Cyberbullying: Crossing the Line

- Everyone has a right not to be cyberbullied.

- When cyberbullying includes threats, a line is crossed and should be reported to trusted adults immediately.

- Save copies of bullying IMs, e-mails, or other threatening electronic messages.

Take Action:

Brainstorm Reporting Tools

No one wants to feel like a rat, but sometimes it's important to tell trusted adults so they can help prevent cyberbullying situations from getting worse.



☀ Taking Action

☀ Feeling Uncomfortable

- Embarrassed
- Upset
- Depressed
- Afraid

☀ Recognize Bullies

- Bullies feel powerful when they bother others
- They use hurtful words or threaten
- The bully is often someone you know
- Easier to be nasty online

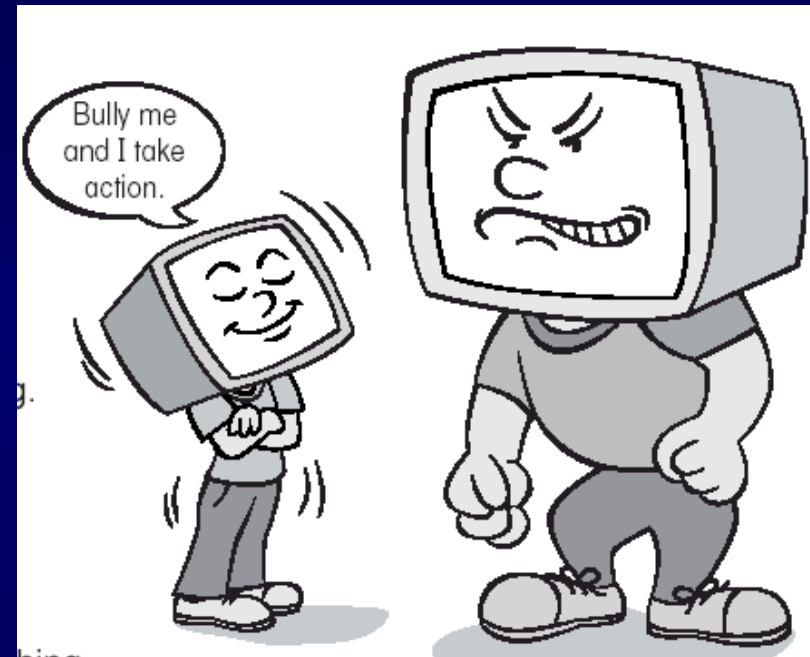


★ Taking Action

★ Do Not Tolerate It

★ What to do

- Sign Off
- Leave the chat room
- Block Messages
- Save & Print the e-mails or messages
- NEVER REPLY
- Talk over what to do with friends
- REPORT your experience to a parent, teacher or other trusted adult



★ Against School Rules

- ★ Disciplinary Action



★ Harassment

- ★ Police Action
- ★ Jail or Fines



Kid accused of MySpace threats faces expulsion

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) — A middle school student faces expulsion for allegedly posting graphic threats against a classmate on the popular MySpace.com Web site, and 20 of his classmates were suspended for viewing the posting, school officials said.

Poice are investigating the boy's comments about his classmate at TeWinkle Middle School as a possible hate crime, and the district is trying to expel him.

According to three parents of the suspended students, the invi-

tation to join the boy's MySpace group gave no indication of the alleged threat. They said the MySpace social group name's was "I hate (girl's name)" and included an expletive and an anti-Semitic reference.

A later message to group members directed them to a nondescript folder, which included a posting that allegedly asked: "Who here in the (group name) wants to take a shotgun and blast her in the head over a thousand times?"



Sexting

Definition: Sexting is the slang term for the use of a cell phone or other similar electronic device to distribute pictures or video of sexually explicit images. It can also refer to text messages of a sexually-charged nature.



Sexting

Florida teenager commits suicide after "sexting" related bullying



Sexting

Her teen committed suicide over 'sexting'

Cynthia Logan's daughter was taunted about photo she sent to boyfriend

18-year-old Jesse Logan took her own life after a nude picture of her was passed around by e-mail. TODAY's Matt Lauer talks to her mom, Cynthia Logan, and Internet safety expert Parry Aftab about the dangers of "sexting."



Sexting

Posting private identity information online puts teens at risk of unwanted invitations for sex.

True False

False. Contrary to media hype, the typical online child predator does not carefully piece together identity information to locate and abduct unwilling teens. More typically, teens who go off with adult predators go willingly after a period of online romantic and sexual talk. It's the *combination* of talking sexually to a stranger and providing private identity information that is risky.



Teens who post sexy photos online are more likely to receive sexual invitations from strangers.

True False

True. If you post sexually provocative photos of yourself online, you are probably going to get more contacts from strangers. And some of those contacts may be aggressive and scary. Some will be from adults and some will be from other teens.



Sending sexy photos of yourself or other teens over the Internet may result in these photos being passed around the Internet.

True False

True. Strangers who ask for sexual photos of teens may end up passing them along on the Internet, in violation of child pornography laws. These laws say that the possession, distribution, or production of sexual images of minors is a crime. There has been at least one case in which a boyfriend and girlfriend who e-mailed intimate photos of themselves back and forth were arrested for child pornography.



You might think it's just having fun to test out your power to be sexy online. You might also think about talking about sex to online acquaintances and posting sexy photos of yourself for strangers to see. But these are risky

behaviors. They can result in you receiving crude comments you aren't prepared for and don't want. Or it might feel romantic at the time. But going further and meeting face to face can harm you emotionally later.





Your Online Audiences

Deciding how to present yourself online is a bit more complicated. For one thing, you cannot always know who your audience is.

Social networking sites may feel as private as hanging out with your friends. In reality, they are vast public spaces where privacy settings may or may not provide the kind of privacy you expected.

Do you know that...

- The content you post on profiles and blogs sticks around the Internet forever—even after you decide to take it down.
- The information, photos, and videos you post about yourself can be found easily by searching, sometimes even if you thought you marked them private.
- The content you create—photos, drawings, videos, writing—can be copied by anyone and used for any purpose without your permission.
- Even if you use privacy controls offered by social networking sites, there are always invisible audiences, that is, audiences you didn't intend to see your stuff. Sometimes you might not care, but other times you might.



Who Else Controls Your Image?

It's not enough to think about how *you* present yourself. Your friends on social networks, video and photo sharing sites, and blogs may also share information about you. Check around. Are your friends posting photos of you and tagging them so that everyone knows what you are doing? Do your friends leave posts on your profile that reveal more about you than you want others to know?



FACEBOOK

YOU'RE DOING IT WRONG



Be CyberSmart!®

- Explore the privacy tools on the sites you use and decide how public or private your stuff should be.
- Consider your “invisible” audience when you post online. And remember that there is no guarantee of privacy online.
- Monitor what others are posting about you in comments, photos, videos, and blogs.
- Read the Privacy Policy or Terms of Service of any network you join. Understand what information about you is collected and how it is sold to and used by others.



Power and Responsibility

☀️ **The Power to Be Heard**

- One hundred years ago, letters took months to travel across the ocean.
- Today, anyone using the Internet can instantly reach others around the world.
- The Internet can be used to share knowledge that makes people's lives better.
- Unfortunately, its power can also be used to spread lies and hate.





Rights and Responsibilities

- ★ If you use the Internet, you're a citizen of a global community—a cyber citizen.
- ★ You're also a citizen of your country and a member of your school community.
- ★ Each form of citizenship has responsibilities.
- ★ Each has rules about how to behave in cyberspace.



This is for me
My friends today
and my friends tomorrow
i think being mean is wrong
i don't watch somebody get picked on
because i'm a dosomething person
not a do nothing person
and i care
can help change things
i can be a leader
in my world
there are no bullies allowed
bullying is bad
bullying bothers me
i know sticking up for someone
is the right thing to do
My name is Sydney
and i won't stand by
i will stand up

I miss u

PHEEBS :)

If someone ever bullies me
I'll say the bully pledge and think of u, MY ROLE MODEL.

Sydney :) :(Rest In Peace
My new BFF





Questions ??????????

★ Brought to you by:

★ The West Windsor Police Department

★ Chief Joseph M. Pica, Jr



Thank You!

