

Racing to Keep Up: Educating our children about the impact of technology in their lives

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DESCRIPTION:

While schools race to teach technological literacy and kids spend more time in front of a screen, a critical aspect of the technology is overlooked. For the most part, our students are growing up online. They are making and losing friends, expressing feelings, playing games, becoming victims, victimizing others, experiencing bullying and having fun. All in front of a screen, and often alone.

Marje Monroe and Doug Fodeman, Co-Directors of **ChildrenOnline** consulting team, will discuss how schools and teachers can approach the topic of Internet safety in a way that combines a thorough understanding of Internet technologies, child development and counseling. Unique in the field of Internet safety, they focus on the impact of technology on the social, emotional and language development of young people.

Both experienced educators with more than 55 combined years of experience working with kids, Doug and Marje have worked together for 11 years with students, parents and schools discussing the emotional health of children online, collecting research about behavior online, and publishing curriculum for schools and students.

Visit our website www.children-online.org for additional resources!

Strategies to offer Parents:

Be Brave, Be Outspoken.....“I’m not comfortable with...”

Begin conversations about technology early

Include values in conversations about life online

Remind parents to keep internet capability in a ‘public’ space at home and out of a child’s/teen’s bedroom until age 16

Discuss responsibilities of communication

Encourage parents to try to separate internet time from homework time

Tell parents that children/teens shouldn’t use IM or cell phone texting when they are emotional, upset or angry; they are very poor tools for resolving conflict

Encourage parents to set limits on their child’s use of IM such as turning off instant messaging during homework time or bedtime

Tell parents that IM is not recommended for children under Grade 6

Tell parents that cell phone texting is not recommended for children under Grade 9

Discuss possible dangers of relationships on internet, in chatrooms

Teach children to be media savvy;

Recommend that they learn from their child

Tell parents to encourage teens to have difficult conversations IN PERSON or via

telephone rather than using computer technology e.g. breaking up with a girl/boy friend

What to Say to Your Students

Be the same online as you are in person

Stay on your guard; be “skeptical” online

Communicate responsibly

Tell an adult when you are afraid or uncomfortable online

Protect your privacy; There is NO SUCH THING AS A PRIVATE PLACE ONLINE!

NEVER, EVER give out personal information, even in exchange for free gifts online

YOU are always in control! You can Exit, Quit, Shut Down, Turn Off or even pull the plug!

Be wary about downloading/installing ANYTHING off the internet. Most freeware contains adware and or spyware. Ask a parent for help!

NOTHING is private online; not IM messages, not social network accounts set to “private”; no even cell phone texting

Keep in Mind:

Children/teens will divulge anything online in exchange for a reward

Children/teens may not recognize or acknowledge harassment online

Teens, especially, will resist any and all strategies or education about life online...Do It Anyway!

Look beyond their words; sometimes their words don't match the real reason for their emotional hurt or anxiety

Children/teens may disregard common courtesy, respect, and family values when using telecommunications. There is a disconnect of varying degrees using telecommunications.

Resources for Surviving Social Networking and Instant Messaging:

How To Remove Your Child's MySpace Account [NBC News; 6/6/2006]

<http://www.nbc10.com/news/9330351/detail.html>

Making changes to the designs, layouts and settings of MySpace Accounts

<http://www.allgraphicdesign.com/graphics/myspacegraphics/myspacechangetutorials.php>

Six Question quiz for parents about MySpace privacy and conditions

http://content.gannettonline.com/gns/myspace/myspace_quiz.swf

MySpace invader

A police detective shows teens and their parents that they're not as safe on MySpace as they think [4/9/2006]

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/12242009/>

MySpace is used to hurt others: Police: Students Faked Teacher's MySpace Page [4/12/2006]

http://wcco.com/topstories/local_story_101204515.html

MySpace Marketing 101: How To Win Friends And Influence People [6/11/2006]

<http://socialham.com/category/news/>

Wise parents peek in kids' myspace [2/25/2006]

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/02/25/NEVIUS.TMP>

Teens' Bold Blogs Alarm Area Schools [1/17/2006]

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/16/AR2006011601489.html>

Blog Sites, Profile Sites, Diary Sites or Social-Networking Sites

<http://www.wiredsafety.org/internet101/blogs.html>

Teen Chat Acronym Decoder / IM Shorthand List

<http://www.teenchatdecoder.com/parental-lookup/teenchat-a.html>

<http://da.co.la.ca.us/pok/poklist.htm>

A mom writes: Teen solicited in MySpace

<http://www.netfamilynews.org/nl050826.html#1>

What Every Teen Should See Before Using a Social Networking Site

Think before you post!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iwBz-hxjSLU>

Everyone Knows Your Name

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N80nUa7rhYw>

1. False 'Friends' Prey On Social Networking Sites By Bob Keefe

Cox News Service; February 25, 2007

www.coxwashington.com/hp/content/reporters/stories/2007/02/25/BC_SOCIAL_SPAM_ADV25_COX.html

2. MySpace Phishing Scam Targets Music Fans By John Leyden, The Register; October 14 2006

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/10/14/myspace_phishing_scam/

3. Facebook 'ideal' for phishing attacks: researcher; CBC News; April 14, 2007

www.cbc.ca/technology/story/2007/04/13/tech-facebookphishing-20070413.html

4. Attack of the Facebook Snatchers by Nick Sullivan, Symantec.com; April 13, 2007

www.symantec.com/enterprise/security_response/weblog/2007/04/attack_of_the_facebook_snatche.html

5. MySpace Codes Bring Adware Payload; July 10, 2006 by Pete Cashmore

<http://mashable.com/2006/07/10/myspace-codes-bring-adware-payload/>

6. Fake YouTube Scam Hits 1,400 MySpace Pages; November 8, 2006 by Pete Cashmore

<http://mashable.com/2006/11/08/fake-youtube-scam-hits-1400-myspace-pages/>

7. FakeYourSpace: How Losers Become Popular; November 30, 2006 by Darnell Clayton

<http://www.blogherald.com/2006/11/30/fakeyourspace-how-losers-become-popular/>

8. Stalker Tracker Scam Targets MySpace; March 26, 2007 by Mary Landesman

<http://antivirus.about.com/b/a/257837.htm>

9. MySpace Accounts Compromised by Phishers; October 27, 2006

http://news.netcraft.com/archives/2006/10/27/myspace_accounts_compromised_by_phishers.html

10. "Phish-Hooked Thieves Find Easy Pickings on Social Sites" by Kim Hart, Washington; Post Staff Writer, July, 2006;

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/07/15/AR2006071500119.html>

Related Articles/Resources:

Online Gambling and Kids: A Bad Bet from the Federal Trade Commission

[Visit <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/alerts/olgamble.htm>]

Report: Net file-sharing exposes kids to porn posted at CNN.com, July 27, 2001

from Ted Barrett, CNN Capitol Hill Producer

[Visit www.cnn.com/2001/TECH/internet/07/27/internet.porn/index.html]

ARIADNE: Understanding MMORPG Addiction by Nicholas Yee

www.nickyee.com/hub/addiction/home.html

Media Awareness Network:

Resources and support for everyone interested in media and information literacy for young people. [www.media-awareness.ca/english/index.cfm]

American Library Association's list of resources for kids and parents:

www.ala.org/ala/oif/foryoungpeople/childrenparents/especiallychildren.htm

PEW internet/American Life Project 2005:

www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Teens_Tech_July2005web.pdf

**ONLINE SEX ABUSE CASES NOT CHARACTERIZED BY DECEPTION, ABDUCTION
AND FORCE**

www.apa.org/releases/online_sexabuse.html