ONLINE SAFETY

Karen Vande Vegte September 2023 CEBC



THE INTERNET...

WE NOW HAVE ACCESS TO THE WORLD... BUT NOW THE WORLD HAS ACCESS TO OUR CHILDREN



STATISTICS:

KIDS 8-12 IN THE US SPEND 4-6 HOURS PER DAY ON AVERAGE WATCHING OR USING SCREENS; TEENS UP TO 9 HOURS. - AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY 2020

1 IN 7 MINORS ARE ASKED FOR NUDES BY A STRANGER ONLINE DAILY OR WEEKLY

OVER 55% OF <u>TWEENS</u> (KIDS AGE 10–12) HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO VIOLENT CONTENT ON THE INTERNET, AND NEARLY 60% HAVE COME ACROSS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT WORDS OR IMAGES "<u>2018 CHILDREN</u> <u>AND TEEN CYBER FACT SHEET</u>,"

70% OF KIDS ENCOUNTER SEXUAL OR VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE WHILE DOING HOMEWORK RESEARCH

59% OF US TEENS HAVE BEEN CYBER BULLIED OR THREATENED ONLINE

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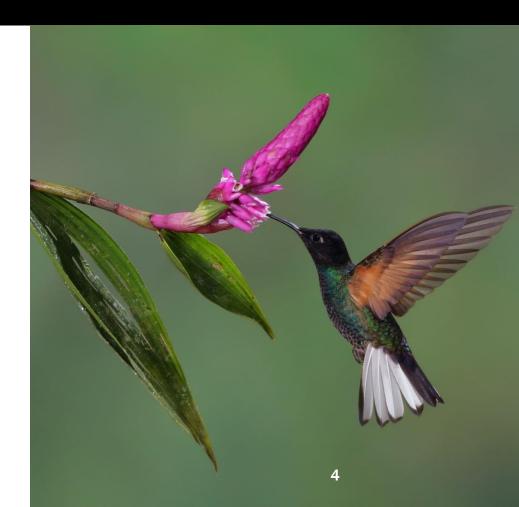
YOU ARE LOVABLE AND CAPABLE

For we are God's masterpiece.

- Ephesians 2:10

My self worth is not determined by others

Don't let someone who doesn't know your value tell you how much you are worth



WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

GENERAL ONLINE SAFETY

SOCIAL MEDIA SAVVY

CYBER BULLYING

SEXTORTION / SEXTING / PORN

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

QUESTIONS...



WHAT CAN PARENTS AND OTHER ADULTS DO?

- Keep open communication
- Provide boundaries, supervision
- Parental controls, filtering, blocking, limit online time
- Monitoring tools, check history
- No devices in bedroom, at night
- Be on kids social media accounts



GENERAL ONLINE SAFETY



- Protect your privacy
- Block persons, websites, use parental controls
- Have strong passwords
- NEVER share personal information (address, phone number, etc)
- Limit time online
- If it feels wrong it often is (you can never get the text or image back)
- NO sexting (could be breaking the law, ruin your reputation)
- NO porn (ruins relationships, perspective, addictive, many involved in it are victims)
- If it sounds too good to be true it probably is



SOCIAL MEDIA SAVVY

-MANAGE PRIVACY SETTINGS -DO NOT SHARE LOCATION (OR IDENTIFIERS) -STOP AND THINK BEFORE YOU POST! -BE FRIENDS WITH ONLY YOUR REAL FRIENDS

-FACEBOOK IS A TOP RECRUITMENT SITE

-THERE ARE MANY HACKERS AND LIARS! CHECK FOR FAKE ACCOUNTS

-TOO MUCH ONLINE TIME IMPAIRS SLEEP QUALITY, REDUCES EXERCISE, INCREASES STRESS AND DECREASES SOCIALIZATION

DON'T SHARE ANYTHING YOU WOULDN'T SHOW YOUR GRANDMA :-)



CYBER BULLYING

9/10 teens have seen someone get bullied online or experienced bullying themselves

Definition: when a person uses digital technology to deliberately and repeatedly harass, humiliate, embarrass, torment, threaten, pick on or intimidate another person.

This is NOT OK! Tell a trusted adult

SEXTORTION...



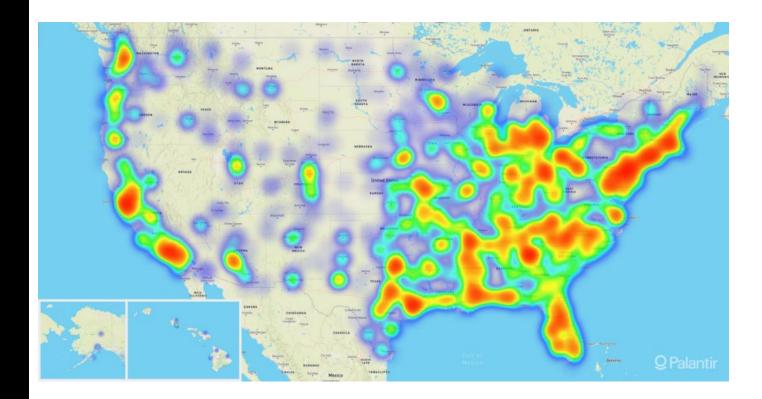
A form of blackmail in which someone threatens to reveal your sexual activities or photos or videos to others unless you provide them with money, sexual favors or other compensation. This is a CRIME

Manipulating a child to send inappropriate images, to do inappropriate things on camera or to eventually meet up with the predator.

This only stops when the child tells a trusted adult or if an adult, contacts the police and the predator is arrested.

<u>HUMAN</u> TRAFFICKING:

THE CRIME OF USING FORCE, FRAUD OR COERCION TO INDUCE ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL TO WORK OR SELL SEX



Locations of human trafficking situations in the US in 2020

DAVE YOST

This **control** is then used to treat people like **goods** or **commodities**,

GROOMING...



The process where an offender builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child or teen so they can manipulate, exploit and abuse them.

Grooming can look like making a good friend (over time). Some want to meet up and others keep it online but may force phone calls and pictures (sexting). The groomer often has a fake social media profile, perhaps specifically created to attract the victim.

Beware if they want to chat in private or in private online space

Predators often use "assistants" near the target's age to coax them in. This peer may be nice, rich, helpful, popular, attractive...

Do NOT share personal information with strangers, even what school you attend!₁₃

STATS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

\$150 billion industry globally

20-40 million people being held in slavery (labor or sex)

Average age of sex trafficking victim in the US is 11-14

Victims are generally recruited by someone they know (family member / caregiver 33%, intimate partner 28%, employer 22%)

2 million children are exploited in the global sex trade

CA has the highest amount of human trafficking cases in the US reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline

In 2021, 10,359 situations of human trafficking were reported to the US National Human Trafficking Hotline involving 16,554 individual victims. These are only a fraction of the actual problem

The internet is the top recruitment site.

RESOURCES...

Parents.thorn.org

Smartsocial.com

Commonsensemedia.org

Polarisproject.org

3sgf.org

Sextortionfilm.com/#resources

Protectnow.org

National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 Text BEFREE or HELP to 233733 help@humantraffickinghotline.org

National Center for Missing and Exploited CHildren CyberTipline.org 1-800-THE-LOST Takeitdown.ncmec.org

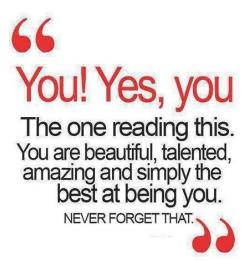
SUMMARY

TOGETHER WE CAN PRACTICE SAFE ONLINE ACTIVITY

WE CAN KEEP OUR EYES OPEN FOR THOSE WHO MAY BE INVOLVED IN RISKY BEHAVIORS

BE A SAFE PLACE FOR OTHERS TO SEEK HELP









QUESTIONS?

WITH GRATITUDE, KAREN VANDE VEGTE

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