

Cybersafety Week: Cyberbullying, Cyber Predators, & Sexting

Cyberbullying: bullying or harassment that happens in an email, text, online game or comments left on social networking sites.

Unhide. If you wouldn't say it to a person's face, don't say it online or text it.

Disengage. If someone's talking about you, don't respond—everything you say just fuels the fire. In this case, silence is golden.

Secure your stuff. Privacy settings are there for a reason. Use them.

Save everything. Save the messages, posts, comments, etc. so that you can back up requests for blocking or even a protective order (should it come to that and it can).

Use your voice. Tell a site administrator, parent, teacher, or other authority figure you trust it's happening, they can help!

Cyber Predators: use the Internet to hunt for victims to take advantage of in ANY way, including sexually, emotionally, psychologically or financially.

Don't doubt your instinct. If something texted, emailed, or IM'd to you feels wrong or threatening, tell the service provider, site admin, a friend, parent or teacher

Secure your info. Privacy settings are there for a reason. Use them.

Protect your identity. Don't post school or team names or photos with landmarks, license plate numbers, or your address. People online don't need to know where you live.

Stay home. Never arrange to meet in person with someone you met online. Ever.

Sexting: Sending or forwarding nude, sexually suggestive, or explicit pics on your cell or online.

Sexting Consequences:

- You get a **reputation**-because that "private" sext somehow escaped the phone it was sent to.
- You get **rejected** by the guy or girl you were hoping to seduce.
- You **forward** a sext and **humiliate** the person in the pic - contributing to their emotional distress.
- You get **arrested**. Taking, sending, and possessing naked images of a minor (even if it is of yourself!) is a federal crime. Sex offenders' registry? Not the honor roll you were hoping for.

REAL PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CYBERBULLYING, CYBER PREDATORS, AND SEXTING



Megan Meier

Committed suicide after being bullied on Myspace by her ex-friend's mother.



Kacie Rene Woody

Kidnapped and murdered by an online predator who posed as a teenage boy in a Christian chatroom.



Jessica Logan

Committed suicide after sexting nude photos of herself to her boyfriend who then sent them to everyone at school.