



Cyber Awareness '06

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It's 10:00 PM. Do You Know Where Your Children Are?



- Surfing the net
- Emailing
- Instant messaging (IM)
- Chatting (chat room)
- Gaming
- Cell phones/text messaging, Ipods, video Ipods
- Blogging (web logs)



Positive Online Experiences

- Opportunities for self-expression and creativity.
- Ease of Communication.
- Socializing: meeting new people (college for example), finding old friends and keeping in touch.
- Collaboration (sharing photos, music, opinions, feelings).



Risks Children Face Online

- Exposure to inappropriate material.
- Ramifications of revealing personal information.
- Harassment - cyber bullying.
- Problems caused by misrepresentation (age, etc.)
- Posting inappropriate pictures/content that end up being viewed by unintended audiences (college admissions officers, prospective employers, pedophiles).
- Postings can be saved and stored and used in the future! (<http://www.archive.org>).



What is a Blog?

A **blog (web log)** is an online journal published on a Web page. The owner of the blog “posts” their thoughts and visitors to the site can also post comments. The entries are displayed in a chronological order. The owner of the blog has the option of making their blog either public or private. Private blogs are viewable by “friends” only.



Online Social Networking

- [Facebook.Com](#)
- [Myspace.Com](#)
- Friendster.Com
- Xanga.Com
- Livejournal.Com
- Meetspot.Com



Safety Tips for Bloggers

- Avoid screen names, profiles and postings that reveal personal information that a stranger can use to find you.
- Consider making your profile private so so you can control who has the ability to view and post to your blog.



Act Responsibly

- Monitor postings to your blog regularly and delete any comments that are inappropriate, of a harassing nature, or hurtful to anyone.
- Think before you click! Never respond to harassing posts or messages. Simply delete them and remember you can block users from visiting your site.



Be Thoughtful

- Be very selective when choosing photographs to post on your site. Never post pictures that you would not want your parents, teachers, or future employers to see.
- Once you put anything on the Internet you never know who has taken a copy of it and stored it for future reference. Mistakes now can come back to haunt you when you least expect it!



Be Cautious

- Avoid meeting people you only know from online. People can easily misrepresent themselves in cyberspace. Never go alone to meet anyone and always arrange meetings in a public area.
- Visit <http://BlogSafety.com>
<http://SafeTeens.com>
or <http://SafeKids.com>
for more safety advice!



How Can Parents Safe Guard Children?

- Parents have to be the first line of defense! Don't rely solely on schools, law enforcement agencies or web sites to protect your children.
- Talk to your children. Ask them how they spend their time on the computer and go online with them. They can be great teachers!
- Learn whatever you need to be able to understand what your children are doing in cyberspace. They need your guidance.



Report Incidents

- Open lines of communication so your child will be comfortable telling you about inappropriate encounters online.
- Remember that the way you respond will be a factor in determining whether your child will talk to you in the future about problems of this nature.
- Report incidents to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's CyberTipline at 1-800-843-5678 or www.cybertipline.com



Monitor Computer Use

- Keep the computer in a central location.
- Set clear guidelines for acceptable use with your child, including time limits.
- Know the signs that can alert you to a possible problem: reclusive behavior, staying up late or waking up in the middle of the night and going online.



Know the Language

- **:0x** Shhh! It's a secret
- **P911** My parents are coming, watch your language
- **TA/SA** Teacher Sibling Alert
- **CTN** Can't Talk Now

Download the lingo from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children:

<http://www.missingkids.com/adCouncil/lingo.html>



Software Options

Software can never be a substitute
for an active parent.

- <http://contentwatch.com>
- <http://www.software4parents.com>





Technology Use at SIA

- Our students are educated about Internet safety beginning in Pre-K.
- All students adhere to an age appropriate Acceptable Computer Use Policy signed by parent and student.
- New lab layouts allow teachers to easily circulate labs and view monitor contents.
- Desktops and laptop usage is additionally monitored using Synchroneyes software.
- Our wireless campus network is secure so that only school computers with monitoring capabilities are used by students.



What Are the Responses to Parental Concern?

- MySpace is working with law enforcement agencies to improve the safety of their site.
- Yfly.com – a safer alternative
- Teenangels.com – peer mentoring

Safety Tips

Safety Tips **Tips for Parents**

[[Click Here](#) to remove your child's profile from MySpace]

My name is Parry Aftab. I am an Internet privacy and security lawyer . I founded and run the world's largest online safety and help group, [WiredSafety.org](#). You may have seen me on TV, read one of my books or heard about me in magazines or newspapers on Internet safety issues, especially those impacting kids. I get lots of e-mails and inquiries from parents about all types of Internet risks. Recently, I have been receiving a large number of inquiries from schools, parents, regulators and the media about social-networking websites. I decided that it was important to address parent concerns and answer their questions. Where better to do that than on the most popular of all social-networking sites, MySpace.com?

MySpace.com and other similar sites are designed to allow people to share their creativity, pictures, and information with others. Sometimes people do this to find romance. Sometimes they do it to find friends with similar interest. While this may be okay for adults, it is not okay for kids.

MySpace.com recognizes this, and prohibits anyone under 14 years of age from using their website. Unfortunately, while they may set rules to keep younger kids off the site, they can't prevent kids from lying about their age, pretending to be 14 years of age or older. To address this, MySpace.com has developed special software to review the profiles of their members, to try and find anyone under age, based on information the members post about themselves. It's not perfect, but it does help spot the underage members.


While MySpace.com is doing its best to keep your children from using their website and lying about their age, it's up to parents to do their job too. Parents need to talk with their children about not sharing personal information online. Personal information includes pictures, names and addresses, schools they

YFly.com Informational Site - About Us - Netscape

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help

http://info.yfly.com/ Search

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YFly was founded by entrepreneurs Drew Levin & Daniel Perkins, both 22, and actor/singer Nick Lachey, with the support of AJ Discala (Partner/Founder, Calico Capital Group), Tom Petters (Chairman & CEO, Petters Group Worldwide) & Parry Aftab (Executive Director, Wired Safety). Lachey connected with Levin and Perkins through mutual friends at a time when he was looking for ways to make a positive impact in the online world. With the desire to create a fresh alternative to traditional social networking sites, the founders launched YFly.com with a host of unique features, functionality and connectivity exclusively for teens ages 13–18.

YFly.com was created in the memory and continued legacy of John Thomas Petters.
(For more information on the John T. Petters Foundation please visit www.JohnTPettersFoundation.org)

Click below to view a Q & A session with Co-founder Nick Lachey

Done



http://www.teenangels.org/

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 **Join Us**
BE A PART OF TEENANGELS

Welcome



Teenangels is a group of 13-18 year-old volunteers that have been specially trained by the local law enforcement, and many other leading safety experts in all aspects of online safety, privacy, and security. After training for six sessions, the Teenangels run unique programs in schools to spread the word about responsible and safe surfing to other teens and younger kids, parents, and teachers. At the urging of our Teenangel volunteers, a special group of volunteers will be able to continue as Teenangels after they become 18 years old, & a new group of Tweenangels has been formed for those between 11 & 13 years of age.

Teenangels was founded in 1999 by leading cyberlawyer Parry Aftab, Executive Director of WiredSafety.org (the world's largest online safety and help organization and 501c-3 (corporation)). Parry personally trains most of the Teenangels! However, once our training videos (on which Parry and other safety experts will appear) are complete, we will be able to train teens even in places Parry can't get to! [[more..](#)]

News



Resources

- <http://blogsafety.com/> - Learn about the benefits of safe blogging and social networking.
- <http://www.children-online.org/> - A web site dedicated to understanding the lives and behaviors of children online.
- <http://www.common sense media.org/> - A source for family friendly media reviews.
- <http://www.cybertipline.com/> - handles leads from individuals reporting the sexual exploitation of children.
- http://disney.go.com/legal/internet_safety.html - Tips for new and advanced Web users on using the Internet wisely.
- <http://iSAFE.org> – Internet safety education.



Resources continued

- www.mediafamily.org – An initiative of the National Institute for Media and the Family.
- <http://www.missingkids.com/adCouncil/cpgn.html> - HDOP: Help delete online predators.
- <http://netsmartz.org/> - An interactive online resource developed by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA).
- <http://safekids.com/> - A family's guide to making the Internet and Technology fun, safe and productive.
- <http://safeteens.com/> - A place for parents and teens to learn how to use the Internet safely.
- <http://www.wiredsafety.org/> - An online safety and help group founded by Parry Aftab, an Internet privacy and security lawyer.