

Internet Safety Tips For Parents

- ☞ Educate yourself and the young people in your life about the Internet even if you don't have a computer at home. Your child or teen can access it at school, at a friend's house or at your public library.
- ☞ Talk to your children about potential online dangers. Ask them about their experiences online. Ask them what they would do if they were approached. Learn about online safety together by using a search engine and looking at different sites.
- ☞ Agree as a family to limits and age-appropriate boundaries around Internet use and around choices of what material is viewed, before Internet access is set up in your home.
- ☞ If you have a computer at home, place it in an open, central location so that your youth can have support close by should they need it.
- ☞ Chat room acquaintances and your children should never arrange to meet unless they take you, or another trusted responsible adult to the meeting.
- ☞ Contact the police immediately if your child or youth receives pornography, has been sexually solicited or has received sexually explicit messages or images.

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BC Crime Prevention Association
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SAFE ONLINE OUT-REACH SOCIETY



Helping Keep Youth Safe In Cyberspace

For More Information on the SOLOS Society
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The SOLOS Society draws its core values from the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child.

About SOLOS

SOLOS is a non-profit society incorporated under the B.C. Society's Act on September 5, 2002. SOLOS stands for Safe OnLine Outreach Society.

Our Mission is to help with the prevention of sexual exploitation of children on the Internet by promoting and implementing an educational response.

www.safeonlineoutreach.org

Our Services

- ☞ material targeted at youth, parents and youth-serving professionals in law enforcement, education, social services, and crisis response. We are collaborating with other concerned
- ☞ We deliver workshops that train police officers, teachers, social workers, and crisis response workers how to recognize and respond to sexual exploitation, and to assist children and youth affected by this issue. We offer specific curriculum and resource
- ☞ stakeholders about youth sexual exploitation and responsible internet use in Canadian society.

Sexual Exploitation Online

- ☞ Over 70 pedophile groups are active on the Internet, lobbying for their lifestyle of 'inter-generational love'
- ☞ Active recruitment of young girls and boys is happening in chat rooms and in instant messaging environments
- ☞ Pedophile groups are far more Internet savvy and technologically skilled than most youth, parents and professionals who work with youth.
- ☞ Considering that 25% of kids online participate in real time chat, and 13 million use instant messaging, the risks of children, either knowingly or unknowingly, interacting with a predator is alarming.



Facts & Figures

- ☞ 99% of surveyed youth have been online
- ☞ 78% have access to the Internet at home
- ☞ 43% use the Internet daily
- ☞ 68% are unsupervised by a parent
- ☞ 46% of youth have received unwanted sexual comments while online
- ☞ 15% of youth have met a 'cyberfriend' in person; only half took someone with them.

Source: "Young Canadians in a Wired World" 2001, Media Awareness Network



"Chat rooms have opened up our homes to virtual strangers who can pretend to be anyone, any age, and either sex. They can talk to children in complete secrecy. They can prey on a child as parents sit in the next room. They can entice a child to meet in person, where risk of sexual abuse becomes imminent. Pedophiles who used to be isolated can now find victims without leaving the security of their homes, at little expense and little risk of being caught."

Source: Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime