



Striving for a Community without Victims

A United Way Agency



INTERNET ONLINE TIPS FOR PARENTS

- ◆ Your computer “house rules” should be posted on or near the monitor. You can download a printable version at our website at www.sexualassaultresponsecenter.com.
- ◆ Research safeguard programs or options your internet service provider (ISP) might offer. These can include monitoring or filtering capabilities.
- ◆ Always read a website’s privacy policy before giving any personal information. Also, make sure that a website offers a secure connection before giving credit card information.
- ◆ Inform your children that you will periodically monitor their e-mail accounts and website history.
- ◆ Websites for children do not request personal information without a parent’s permission. Talk to children about what personal information is and why you should never give out online.
- ◆ Talk to children about never talking to anyone online that they don’t already personally know and never agree to meet someone in person without parent’s permission.
- ◆ Do not respond to offensive or dangerous E-mail, chat, and other communication. It’s called “flaming” and it’s against the law. Report it to local law enforcement.
- ◆ Keep the computer in the family room or another open area of your home.
- ◆ Get informed about computers, the Internet, chat rooms, internet logging (also known as “blogging”), and lingo used on the internet. An extensive list of internet definitions and lingo is at www.missingkids.com.
- ◆ Spend time with your children online and visit their favorite sites or chat rooms.
- ◆ Use child-friendly search engines when completing homework.
- ◆ If you suspect online “stalking” or sexual exploitation of a child, report it to your local law-enforcement agency. Also, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (also know as NCMEC) has a system for tracking and apprehending online predators and child pornographers. Leads forwarded to their site will be acknowledged and forwarded to the appropriate branch of law enforcement. To access this website, go to www.cybertipline.com.