



Internet Safety

What can you do to minimize the chances of an on-line exploiter victimizing your child?

- Communicate, and talk to your child about sexual victimization and potential on-line danger.
- Keep the computer in a common room in the house, not in your child's bedroom. It is much more difficult for a computer-sex offender to communicate with a child when the computer screen is visible to a parent or another member of the household.
- Spend time with your children on-line. Have them teach you about their favorite on-line destinations.
- Find out what computer safeguards are utilized by your child's school, the public library, and at the homes of your child's friends. These are all places, outside your normal supervision, where your child could encounter an on-line predator.
- Understand, even if your child was a willing participant in any form of sexual exploitation that he/she is not at fault and is the victim. The offender always bears the complete responsibility for his or her actions.
- Instruct your children:
 - *to never give out identifying information such as their name, home address, school name, or telephone number;
 - *to never download images from an unknown source, as there is a good chance there could be sexually explicit images;
 - *that whatever they are told on-line, may or may not be true;
 - *to never upload (post) pictures of themselves onto the Internet on-line service to people they do not personally know.

2NITE - Tonight	NAZ - Name, Address, Zip
ADR - Address	NALOPKT - Not A Lot Of People Know That
AEAP - As Early As Possible	OTP - On The Phone
ALAP - As Late As Possible	P911 - Parent Alert
ASL - Age/Sex/Location	PAL - Parents Are Listening
B4YKI - Before You Know It	PAW - Parents Are Watching
F2F - Face To Face	PIR - Parents In Room
HAK - Hugs And Kisses	POS - Parents Over Shoulder
KFY - Kiss For You	SorG - Straight or Gay
KPC - Keeping Parents Clueless	SMIM - Send Me An Instant Message
LMIRL - Let's Meet In Real Life	WUF - Where Are You From
MorF - Male or Female	WYRN - What's Your Real Name
MOOS - Member Of the Opposite Sex	

Acronyms and Other Internet Shorthand

Following is a selection of acronyms and internet shorthand parents and adults may want to be aware of. For more internet acronyms go to : www.netlingo.com.

www.getnetwise.org – provides an online safety guide, reviews the risk children face online, and tools for families to protect themselves from hackers and viruses

www.ncmec.org- various child/safety protection links sponsored by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

www.netnanny.com –Resources for parents: keeping children safe from the internet, protecting children from internet dangers

www.isafe.org
www.bsafe.com – (filter)