



SURF ONLINE SAFE

I N T E R N E T A W A R E N E S S

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PRESENTATION POINTS

INTRODUCTION

Western Australia Police – 20 Years : Technology Crime Investigation Unit – 2009 to 2014 : Surf Online Safe – 2012 to present.

SOCIAL NETWORKING - RISE IN USE

The number of current users on the Top 10 Apps, by age demographic compared to those in 2014.

Number of people on 1 or more of the Top 10 Social Networking Apps:

56% of children aged 9 to 10 - Compared to 17% in 2014

72% of children aged 11 to 12 - Compared to 27% in 2014

92% of children aged 13 to 17 - Compared to 67% in 2014

80% of Adults aged 18 to 30 – Compared to 68% in 2014

64% of Adults aged 31 to 55 - Compared to 33% in 2014

Discussion Points

- Where most users are falling down is the lack of risk assessment for the use of such networks.
- Many also do not realise the capabilities and “other” aspects of the Apps they are using.
- Juveniles are being targeted by network creators.

SHIFTING THE CULTURE

I discuss putting rules in place to help build a culture of appropriate use.

1. **Mobile Phone Contract**
2. **Social Media Contract**
3. **Set-up Guidelines**

Having a contract in place which outlines specific rules and permissions will help continue discussions and offer response and reward systems based on how the device is used. Such guidelines are a great way to push the onus of appropriate use to the child and build levels of trust.

THE TOP 4 MOST POPULAR APPS FOR TEENS DISPLAYED AND THE NUMBER OF UNIQUE VISITORS PER DAY IN AUSTRALIA.

Also displayed is the average number of WA students using each App.

1. **Snapchat**

42% (Primary) to 87% (Secondary) of students are using Snapchat.

Discussion Points

- A high percentage of juvenile users are accepting 'friend' requests from strangers - 'Randoms'.
- Users can display their location when posting or using the App on the 'SnapMap' section. As such, if not in private mode, others can identify the location of another user. Turning off the ability to be seen on the SnapMap is called 'Ghost Mode'.
- SnapChat is the primary app used by teens to send inappropriate images or bullying content.
- SnapChat is a primary app being used by scamming syndicate to target teens with crimes of sextortion.
- SnapChat has recently introduced parental control options via their "Family Centre".

2. **Instagram**

27% (Primary) to 64% (Secondary) of students are using Instagram.

Discussion Points

- The use of Instagram by Australian teens and pre-teens has dropped significantly over the past 2 years.
- Increased advertising and forced interactivity is a key factor.
- Children are being exposed to adult content in significant numbers because they have previously used older dates of birth to join the network when they were much younger. As such, when they reach the age of 14 or 15, the App thinks they are 19 or 20.

3. **TikTok** (formerly Musical.ly)

52% (Primary) to 78% (Secondary) of students are using TikTok.

Discussion Points

- Mainly being used by kids to post fun and interactive content, such as dance vids and commical content.
- Many predators will trawl the network to interact with young girls. These girls will have non-private accounts because most users hope to become 'TikTok Famous' by gaining massive followers, thus accepting contact from 'randoms'.
- TikTok is the only app which offers a dedicated Parental Control section and option.
- TikTok is the second highest rising app for teens in Australia.

PRESENTATION POINTS

Social Networking continued

4. Youtube

36% of students will have their own 'Channel', whereas 98% of students will visit or use Youtube daily or regularly without an account, just on an open visit.

Discussion Points

- How to monitor or block Youtube.
- Restricted Youtube channel options and Youtube Kidds.

NETWORKS WHICH ARE ON THE RISE AND THE NUMBER OF UNIQUE VISITORS PER DAY IN AUSTRALIA.

Also displayed is the average number of WA students using each App.

1. Discord

30% (Primary) to 45% (Secondary) of students are using Discord.

Discussion Points

- 90% of users are boys and they are mainly 'Gamers' using the App to interact with their peers whilst they are playing online games.
- Users create their own 'server' and share that link with their peers, inviting them to join the page where they can chat.
- Discord is not moderated, as such there is a massive amount of language and content which is inappropriate. This is not a factor though if a user is confined to their own 'page' and does not interact outside of that environment.
- We discuss the pros and cons of using Discord.

2. Telegram

Unknown% (Primary - Have not seen it yet) to 30% (Secondary) of students are using Telegram.

- Anonymous messaging network. Is being used by older kids to communicate privately amongst their peers. Similar to SnapChat in it's deletion capabilities. Telegram is also used by adults to buy and sell illegal content such as drugs and vapes etc.

Intimate Image Abuse & Sextortion

Omegle was a video chat service which a number of WA kids are using. Since Omegle has recently closed down, many other Cam to Cam video chat sites are being used by our teens to interact with randoms (strangers). These include Bazoocam and Chat Roulette.

With the onset of COVID19, a very large number of students are using such sites as a chat option with their mates. However, the site is not what many expect it to be.

Discussion Points

- Cam to Cam sites are used by a large number of people seeking sexual contact with other cam users.
- Bazoocam is one of the most popular sites being used by:
 1. Online predators – Most offenders are male, but there are many predators using their female partners to entice young males to take their clothes off on the camera.
 2. Scammers – Offenders can be male or female. Many are international and will entice adults and juveniles to engage in a sexual way on cam. They will record the interaction and then threaten to share it publicly unless money is paid or more content is provided.

The 6 Stages of Grooming

I discuss the main ways predators will approach children online and how they are infiltrating their lives.

1. Targeting a Victim - Ease of access and common interest is the main ways children are approached.
2. Gaining Trust - Flattery and offering regular attention and presenting with similar interests.
3. Fulfilling a need - They offer a listening ear as someone who cares and understands. Building trust and rapport.
4. Isolating a victim - Pushing toward secrecy and privacy, by drawing them away from their normal trusted support network.
5. Their ultimate goal - Emphasising the relationship and calling on the trust they have built : asking for nudes or sexual interaction.
6. Maintaining control - Demanding they keep things a secret, otherwise they are in big trouble.

Reporting Options

- Esafety Commission website - Civil reporting option and request for removal of content (Bullying and Intimate images).
www.esafety.gov.au
- CYBER website - Police reporting option for any criminal matters : Australian Crime Online Reporting Network
www.cyber.gov.au
- TAKE IT DOWN website - Assistance in removing intimate image and abuse content
www.ncmec.org

PRESENTATION POINTS

TIPS for Parents

We discuss software and hardware based control and monitoring options for families within the home or on childrens mobile devices outside of school.

RESTRICTIONS ON APPLE DEVICES

- Parental Controls and Time Restrictions option on IOS 12/13.
- Family Sharing options can be set up at home.

RESTRICTIONS ON GOOGLE DEVICES

- Parental Controls and Time Restrictions option on IOS 12/13.
- Family Link options can be set up at home.

GET TO KNOW HOW YOU CONNECT TO THE INTERNET

Parental Control options through the home internet connection and Modem.

The vast majority of all modern modems offer parental control options. A user will need to identify the "IP Address" of their modem and enter that into an internet browser address bar. Entering that address into the address bar will open your modem via a simple interface on your computer. The user will then be prompted to enter a username and password in order to access the modem settings. The password and username can be located on the base of the modem, or via the modem manufacturer website.

Once access is made, users can make alteration to control which devices can access the home internet via;

- Access Control
- Web Filtering
- Time Schedules

Further information on how to access your modem can be acquired via your modem manufacturer or supplier (Telco).

OTHER SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE OPTIONS

Parental Control options through the home internet connection and Modem.

- Qustodio
- Our Pact
- The Circle
- The Family Zone
- Family Time
- Bark

Beacon Cyber Safety App - Free app from the Telethon Kids Institute. A great resource for parents.

All statistics provided have been gathered by Paul Litherland. From 2014 to 2022 (inclusive), Paul has surveyed 18,000 students in Western Australia between the ages of 13 to 17 years.

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