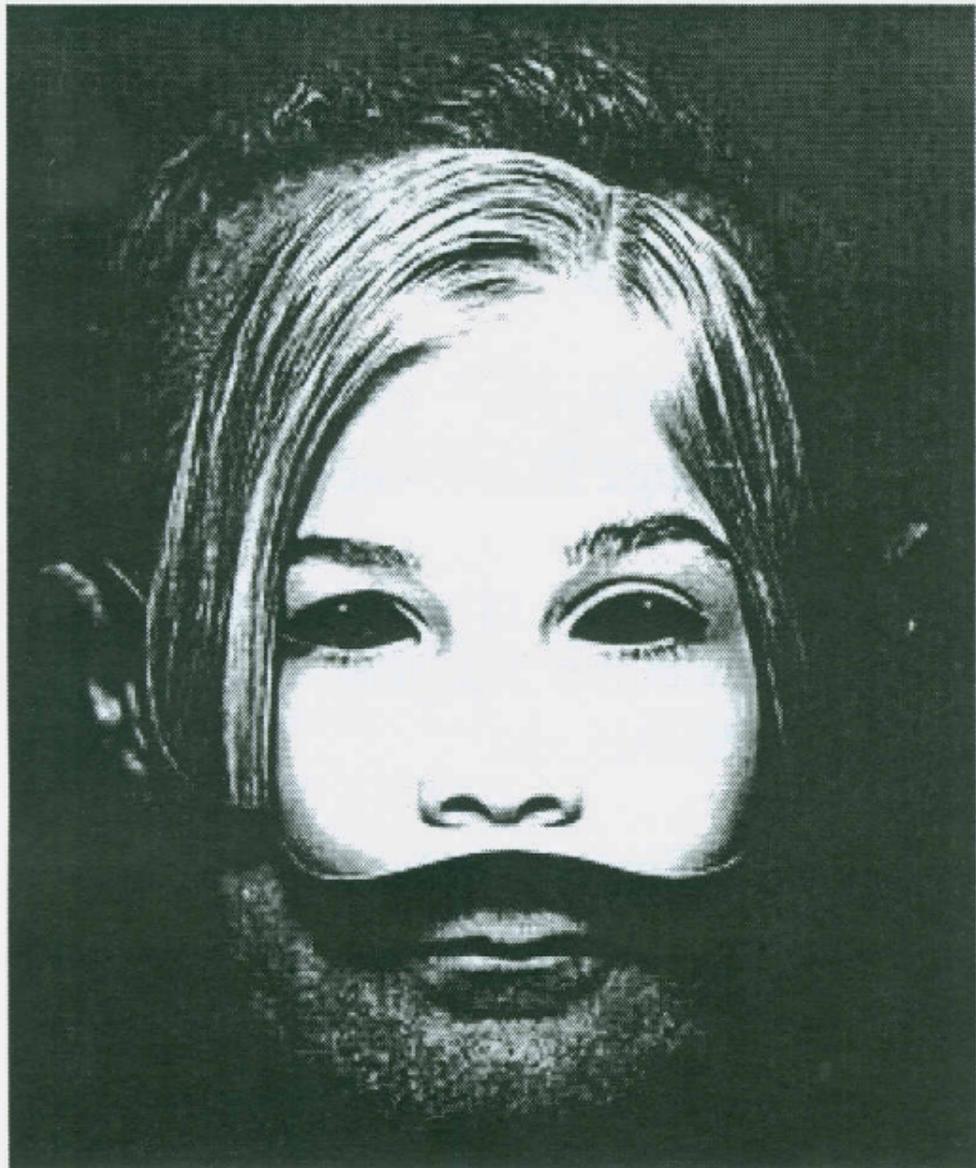


Internet Safety...



...for Children,
Adolescents, and
Teenagers

Risks

Children, adolescents and teenagers are becoming the largest group of Internet users in the U.S.

Risks Include:

1. Exposure to inappropriate material that is sexual, hateful or violent in nature.
2. Physical Danger- Predators may attempt to arrange face-to-face meetings.
3. Harassing, mean, or offensive material via e-mail, instant messaging, chat rooms, blogging, websites, etc.
4. Legal and Financial Danger- Predators may attempt to coerce drug use or other illegal activities, or obtain information such as social security numbers or parents' credit card numbers.
5. Sexual Solicitation- Sexual advances. This also includes attempts to meet in person to engage in sexual activity.





Myspace

Remember, predators use Myspace, too...to get to you.

Things to know:

- Because there is no membership verification requirement, anyone can be on Myspace, and pretending to be anyone else. That cute 15-year-old boy may not be cute, may not be 15, or even a boy!
- Myspace has privacy options for photos, blogs, and even entire pages, so only your approved friends can see. Take advantage of this option, but then make sure not to have friends on your page that you do not know.
- Never post any private information including first or last name, address, phone numbers, screen name, email address, school name, including photos. Predators can easily find you by searching with any provided information.

Ways to Stay Safe

1. **Never** give out your name (use a nickname), phone number, email address, Internet password, the school you attend, or any other personal information.
2. **Stay out** of adult chat rooms.
3. **Never** order anything online without parent or guardian's permission.
4. **Always** tell a parent or guardian if you feel you have been approached inappropriately or made to feel uncomfortable.
5. Never send your picture through e-mail or open an attachment without having a parent or guardian there with you.

Real Life Stories

-A 14-year-old, Judy Cajuste of Essex County was brutally murdered by a man she met online who claimed to be in his early 20's.

-A 14-year-old New Jersey girl was raped by a Virginia Beach man she chatted with online and agreed to meet while on vacation in Williamsburg, VA.

FOR MORE REAL LIFE
STORIES, GO TO:

<http://www.netsmartz.org/netteens.htm>

Statistics

“One minute you’re a carefree kid and the next, you’re a statistic...”

- 61% of 13- to 17-year-olds have a personal profile on a site such as MySpace, Friendster, or Xanga. Half have also posted pictures of themselves online.
- 71% reported receiving messages online from someone they don’t know.
- 45% have been asked for personal information by someone they don’t know.
- 30% have considered meeting someone that they’ve only talked to online.
- 14% have actually met a person face-to-face they they’ve only spoken to over the Internet.
- 37% of 13- to 17-year-olds said they are “not very concerned” or “not at all concerned” about someone using information they’ve posted online in ways they don’t want.

Statistics from-

<http://www.netsmartz.org/safety/statistics.htm>

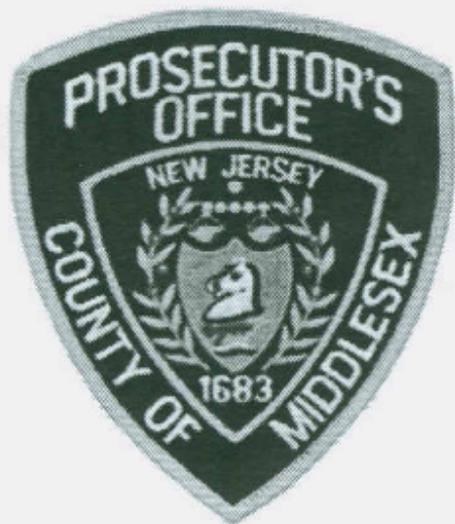
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