

Let's Be Safer Out There

i-SAFE AMERICA INC is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to educate and empower youth to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experience. We provide awareness and knowledge that enables students to recognize and avoid dangerous, destructive, inappropriate or unlawful online behavior and to respond appropriately.

i-SAFE AMERICA INC Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization designated as 501(c)(3) by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

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You Look Out
For Them in
the Real World...

For more information, to volunteer or to make a donation, please contact us at:

Address:

i-SAFE AMERICA INC
5963 La Place Court, Suite #104
Carlsbad, California 92008

Phone:

(760) 603-7911

Fax:

(760) 603-8382

Website:

<http://www.isafe.org>



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*Do You Know
What They're
Doing Online?*



i am the key to building a safer USA

Look Both Ways

How many times have you reminded your children to look both ways before crossing the street, or to not talk with strangers? Now that children and teens are spending more time than ever on the Internet, there's a new set of precautions to remind them about. Just as we've been teaching them about physical safety in the real world, we need to help them be safe in the online world.

Consider these facts:

- The Simon Wiesenthal Center identified some 3,000 websites that promote hate, violence and terrorism.
- 1 in 5 children under the age of 17 have been propositioned for sex online.**
- With an estimated 400,000 Adult websites, 1 in 4 children have been exposed to pornography involuntarily online.***
- Girls, older teens, troubled youth, frequent Internet users, chat room participants and those who communicate with strangers online are at the greatest risk.**
- Adolescent boys who are confused over their sexual orientation are at particularly high risk for contact from sexual predators.****

*BBC News.com, Battling Online Hate, August 30, 2001.
From the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Digital Hate Report.
**National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Guidelines for Programs to Reduce Child Victimization, copyright 1999.

***APBnews.com, Children Find Sex Online, June 9, 2000.

****Kenneth V. Lanning, Child Molesters: A Behavioral Analysis

i-SAFE Helps Kids and Teens Take Control

i-SAFE is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate and empower youth to take control of their Internet experience.

i-SAFE Empowers Students

Our goal is to educate every student in grades K-12 with curriculum that is designed to:

- Empower students to recognize techniques used by predators to deceive them.
- Empower students to refuse requests for personal information.
- Provide students with the tools they need to respond assertively.
- Encourage students to report suspicious or dangerous contact.

For grades K-8, the I-Safe Curriculum covers:

Living as a Net Citizen in the Cyber Community, Personal Safety as a Cyber Citizen in the 21st Century, Technology and the Computer Virus, Plagiarism & the Theft of Intellectual Property, and Law Enforcement and Internet Safety.

A series of web casts for grades 9-12 provide additional information on:

Privacy and the Internet, Cyber Relationships, and Social Issues.

For more information about i-SAFE, visit our website - www.isafe.org.

Practice Pro-active "Protecting" vs. "Policing"

- Learn as much as you can about the Internet.
- Practice pro-active protection by discussing the dangers inherent in using the Internet and empower your children to make wise decisions online.
- Rather than policing their online behavior, maintain open communication so your children feel comfortable talking about problems they encounter online. (Ninety percent of the time your son/daughter has done nothing wrong.)
- Treat chat rooms as if your child invited friends into his/her bedroom.

Predators "Groom" Their Victims by:

- Meeting them in chat rooms and progressing to Instant Messaging or email, telephone, and ultimately direct contact.
- Befriending victims, building their trust, and taking their side in arguments.
- Asking the child or teen to keep their "friendship" secret, sometimes threatening violence.
- Sending pornographic images to lower inhibitions, provide instruction, and arouse victims.

Your Child May Be Being "Groomed" by a Predator if he/she:

- Spends excessive time on the Internet, especially late at night.
- Is secretive about cyber friends or how they spend their time on the Internet.
- Withdraws from the rest of the family.
- Exhibits a change in attitude, seems depressed, or unresponsive.