

Sexting

- ❖ Its Illegal- Don't take or send nude or sexually suggestive photos of yourself or anyone else. If you do, even if they're of you or you pass along someone else's- you could be charged with producing and distributing child pornography. If you keep them on your phone or computer you could be charged with possession. If they do to someone in another state, it a federal felony.
- ❖ Non-legal consequences- Emotional and reputation damage that can come from having intimate photos of yourself go to a friend who may send it to everyone he/she knows. Not only can they be sent around; they can be distributed and archived online for people to search forever.
- ❖ Not just on phones- Email and the Web as well. Teens have been convicted for child porn distribution for emailing sexually explicit photos to each other.
- ❖ Many causes- in some cases, teens are responding to peer pressure in a form of cyber bullying or pressure from a boyfriend/girlfriend. Some times it's impulsive behavior, flirting, or even blackmail. It is always a bad idea.

What to do if you receive a sext?

- ❖ Do NOT send it to anyone else.
- ❖ Talk to a parent or trusted adult. Tell them the whole story so they know how to support you. Don't freak out if the adult needs to get others adults involved.
- ❖ An adult will need to speak to the person who is sending the sext.
- ❖ If they continue sexting you, school authorities or law enforcement may need to be involved.