

INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR KID'S PHONES,
GAMING, SOCIAL MEDIA, PREDATORY BEHAVIOR, AND
NIHILISTIC GROUPS

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TODAY'S FOCUS

Social Media / Gaming

Predatory Behavior and Nihilistic groups

Sextortion

Phone Security settings

FOCUS































- Most of this information is common sense. The main goal today is to provide awareness and assist you with speaking with your kids about dangers presented online and with social media.

**SO WHAT DO YOUR KIDS
DO ONLINE?**



The Most Downloaded Apps • March 2025

Worldwide

iOS App Store				Google Play				Combined Total			
1		ChatGPT OpenAI	13M	1		Instagram* Instagram	41M	1		ChatGPT OpenAI	46M
2		Threads Instagram, Inc.	10M	2		TikTok* TikTok Pte. Ltd.	37M	2		Instagram Instagram, Inc.	46M
3		CapCut* Bytedance Pte. Ltd	9M	3		ChatGPT OpenAI	33M	3		TikTok TikTok Ltd.	45M
4		Temu Temu	8M	4		Facebook* Meta Platforms, Inc.	32M	4		Facebook Meta Platforms, Inc.	36M
5		Google Maps Google	8M	5		WhatsApp WhatsApp LLC	30M	5		WhatsApp WhatsApp Inc.	35M
6		TikTok* TikTok Ltd.	8M	6		Temu Temu	24M	6		Temu Temu	32M
7		Google Google	8M	7		Snapchat Snap Inc	20M	7		CapCut Bytedance Pte. Ltd	27M
8		Google Chrome Google	6M	8		Telegram Telegram FZ-LLC	20M	8		Telegram Messeng— Telegram FZ-LLC	25M
9		Telegram Telegram FZ-LLC	6M	9		CapCut Bytedance Pte. Ltd.	18M	9		Snapchat Snap Inc	23M
10		Gmail Google	5M	10		WhatsApp Business WhatsApp LLC	17M	10		Threads Instagram, Inc.	23M

* Includes downloads of lite and regional versions where applicable.



BENEFITS OF THE INTERNET

- Instant access to endless information
- Building Relationships (real & fake)
- Sharing experiences through photos, videos, & Text
- Increased Visibility & Recognition (Likes)
- Education
- Promote a sense of belonging
- Form Identities (real or fake)
- Ability to connect with people all over the world

DANGERS OF THE INTERNET

- Sending or Posting mean, offensive, threatening, material
- Cyberbullying
- Child Predators
- Sextortion
- Inappropriate sexual content especially on Twitter / X
- Nihilistic groups such as 764: *Nihilistic*: rejecting all religious and moral principals in the belief that life is meaningless.
- Lack of personal communication skills & interaction with “Real People”
- Sending inappropriate photos or videos
- Digital footprint that can impact our kids future opportunities

**OUR KIDS ARE
EXTREMELY
VULNERABLE**

They are naive to the real world and make rash decisions (suicide)

They do not think that anyone would harm them

Many are lacking proper guidance at home

Many are desperate for friendships (real or imaginary)

They don't realize the harm they can cause others

WHAT APPS ARE THE MOST DANGEROUS?

- Apps that allow users to do the following
 - Send photos that *disappear*
 - Send *anonymous* messages
 - Participate in *private* chat rooms
 - Show their *location*
 - Expose kids to explicit content
 - Online Gambling



***WHAT
APPS ARE
KIDS
USING TO
DO
THESE
THINGS?***

- **Snapchat**
- **Instagram**
- **Discord**
- **Tik Tok**
- **What's APP**
- **Roblox**
- **Twitter or X**
- **Any game with chat capabilities ex. Fortnite / Roblox**
- **Do your kids have a YouTube Channel?**

- The internet has made the world extremely small. It takes very little effort on the part of bad actors (pedophiles, scammers, hackers) to gain information about their victims. (how much personal info is online)

This allows predators to target potential victims from anywhere they have internet access.

- Be aware of the current trends so you can better protect your kids from online predators.
- The internet and online predators evolve rapidly; it is extremely difficult to keep up. Law enforcement is always playing catchup with trends.

10 TIPS TO PROTECT KIDS FROM ONLINE PREDATORS

Have	Have an open conversation about online predators
Teach	Teach your child to limit the personal info they share
Set up	Set up ground rules to never meet in person
Educate	Educate your child on common predator tactics (Grooming)
Establish	Establish a judgment-free zone: have open and honest conversations.

10 TIPS TO PROTECT KIDS FROM ONLINE PREDATORS CONT.

Watch out	Watch out for warning signs (being secretive, secluding themselves, online time increased)
Be	Be aware of the games, apps, and websites your child is using (parental controls)
Encourage	Encourage them to report unwelcome behavior immediately
Help	Help them with privacy settings
Use	Use a parental control tool like Bark

SNAPCHAT

- Snapchat popularized disappearing messages / photos
 - Messages and photos can easily be saved as a screen shot or a photo can be taken with another device.
 - This information never really disappears from the internet and can be recovered.
 - Snapchat's GPS function the "Snapmap" is widely used by kids showing their phones exact location.



INSTAGRAM

- Popular with adults and teens for sharing photos, videos, and now Reels.
- Even with age restrictions in place, kids are still able to search explicit content.
- Many kids accounts are not set to ***private***.
 - This allows anyone to access their posts to gather information
 - Where they go to school
 - Where they live
 - Who their friends and families are
- Check your account settings.





DISCORD

- Very popular hangout for teens talk about gaming or any other topic
- features chatrooms, direct messaging, voice chat, and video calls
- Users can join different “servers” and within each server are different “channels” similar to chat rooms.
- Discord consistently in the top five platforms for bullying, suicidal ideation, body image etc.

TWITTER OR X

- Has become a go to for kids to access Porn
- Twitter is not usually associated with porn or explicit content, so it is not questioned, however Twitter or X has become so expansive that you can find anything on it today.



ROBLOX

- Roblox is an open-world video game that's wildly popular with kids 5–12. Similar to Minecraft.
- ROBLOX is made up of millions of games that users have created and published. Very difficult to regulate. Virtual chat and audio messaging enabled.
- ROBLOX seems very innocent with a LEGO type appearance.



- Many ROBLOX games can expose kids to virtual violence / active shooter reenactments
- But most concerning is the amount of sexual content on ROBLOX.
- Some games and chats invite players to participate in virtual sex and simulated rape, sex parties, or sexual chats.
- People are living virtual lives on ROBLOX and participate in these acts as a way of self gratification...

ROBLOX

Be cautious with Roblox *YouTube* videos (many are inappropriate)

Many players record their Roblox games and upload them their YouTube channels.

Unfortunately, YouTube is full of Roblox videos featuring sexual content or violent themes such as school shootings. Code words like “shex” instead of sex and “unalived” instead of killed are used in the keywords to get around the filters..

SOME ROBLOX GAMES (REMEMBER, THERE ARE MILLIONS)



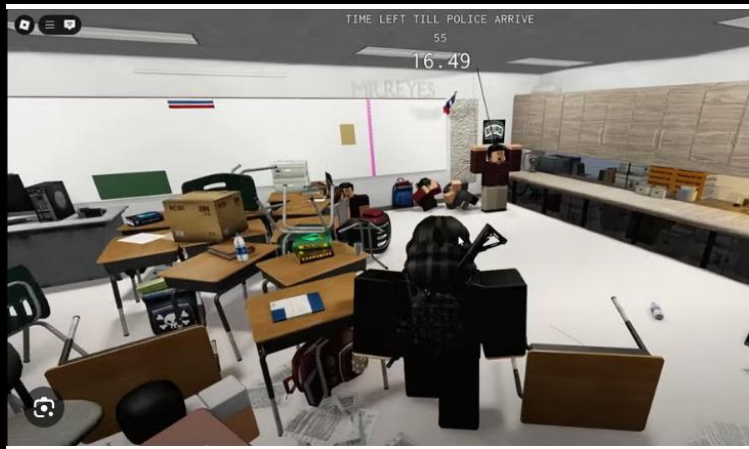
CONDOS (ADULT SEX GAME)



BLOCKSBURG (ADULT LIFE GAME)

REMEMBER, ROBLOX IS MOST POPULAR WITH KIDS 5-12 YEARS OLD.

ROBLOX IS A PEDOPHILES DREAM LAND.



The Dark Side of Roblox: 'Active Shooter Studios' Create Maps Based on Real-Life Mass Shootings | ADL



POPULAR “VAULT” APPS



Secret Calculator Folder Free (iOS):



Private Photo Vault (Android, iOS):



Secret photos KYMS (iOS):



Calculator Vault- Gallery Lock (Android):



Best Secret Folder (iOS):

NIHILISTIC GROUPS “764”

Nihilistic groups like 764 promote violence, self harm, suicide, animal cruelty/ killing, sexual acts and other criminal activity through online connections made through games, social media, and online chat rooms. 764 may have up to 20,000 followers today, not counting their spin off groups.

Victims are coerced into these acts through manipulation, sextortion, and grooming.

We are essentially inviting these people into our homes by not monitoring our children's online activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5xLtMhzUSU>

Go home and do some research on this...

SEXTORTION

Sextortion is a form of blackmail where a perpetrator threatens to distribute private, intimate, or explicit images or videos of a victim to their friends, family, or the public.

Happening through gaming, social media, chat platforms, sending nudes through snap and text etc.

We have seen local cases where Snap accounts were hacked (Baldwinsville)

Many of these cases are foreign generated.

WHAT CAN YOU DO

- Teach your kids to value privacy
- Set their phone settings and parental controls to an age-appropriate level
- Invest in a program such as **“Bark”**
- Remember and remind your kids that there is no expectation of privacy prior to their 18th birthday.
- Get comfortable having uncomfortable conversations. Kids need to know what is out there.
- **Be involved**, monitor online activity, recognize changes in your kid's behavior.



BARK APP

- The [Bark App](#) is an AI-powered parental control and monitoring service. It scans text messages, emails, photos, and over 30 social media platforms for signs of cyberbullying, depression, adult content, and online predators, while also offering screen time limits, web filtering, and location tracking.
- The App runs in the background and sends immediate alerts to the parent's phone when it scans anything concerning.



“TAKE IT DOWN”

- [Take It Down](https://takeitdown.ncmec.org) is a free, anonymous service created by the **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)**. It helps young people (under 18) remove or stop the spread of their nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit images or videos (including AI-generated "deepfakes") from the internet.
- <https://takeitdown.ncmec.org>

Take It Down

Having nudes online is scary, but there is hope to get it taken down.

Take It Down is a free service that can help you remove or stop the online sharing of nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit images or videos taken of you when you were under 18 years old.

Here's how it works:
Visit TakeItDown.NCMEC.org and click on "Get Started".

- Answer a few simple questions.
- Select the image or video on your device that you're concerned about.
- Take It Down will assign a unique digital fingerprint, called a hash value, to the image or video.

The hash will be shared with participating online platforms that can use it to detect copies of these images or videos on their services and take action to remove the content or limit the spread. This all happens without the image or video ever leaving your device or anyone viewing it, and you don't have to share any personal information.

Remember, losing control of your image could happen to anyone, and you're not alone. For more information about how NCMEC can help, visit TakeItDown.NCMEC.org

Service operated by **NCMEC** and **CyberTipline**



School AND Community

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