

If Any Of The Following Occur

- Someone in your household has received child pornography.
- Your child has received sexually explicit images from someone who knows that your child is under 18 years of age.
- Your child has been sexually solicited by someone who knows that your child is under 18 years of age.

Contact the following agencies:

- Houston Police Department
713-731-5335
- FBI
713-693-5000
- Center for Missing and Exploited Children
1-800-843-5678

Be sure to keep your computer turned off to preserve any evidence and do not copy or print any images or text unless specifically directed to do so by law enforcement.

Emergency 9-1-1 Police Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

*For General Information, Contact
Your Local Police Station
(Numbers Provided Below)*

*or
Contact Public Affairs at
713-308-3200*

*For more information, visit
www.houstonpolice.org*

A Parent's Guide To INTERNET SAFETY FOR CHILDREN



Keep Houston
SAFE



The Internet is a valuable educational and entertainment medium kids are using and **child predators know it**. Child predators are taking advantage of the internet to expose your child to inappropriate subject matter. By following the safety tips below you can reduce the chance of your child becoming a victim of a child predator.

What Are The Risks

- **Exposure to inappropriate material** - Some material may be hateful, sexually explicit, illegal, or violent.
- **Physical molestation** - Some children, while online, may risk their safety by giving out information or arranging personal encounters. Pedophiles are known to spend time in chat rooms, make postings on bulletin boards and to use email to gain a child's confidence where they may setup a face-to-face meeting.
- **Harassment** - Some children receive messages that are harassing, demeaning or belligerent through chat rooms, bulletin boards and emails.
- **Financial risks** - Parent's credit card numbers and other personal financial information are sometimes given out which may cause negative financial consequences.

Your Child May Be At Risk

If He Or She:

- Switches screens or becomes defensive or uneasy when you enter the room.
- Makes calls to unknown numbers or receives strange phone calls from people you do not know.
- Uses the Internet at odd hours of the night.
- Receives unexplainable presents, clothing, jewelry, or money.
- Becomes withdrawn from family or friends.
- Uses an online account that belongs to someone else.
- Has pornography on the computer.

Parental Guidelines

- Place the computer in an area that is accessible by the whole family.
- Subscribe to an online service that offers parental control features.
- Purchase blocking software that utilizes passwords and parental controls.
- Spend time with your child exploring the Internet.
- Tell your child that he/she can confide in you without the fear of being punished.

- Talk openly with your child about your suspicions and about online dangers.
- Review all content on your child's computer including email, browser history, etc.
- Use caller ID services to monitor who is calling.
- Monitor your child's access to the Internet including email, chat rooms, instant messengers, etc.

Internet Safety Rules

Instruct Your Child To:

- Always let you know immediately if they find something scary or threatening on the Internet.
- Never give out their name, address, telephone number, password, school name, parent's name, or any other personal information.
- Never meet face to face with someone they met online.
- Never respond to messages that have bad words or seem scary or weird.
- Never enter an area that charges for services without asking first.
- Never send a picture to anyone without your permission.