

i-SAFE America i-Parenting Tips

Worldwide, an estimated 605.6 million individuals – 9.5% of the entire population – went online in 2002. Not all of them are nice people.

i-SAFE America has created this list of Internet safety tips (Please copy and distribute) to help your family recognize online danger and take the appropriate steps to protect yourselves.

- **Keep the computer in an open area**

A responsible adult should always accompany minors while they access the Internet to provide support and direction should they be confronted with an aggressive solicitation or inappropriate materials.

- **Beware of all requests for your personal information online**

Criminals copy logos perfectly to trick you. Legitimate companies never send unsolicited requests for personal information. Never give out personal information unless you initiate the correspondence.

- **Delete unsolicited attachments**

Viruses, worms, and Trojan horses are activated by opening an infected e-mail attachment. “Spoof” viruses make e-mail look like someone you know sent the message. Use updated anti-virus software, install a firewall, and regularly monitor your computer.

- **Know intellectual property and copyright regulations**

Using file-sharing programs for downloading music can open up your computer to identity thieves by giving access to your personal information. Downloading music and movies without paying for it is illegal.

- **Be a part of your child’s online experience**

It can be a fun journey to explore the wonders of the Internet as a family. As computer-savvy as kids and teens are today they will certainly teach you a thing or two!

- **Get involved with i-SAFE America**

These are only some of the measures you can take to ensure your child has a safe and enjoyable Internet experience. This tip sheet is only a small part of the i-Parent Campaign. Go to the Outreach & Parents section at www.isafe.org for more information on how you can bring the message of Internet safety to your community.

Remember the 4 Rs

RECOGNIZE techniques used by online predators to deceive, groom, or intimidate their victims.

REFUSE requests for personal information or a face-to-face meeting.

RESPOND assertively by exiting the program, logging off, or turning off the computer.

REPORT any suspicious or dangerous contact that makes you or your child feel uncomfortable.