Teens on Social Media: Trends and Dangers

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Hey mom & dad!
Do you really know what I’m doing on social media?
Overview: Empowering Parents – How to Keep your Kids Safe, Smart, and Responsible

1. Current Trends in Social Media
2. Basic Problem with Social Media
3. What you can do to keep your children safe
WHAT TEENS "R" POSTING

- 84% post their interests, such as movies, music, or books they like.
- 53% post their e-mail address
- 82% post their birth date
- 62% post their relationship status
- 24% post videos of themselves
- 71% post the city/town where they live

POINTS OF INTEREST

60% of teen Facebook users keep their profiles private, and most report high levels of confidence in their ability to manage their settings.

Teens are sharing more information about themselves on social media sites than they did in the past.

Girls downplay several positive characteristics of themselves online, like their intelligence and efforts to be a good influence.
Cyber Bullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology.

1. More than half of young people surveyed say they never confide in their parents when cyber bullying happens to them.

2. Of the young people who reported cyber bullying incidents against them, one – third (33 percent) reported that their bullies issued online threats.

(OC Health Care Agency, 2014)
80% of parents do not discuss specifics regarding the internet with their children. They do not know how to discuss social media with their children.

From: commonsensemedia.org
9 out of 10 kids will not tell parents about their social media mistakes, for fear of parents taking their social media away. Kids would rather suffer than have their phone taken away from them. The internet is as important as food, shelter, and water.

From: cybersafetycop.com
Problem with Social Media:

1. Children are able to communicate and meet people outside their parent’s sphere of influence in their own home.
2. No accountability and removing the natural inhibition of ever getting caught online.
3. Instant Communication with thousands of internet users
4. Kids seeking acceptance
5. Kids mean to each other
6. Mistake made potentially forever
7. Most kids have public accounts for more “likes from strangers”
Daniel’s Story

**Inspirational Story**

After goalie Daniel Cu became the scapegoat for a losing season, the whole high school rallied to defend him.
How to keep your child safe??

1. Families who eat dinner together have children with higher self esteem and lower mental health concerns (Family Pediatric Association, 2014).

2. Promote a positive digital reputation and make this a top priority for your family (commonsensemedia.org)
3. Don’t be afraid to be the bad cop!
4. Set limits on your child’s screen time.
5. If your child wants a new application, let them do all the research and report back to you.
6. Parental Controls on all applications and devices.
4 things to do before downloading any application:

1. Is it age appropriate for my child?
2. Is it a private account?
3. Can strangers or anonymous users contact my child?
4. Can I read past posts and comments?
Parents Need To Know!!

How should I talk to my child to let them know it’s okay to make mistakes?? Let your child know that they must tell you ASAP and you are there to help correct their mistake. If they tell you ASAP, you will not take their phone or device away.
The Challenge:

1. Only let people you know follow you
2. TSA Rule, Never post mean, rude, or threatening messages
3. If you receive a mean message, don’t respond and ask a safe adult for help
4. Use your social media for good
Applications to be Aware Of

1. **Yik Yak:**
   Anonymous posting app

2. **Snapchat:**
   10 second photos/videos

3. **Audio Manager**
   Hides photos/videos

4. **Calculater%**
   Hides photos/videos

5. **Vaulty**
   Hides photos/videos
   Takes pictures of anyone who tries to access them

6. **Instagram**
   Direct messaging cannot be tracked by parents
Great Sites for Safety Tips:
1. Cybersafetycop.com
2. Netsmartz.org
3. Safesmartsocial.com
4. Commonsensemedia.org
5. GuardianKids.com
6. Connectsafely.org
7. Teensafe.com
Questions??

Thank you for coming!