



Online Safety Presentation (April 2023)

A joint presentation with the Solon Police Department and Solon High School

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Safety and protection of children is our # 1 priority!

Sextortion

- Sextortion can start on any site, app, messaging platform, or game where people meet and communicate. A request is made to have the victim share private videos or pictures of themselves.
- After the Offenders have one or more videos or pictures, they threaten to publish that content, or they threaten violence, to get the victim to produce more images.
- In others cases, the Offenders receives sexually explicit material from the victim and then threatens to release the compromising material unless the victim sends money and/or gift cards.
- The shame, fear, and confusion causes the victim feel that they are caught in this cycle with no way out. It often prevents them from asking for help or reporting the abuse.
- Offenders often send friend requests and approach teens with compliments or flattery; they may also promise a romantic relationship.
- Offenders appear to be genuine and want to strike up close friendships with their victims.
- Offenders commonly make first contact with a victim on one platform, and then ask them to move to a second or third platform that uses encrypted messaging to make tracking their crimes more difficult.
- Offenders may offer something of value, such as the possibility of a modeling contract; online game credits or codes; or money, cryptocurrency and gift cards or a picture or video of themselves in exchange for a "quick picture or video" from the victim.
- Offenders may also threaten victims by falsely claiming that they already have explicit photos that they intend to distribute (which can be easily known by the victim, if the victim has not taken or posted any of themselves).
- Offenders will request that the victim's photo or video has their face in it for use of extortion.



Revenge Porn

- Revenge porn is revealing or sexually explicit images or videos of a person posted on the internet, typically by a former sexual partner, with or without the consent of the subject and in order to cause them distress or embarrassment.
- Typically, happens as a result of the relationship ending. The motive is not to extort money but to force the victim back into the relationship or to “get back at” or seek revenge for the terminated relationship.

Prevention is Key

- Make social media accounts private.
- Don't share private imaginary with anyone.
- Cover your webcam when you're not using it; if your webcam doesn't have a built-in cover, use a sticker or piece of tape to cover it.
- Don't accept a friend request from anyone online you have not met in person.
- Don't give any personal contact info (email or handles) to anyone you haven't met in person.
- Don't click on links in e-mails that come from people you don't know; doing so could compromise your device.
- If someone you don't know asks for personally identifying information, say no.
- Never share your passwords with anyone.
- Don't use easy to guess passwords, such as pets' names, birth dates or anything that someone can guess by reviewing your social media profiles.
- If you are uncomfortable with the conversations, end them and tell your parents.
- Do NOT share locations or post with everyone!
 - Unsafe for many reasons- stalking incidents as well as your location is known if someone who may want to burglarize your home.
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Take It Down Program 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. You can remain anonymous while using the service and you won't have to send your images or videos to anyone. Take It Down will work on public or unencrypted online platforms that have agreed to participate.
- For those over 18 years of age- StopNCII.org is a free tool designed to support victims of Non-Consensual Intimate Image (NCII) abuse.
 - Works similarity to NCMIC's Take It Down program.



What if you are being threatened or extorted...

- Tell a parent/ guardian or trusted adult immediately.
- Don't respond to the offender.
- Contact Solon Police.
- Do not further share or delete any items until told to do so by investigators.
- Do not block the offender until told to do so by investigators.

Cyberbullying

- The psychological effects of cyberbullying can be just as damaging as the physical effects. Victims of cyberbullying may experience a range of negative emotions, such as sadness, anger, fear, and embarrassment. They may also feel isolated and alone.
- The physical effects of cyberbullying include headaches, stomach aches, and sleeping problems. The psychological effects include anxiety, depression, self-harm, and suicidal thoughts.
- Cyberbullying can also have a negative impact on the victim's schoolwork. Victims may have trouble concentrating in class and may not want to go to school. They may also receive lower grades than they usually would.
- Victims of cyberbullying may also have trouble forming relationships with other people. They may be afraid to trust anyone and may not want to socialize with others. This can lead to them feeling lonely and isolated.

What if you are being cyberbullied...

- First, kindly ask those involved to stop.
- Block the sender(s) if they continue.
- Do NOT delete the messages.
- Tell a parent or a guardian and a school administrator.
- Report the incident.
- Seek counseling regarding thoughts or feelings you are having related to the incident.



Counseling and Mental Health Resources

- Solon High School and Solon Middle School Staff (Orchard Middle School and Lewis, Parkside, Roxbury Elementary School Staff can help as well)
- 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board
- Crisis Textline- Text "HOPE" or "HOME" to 741741