

Safety Tips

Here are some tips to keep children safe online:

- ✓ Use filtering software and Web rating systems to regulate the material children can access.
- ✓ Keep the computer in the living room or other common area, rather than in the child's bedroom.
- ✓ Let the child know from the very beginning that the computer is a family item subject to limited privacy.
- ✓ Keep track of the files children download.
- ✓ Spend time with the child surfing the Internet.
- ✓ Learn about their favorite places and things online.
- ✓ Establish family rules for going online. You may find it useful to refer to "My Rules for Online Safety" available from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at: www.missingkids.com.
- ✓ Never allow a child to give out personal information without knowing the identity of the recipient.
- ✓ Don't let the child use his or her real name but, instead, have him or her choose a fun and anonymous name to identify themselves online.
- ✓ If a parent finds that an adult is sending their child obscene material, the authorities should be notified immediately.
- ✓ If child pornography is accessed by either child or parent, the service provider should immediately be notified. A report of the material should also be given to the authorities or at: www.cybertipline.com.
- ✓ Parents should have all passwords for all Internet accounts—including their child's.

About the Author

Joseph Campolo is an associate with the law firm of Farrell Fritz and he has significant litigation experience, concentrating in environmental, commercial and land use litigation. He has successfully tried cases both in state and federal courts, and has briefed matters before the New York Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court.



Mr. Campolo is a graduate of Fordham Law School, where he served as a member of the Environmental Law Journal. While at Fordham, Mr. Campolo authored a legal publication on Internet safety that was recently cited by the United States Court of Appeals for the

Second Circuit as a legal precedent and is used by national law schools as part of their curriculum. He has appeared as a guest speaker on News 12, Channel 55 News and Telecare's "God Squad" on the issue of Internet safety.

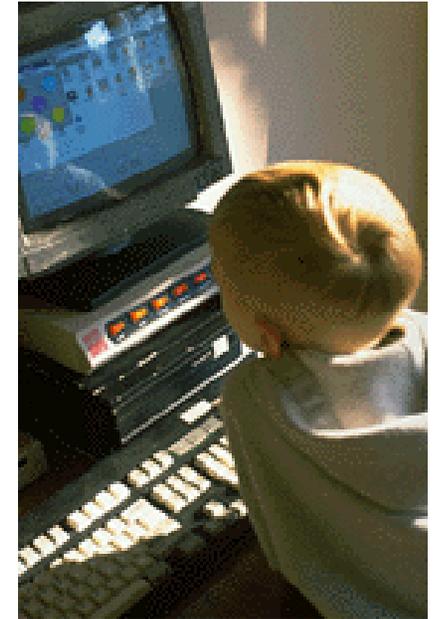
Mr. Campolo received his Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors and as Treasurer of the Alumni Association. Prior to attending Stony Brook, Mr. Campolo served in the United States Marine Corps, where he was awarded the Overseas Service Award and the Good Conduct Medal.

Mr. Campolo has conducted numerous seminars for parents' groups and corporations on Internet safety. If you would like him to speak to your organization, he can be reached at:

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A PARENT'S GUIDE



TO INTERNET SAFETY

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Online Dangers

Internet exploration opens a world of possibilities for children. While most people your children will encounter online are decent and respectful, some may be rude or harmful. Thus, in allowing children to go online unsupervised, parents run the risk of exposing their child to these dangers:

Abduction and/or Physical Molestation

The most serious risk a child can stumble upon while on the Internet is meeting an adult who lures the child into a physical meeting for the purposes of abducting and/or molesting the child by either seducing the child or by creating a fake identity online.

Inappropriate and/or Illegal Material

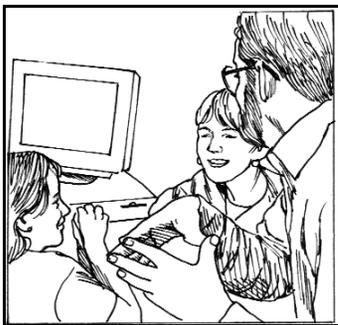
A child may become exposed to materials that are sexual, violent or that encourage illegal activities.

Harassment

A child can become exposed to messages that are threatening or that contain obscene images, particularly in the chat rooms.

Legal and Financial Trouble

A child can engage in behavior that results in a negative legal or financial consequence, such as violating another person's rights or giving out a parent's credit card number and other personal information.



Areas of Risk On-line

The Web—Some Web sites contain material that is violent, racist, sexist or demeaning.

Chat—Some child molesters use chat rooms to find victims by creating a false identity and then making friends with “other” children.

Email—Return addresses on email your child receives can easily be fake.

Newsgroups—Your child might be exposed to obscene materials or post something that reveals information about him/her.

Report all child exploitation violations to:

1-800-843-5678

www.cybertipline.com

www.fbi.gov

Did you know that...

- ✓ Approximately 1 in 4 kids have had unwanted exposure to pictures of people having sex online.
- ✓ Roughly 1 in 5 kids have received an online sexual solicitation.
- ✓ 1 in 33 kids have received an aggressive on-line solicitation, meaning that someone has asked them to meet them somewhere, has called them on the phone, or sent them email, money or gifts.
- ✓ Less than 10% of sexual solicitations and only 3% of unwanted exposure episodes were ever reported to authorities.

Don't let your child become a statistic!

Warning Signs

These are some signs parents can look for in their child that can indicate the child may be in trouble online:

- ✓ Your child spends large amounts of time online, especially at night.
- ✓ Pornography appears on your child's computer.
- ✓ Your child quickly turns off or changes the computer monitor screen when a parent enters the room.
- ✓ Your child receives packages from strangers.
- ✓ Unrecognizable numbers appear on the phone bill.
- ✓ Unaccounted-for charges appear on parents' credit card statements.
- ✓ Your child becomes withdrawn from the family.
- ✓ Your child is using an on-line account belonging to someone else.

Learn everything you can about the Internet!

For More Information Visit:

www.missingkids.com

www.getnetwise.com