



## KEY POINTS FOR INTERNET SAFETY PRESENTATION By Butte County Sheriff's Crime Prevention Unit

- What features are on your child's phone? Why? What kind of Plan does your child have?
- Does your child use phone locks/pass codes? If so, why?
- Have you looked on their phone to see who and what they are texting?
- Are you using any of the parental controls your carrier offers?
- Turn off mobile phones at night.
- Mobile phones are a privilege not a right. Have rules: If kids don't use their phones properly, then parents can and should take them away
- *Mobile devices are the No.1 form of communication for teens. Kids have portable and private access to the world without you there to monitor what they're doing.*
- Do kids really need a phone? Is it for safety reasons? Is it because "everyone" has one?
- Do they answer when you call?
- Do you have a "kid" phone that only calls and accepts calls from limited preset numbers? Online Resource: Wireless Foundation: [www.wirelessfoundation.org](http://www.wirelessfoundation.org)
- Have you thought about your kids using mobile media to:
  - Cheat on tests
  - Communicate with strangers
  - Damage their reputations
    - Cyber bully
    - Sexting
- Privacy Settings: Teach your children to use the settings to control:
  - Who sees their information.
  - Who can search for them.
  - How they can contact you.
  - How to block people.
- Content is persistent. Info, photos, and videos that are posted online don't go away.
- Content is replicable: It can be cut and pasted without permission or one's knowledge.
  - Photos, emails, texts, chats, comments, and more can be taken out of context and used in ways that weren't intended.
- Have house rules for postable content.
- Explain that once something is published, it is impossible to take it back.
- Show your kids how to report inappropriate material.

- If you find inappropriate content somebody else posted, report it to the hosting site.
  - If your child posts inappropriate content, remove it immediately.
  - If you see other children post inappropriate content, contact their parents.
  - Join & familiarize yourself with the social networks your kids use.
  - “Friend” your kids.
  - Help Them Reflect Before They Reveal: Remind kids that what they post today can haunt them tomorrow.
  - Talk About Risky Behavior: Establish some ground rules and consequences for breaking those rules.
  - Discuss Accountability Whatever kids post – whether anonymously or not – they need to be accountable for it.
- \*Sexting – the act of sending sexual texts or taking and sending sexually revealing pictures of oneself as text message attachments.
- Problems arise when relationship send and kids are left in possession of highly compromising materials
  - Kids need to be taught to respect themselves as well as others
  - Teach your children that there are serious consequences to their actions, and that no actions are anonymous.
  - Read their text messages and look at the photos they take with their phones. Know if they are sending or receiving images on their phones.
  - Monitor their social networking sites.
  - If you have concerns about your child or someone else’s child, tell the police, parents or school, whichever is appropriate
  - Keep Media in Public Spaces: Keep use of media in areas that are easy to monitor. Collect and turn off computers and phones at bedtime.
  - Encourage Balance: The time kids spend with media and technology should be equivalent to time they spend doing other activities
  - Establish Consequences: If rules are broken, remove access to Internet / mobile phones
  - Accept Their World: Explore social networks and set up an account.
  - Learn how to text & Upload a video.
  - Check out what that gaming box can do besides play games.
  - Communicate
  - Discuss which sites your kids can visit and what can or should be downloaded.
  - Monitor media usage and discuss whether the rules and guidelines are being followed.
  - Discuss accountability. Kids need to be held responsible for what they post online.

Agree to Cooperate: Sit down with your kids and go over a **Family Media Agreement**, making sure they understand what is expected of them.