#### Kentucky Center For School Safety



# Cyberbullying And "Sexting"



Karen McCuiston
Murray State University

#### Cyberbullying...Define

Cyber bullying involves the use of information and technology such as email, instant messaging, the publishing of defamatory personal websites, and online personal polling websites that are used to support conscious, willful, deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by one or more people with the intent to harm others

#### Cyberbullying...What is it?

- Mean, vulgar or threatening email
- Forwarding a private communication to others
- Humiliating text sent over a cell phone
- Website mocking others
- Posting embarrassing photos or video
- Impersonating someone else to spread rumors
- Intentionally excluding someone from an online group
- Posting sensitive, private information about another person

#### Cyberbullying...Is it a problem?

#### Middle School Survey

(4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade I-Safe Survey)

- 35% were threatened online
- 42% were bullied while online
- 53% admit to bullying others online
- 58% told their parents or an adult

#### High School (I-Safe Survey)

- 52% were bullied online
- 52% admit to bullying others online

#### Cyberbullying...Prevent?

- Don't give out private information (Passwords, PIN)
- Be careful about posting personal information such as name, address and cell numbers
- Don't share buddy lists
- Delete messages from people you don't know
- When something doesn't sound right, leave the chat room
- Assume no digital communication is private

- What to do if you are cyberbullied?
  - Tell a trusted adult
  - Don't open or read messages from cyber bullies
  - Don't react to the bully
  - If it is at school, tell a trusted adult at school
  - Don't erase the message or images
  - Block the bully
  - If you are threatened with harm, inform the police

- How to prevent miscommunication or becoming a cyberbully
  - Don't email when you are angry
  - Don't email with friends and target someone for entertainment
  - Don't forward an email that someone sent as a private message

- Questions before you post or send
  - Is this communication kind and respectful
    - Ad Council PSA-The Talent Show (YouTube)



- How would I feel if someone else sent this to me
- Does this violate any rules, pledges or laws
- How would I feel if my actions were printed in the newspaper
- Would it be "okay" in real life or "face to face"
  - Ad Council The Kitchen (YouTube)



How will this reflect on me and my family

It is always hurtful, sometimes unlawful and sometimes changes lives forever...



# Texting to the Extreme

#### Sexting...Define

Sexting is a new word in our modern lexicon born of the marriage between the words "sex" and "texting." It means sending images, via cell phone, of children or teens that are inappropriate, naked or engaged in sexual acts.

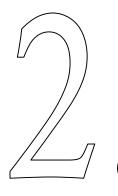
Sometimes teens share the photographs voluntarily, but at other times teens may be coerced into taking or sending the photographs. Once the photos are sent, some kids use them to bully, harass, intimidate, or embarrass victims online or via mobile devices.

# Think about the Consequences...

- Of <u>taking</u>, <u>sending</u>, <u>or forwarding</u> a sexual picture of someone underage, even <u>if it's of you</u>.
- You could
  - get kicked-off sports teams,
  - get kicked-off cheering squads,
  - face humiliation,
  - lose educational privileges
  - and even get in trouble with the law.

Teen is charged for posting 30 nude photos of herself on MySpace to impress her boyfriend. (YouTube)





#### Never Take...

- Pictures of yourself that you wouldn't want <u>everyone</u> to see
  - Classmates
  - Family
  - Teachers
  - Employers
- Think ahead
  - College Recruiters
  - Future Employers
  - Future Spouses and their Families
  - Your Children

#### Sexting -(YouTube)

Online Sexual Exploitation - Everyone Knows Your Name



#### Think before you send.

- Remember <u>you cannot control who will see</u> <u>that picture</u> or read that message once it hits the internet.
- You cannot take it back.
- What you send to a girlfriend or boyfriend can be forwarded to their friends, acquaintances, online chat buddies, etc...
- Out of spite your image can travel to people you do not want it to reach.
- It could change a life forever

#### Sexting



#### Sexting...Jessica Logan Sexting Suicide

(YouTube)





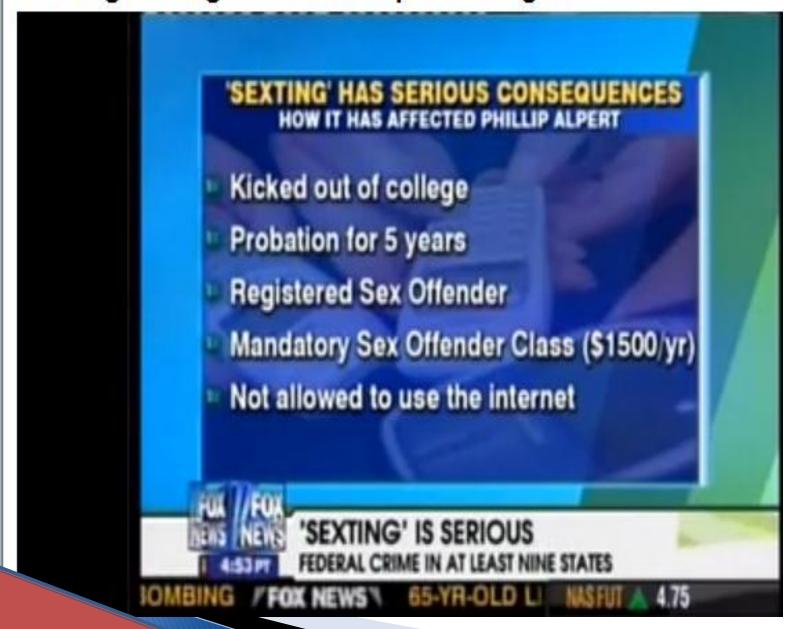
#### If You...

- Forward a <u>sexual picture of someone</u> <u>underage</u> (under 18) you are as <u>responsible</u> <u>for this image as the original sender</u>.
- You can face...
  - Pornography charges
  - Go to jail
  - Register as a Sex Offender

## Consider the Case of Phillip Alpert -(YouTube)



#### 'Sexting' teenagers risk child-porn charges





### Only Open from Friends but Report if...

- Do not open any message from anyone you do not know
- Report any nude picture you receive on your cell phone to an adult you trust
- Do <u>not delete the message</u>, <u>take the</u> <u>phone to the trusted adult</u>
- Involve your teachers, parents, counselors, principals immediately.

#### Sexting...What to do at school

- Educate (staff, students and parents) and have a plan
- Review policies and handbooks relating to AUP, digital communication and Internet abuse
  - Sample policies from KSBA
- 3. State consequences clearly
- 4. Be consistent



#### www.kysafeschools.org



Search

#### School Safety Issues

- Bullying
- Cyber Bullying
- Sexting
- Internet Safety
- Suicide
- Choking
- Parent Aggression
- Classroom Management
- Behavior Management
- Drug Abuca

#### Sexting

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Handouts and Links from the Sexting Workshop at the Safe School-Successful Student Conference Oct 2009

#### Hot Topics

- » Drug Testing in Ky Schools and Map of 92 Districts
- Student Cell Phones
- Common Issues in School Assessments
- School Shooters
- » Parental Behavior in Kentucky Schools
- » Security in Schools
- » Cyber Bullying
- » Endorsement in School Safety





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