



# Parents: Online Safety

**PARENTS: Add Online Safety to the List**

- \* Talk with your children about the benefits and risks of Internet and wireless phone use.
- \* Ask your children what they do online, what games they play, and what websites they visit. Make sure they aren't playing violent video games.
- \* Go online with your children. Have them show you what they do online.
- \* Make a list of any websites you find that your think your children will enjoy, and share the list with them.
- \* Make a list of any websites you think are inappropriate, and tell your children not to visit them or purchase parental control software from a commercial vendor.
- \* Agree with your children on rules about what they can and cannot do online, when they can go on the Internet, and how long they can stay.
- \* Keep the computer in a central area of the house where you can observe your child's behavior.
- \* Agree to a contract for family cell phone use with your child.
- \* Ask your children who they visit online and who they email or text.
- \* Set limits on how many messages or how much money children can spend on their wireless use each month.
- \* Tell your children never to give out personal information, such as their real names, school names, or their home or school addresses.
- \* Tell your children never to agree to meet online acquaintances in person.
- \* Tell your children never to harass anyone online.
- \* Being bullied online or in a text message is serious; make sure your children know they can come to you for help if this happens to them.
- \* Tell your children never to send a picture of someone to an other person by email or text message without the prior permission of that person.
- \* Make sure your children know that if they feel uncomfortable with some thing they receive online or by text message, or that they are in trouble because of something that happened online, that they can come to you for help. Remember, your children may need help, and penalties such as removing the computer or restricting access to a wireless device can be counterproductive. If your children come to you, listen to them and don't judge them.



**CTIA The Wireless Foundation**

**The Wireless Foundation**  
1400 16th Street, NW Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-736-3257—[www.wirelessfoundation.org](http://www.wirelessfoundation.org)

**Steven L. Durfor, Sheriff-Coroner**  
**Yuba County Sheriff's Department**  
215 5th Street, Suite 150, Marysville, CA  
530-749-7777—<http://sheriff.co.yuba.ca.us>

**National Crime Prevention Council**  
2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22202  
202-466-6272—[www.npc.org](http://www.npc.org)