



Start the Conversation About Online Safety

Talking to your child about online safety can be challenging but essential for their well-being and safety to protect them from risks like human trafficking.

Open and honest communication builds trust and ensures they feel comfortable coming to you when they need help.

Online Safety Tips for Parents

Monitor Online Activity

- Regularly check your child's phone for suspicious apps or chats
- Look for apps requiring passwords or those used for private communication

Set Boundaries

- Keep electronics in common areas
- Use parental controls and privacy settings on devices
- Set time limits and monitor their interactions online

Teach Safe Online Behavior

- Never share personal information or explicit images
- Avoid accepting friend requests or messages from strangers

Encourage Transparency

- Ask your child to let you know if someone makes them uncomfortable
- Explain that predators often ask for secrecy or want to meet in person
- Provide guidance and engage in regular conversations with your child, ensuring they feel comfortable sharing any concerns.

What Parents Can Do to Help Our Children Against Online Predators

- **Discuss Internet Safety:** Engage in conversations about the potential dangers online, emphasizing the importance of keeping personal information confidential and recognizing suspicious behavior.
- **Supervise Devices and Apps:** Keep electronics in common areas, review your child's online activity, and assess apps and social media for safety, especially features like direct messaging.
- **Encourage Open Communication:** Teach children to avoid sharing personal information, photos, or videos online with strangers or in public forums. Explain that online posts are permanent, and urge them to report any inappropriate requests or behavior to a trusted adult.

If you suspect human trafficking, please report it immediately to your local law enforcement agency

Online Resources for Parents

Visit **FOSI.org** to learn more about topics such as online safety best practices, parental controls, and privacy settings.

Visit **NetSmartz.org** to learn more about topics such as online safety education, preventing exploitation, and promoting responsible internet use.

Please Call Family & Youth to Learn More

337-436-9533 | www.fyca.org
220 Louie Street, Lake Charles, LA

