



## PRESENTATION POINTS

### Introduction

Western Australia Police – 20 Years : Technology Crime Investigation Unit – 2009 to 2014 : Surf Online Safe – 2012 to present.

### Social Networking

The number of current users on the Top 10 Apps, by age demographic compared to those of 2014.

Number of people on 1 or more of the Top 10 Social Networking Apps:

56% of children aged 9 to 10 - Compared to 17% in 2014

82% of children aged 11 to 12 - Compared to 27% in 2014

92% of children aged 13 to 17 - Compared to 67% in 2014

88% of Adults aged 18 to 25 – Compared to 78% in 2014

68% of Adults aged 35 to 55 - Compared to 33% in 2014

### Discussion Points

- Where most users are falling down is the lack of risk assessment for the use of such networks.
- Many also do not realise the capabilities and “other” aspects of the Apps they are using.

### THE TOP 10 APPS DISPLAYED AND THE NUMBER OF UNIQUE VISITORS PER DAY IN AUSTRALIA.

Also displayed is the average number of WA students using each App.

#### 1. Facebook

6% of under 18's using. Rarely used by students under the age of 16 years. Low percentage reflected in senior high school students. – Facebook no longer a major factor of concern for WA children.

#### 2. Youtube

24% of students will have their own 'Channel', whereas 90% of students will visit or use Youtube daily or regularly without an account, just on an open visit.

#### 3. Instagram

65% (Primary) to 90% (Secondary) of students are using Instagram.

### Discussion Points

- Most students have pushed to Instagram in massive numbers due to the ability to lock down and secure the network more tightly than Facebook allows.
- Less advertising or forced interactivity is a key factor.
- Private Accounts - 92% of Year 5 & 6 students will use private accounts, however by the time they reach Year 11 & 12 this can drop to 68%.

#### 4. Whats App

25% (Primary) to 45% (Secondary) of students are using WhatsApp.

### Discussion Points

- Mainly being used by 'Gamers' to have live chats with mates while they are playing their games online.
- Lesser use is by teen males who are using the App to interact with 'randoms' of the opposite sex and engaging in sexual interaction.

#### 5. Snapchat

47% (Primary) to 90% (Secondary) of students are using Snapchat.

### Discussion Points

- Over 50% of users are not using or unaware of the 'Ghost Mode' option on Snapchat.
- Users can display their location when posting or using the App on the 'SnapMap' section. As such, if not in private mode, other users can identify the location of another user. Turning off the ability to be seen on the SnapMap is called 'Ghost Mode'.
- SnapChat is the primary app used by teens to send inappropriate images or bullying content.

#### 6. TikTok (formerly Musical.ly)

80% of students (Year 5 to Year 10) are using TikTok.

### Discussion Points

- Mainly being used by girls to post content, but many boys will use the App to view the girls on it.
- Many predators will trawl the network to interact with young girls. These girls will have non-private accounts because most users hope to become 'TikTok Famous' by gaining massive followers, thus accepting contact from 'randoms'.
- TikTok is the only app which offers a dedicated Parental Control section and option..

# PRESENTATION POINTS

## Social Networking continued

### 7. Discord

30% (Primary) to 45% (Secondary) of students are using Discord.

#### Discussion Points

- 90% of users are boys and they are mainly 'Gamers' using the App to interact with their peers whilst they are playing online games.
- Users create their own 'page' and share that link with their peers, inviting them to join the page. They then have a group chat and discuss whatever it is they want.
- Discord is not moderated, as such there is a massive amount of language and content which is inappropriate. This is not a factor though if a user is confined to their own 'page' and does not interact outside of that environment.

### 8. House Party

10% (Primary) to 42% (Secondary) of students are using House Party.

- Went viral in late 2020 and is being used by girls mainly to have group cam chats with their friends.
- Was bought by Epic Games (owners of Fortnite) at the start of the year, so I expect it will be morphed to a gaming app.
- Users can activate their cameras so other users or followers on the network can see them live when they want. This is extremely risky. Users can also share their location on a map (similar to SnapMap).

### 9. Omegle

Discussed below.

### 10. iMessage

## Reporting Myths & Hints

The massive amount of content and users on social networking makes it impossible for them to moderate effectively. All networks use software base reporting. Users should report multiple times as often as they can over a period of time (25+ reports in 48 hours) in order to push past the software system and have content flagged and viewed by a real person.

## Sextortion - Omegle

Omegle is a video chat service which a number of WA kids are using.

I display a screen shot of the site and show a video of how the site works.

With the onset of COVID19, a very large number of students are using the site as a chat option with their mates. However, the site is not what many expect it to be.

#### Discussion Points

- Omegle is used by a large number of people seeking sexual contact with other cam users.
- Omegle is one of the most popular sites being used by:
  1. Online predators – Most offenders are male, but there are many predators using their female partners to entice young males to take their clothes off on the camera.
  2. Scammers – Offenders can be male or female. Many are international and will entice adults and juveniles to engage in a sexual way on cam. They will record the interaction and then threaten to share it publicly unless money is paid or more content is provided.

## The Sexting Culture

23% of Girls aged 14 to 17 have sent an intimate image.

18% of Boys aged 14 to 17 have sent an intimate image.

88% of all the images sent will be within a relationship (mainly BF/GF).

57% of images sent by Girls (aged 14 to 17) to Boys within that relationship will not be coerced or requested by the boy.

27% of Boys will send an intimate image to a girl in the hope she will reciprocate.

31% of Girls, compared to just 6% of Boys who send a nude, will have it shared by the person they sent it to.

- What peers and 'bystanders' should be doing to protect those who may be sending or considering sending, as well as those who are disrespecting intimate images.
- 82% of teenage girls from 14 to 18 state they receive regular and constant pressure from boys to share nude images.

## Reporting Options

- Esafety Commission website - Civil reporting option and request for removal of content (Bullying and Intimate images).  
[www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au)
- ACORN website - Police reporting option for any criminal matters : Australian Crime Online Reporting Network  
[www.acorn.gov.au](http://www.acorn.gov.au)

## TIPS for Parents

We discuss software and hardware based control and monitoring options for families within the home or on childrens mobile devices outside of school.

## RESTRICTIONS ON APPLE DEVICES

- Parental Controls and Time Restrictions option on IOS 12/13.
- Family Sharing options can be set up at home.

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## RESTRICTIONS ON APPLE DEVICES

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## GET TO KNOW HOW YOU CONNECT TO THE INTERNET

Parental Control options through the home internet connection and Modem.

- Access Control
- Web Filtering
- Time Schedules

## OTHER SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE OPTIONS

Parental Control options through the home internet connection and Modem.

- Qustodio
- Our Pact
- The Circle
- The Family Zone
- Family Time

Beacon Cyber Safety App - Free app from the Telethon Kids Institute. A great resource for parents.

All statistics provided have been collected by Paul Litherland

From 2016 to 2019 (inclusive), I have surveyed 7600 students in Western Australia between the ages of 13 to 17 years.

I have recorded extensive notes and gathered statistics during all sessions in regard to specific questions asked of my target audience. Over the past 4 years I have presented to in excess of 140 students across this state. I have also presented to in excess of 40 thousand parents.

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