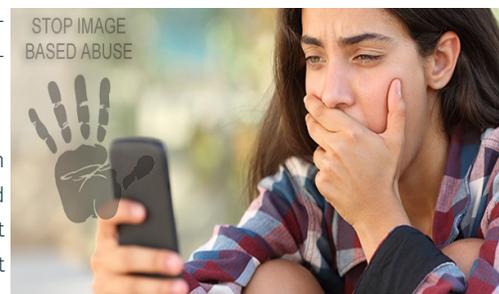


NEW LAWS - A SHIFT IN CULTURE PERHAPS!

I have been pressing the Western Australian Government for 5 years to introduce legislation to help minimise the online distribution of 'nudes', especially those of our teens and to help the victims of Image Based Abuse.

In WA we do have legislation covering the distribution of naked images of children 15 years of age and under. Such images (under specific criteria), are considered child pornography. But for people 16 years and over and for children whose images are not deemed 'child pornography' under the law, there is no legislation in place to protect them from having their images leaked to others, or displayed and shared online.



If any person in the heat of the moment chooses to send an intimate image to someone, the person who receives that image can post it publicly, name the person depicted and their school and they have not committed a crime. They can send it to as many of their friends as they want without any accountability at law and there is nothing the person depicted (or their parents) can do about it.

It is very easy for people to say, 'She or he should not have sent the photo in the first place. It is their own fault!' But does that help? What if it was your son or daughter who made this error of judgement? If they had their image handed around an entire school and then posted on a public website for all to see? Should they not have some level of support at law to take action against such abuse? I think they do.

I have been a key player in Western Australia, for the introduction of Intimate Image Abuse legislation and I am very proud to say that finally such legislation has been recently introduced into parliament and should be enacted by the end of 2018. This is a massive step forward in hopefully pushing cultural change in regard to the distribution and on-sending of intimate images in this state.

Don't get me wrong, I am not about charging kids (never have been), but current legislation in this state is extremely harsh and as such it is rare teens are prosecuted. No-one wants to see a 16 year old in prison or on a sex offender register for 7 years. We therefore needed something in place that can send a message that sharing intimate images is morally corrupt, without completely altering the life of a particular offender if they are convicted.

Teens are sending nudes, sadly this is a reality. 21% of girls and 17% of boys 14 to 18 years are sending such images, usually within a relationship. 34% of girls who send a nude, compared to just 8% of boys, will have that image shared by the person they sent it to. I am trying my best to stop it, by outlining the risk of such decisions. I use examples of the many cases I dealt with in my time at Technology Crime Investigation Unit, in the hope of making them truly consider that risk. But I need help!

If we can at least minimise the sending and sharing of nudes at a local level with this legislation, this may well have an impact on reducing the millions of images of under 18's being displayed on public websites. Such laws take into consideration the age of the offender, the level of offending and the impact on the victim. This has been so desperately needed in WA for so long.

These laws push the onus onto people who receive such images to truly consider the person depicted, rather than simply flicking it out to anyone and everyone they want. This legislation has been a long time coming and I am glad our government has listened to my message.

PRESENTATIONS

VISIT WWW.SURFONLINESAFE.COM.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PRESENTATIONS

A Surf Online Safe presentation is not simply about 'Don't do this or don't do that'. It is so much more than that. Educators and parents regularly offer great feedback on the impact my presentations had on their kids. But what I pride myself on the most is the feedback I get from students themselves. They find my presentation style very relatable and funny, whilst still educational. Students themselves are taking direct action on their online habits as a result of an SOS Presentation and they are discussing it with their peers and their parents. For me, this is a great indicator that my message is getting through. This is what I am all about!





THE GIANT IS FALLING HARD

A GREAT EXAMPLE OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SHOW MORE CONCERN FOR YOUR BANK ACCOUNT THAN YOU DO YOUR CLIENTS

I expect you may sense a wry smile on my face as you read this and may share my indifference at social networking giant Facebook appearing by many to be on its last legs. I don't take pleasure in the demise of a business, but I can't help but think if Facebook had taken the time to show more respect to their users, they would not be in this situation.

My research over the past 4 years has identified a drop of 29% per year in the number of users aged 11 to 18 joining the network. Many other commentators have noted similar declines in the use of Facebook by people under the age of 24. Though Facebook's popularity has grown with older adults (30 to 55), it is the decline in youth being attracted to the network that will ultimately seal its fate. Sadly, Facebook's obsession in advertising, revenue and marketing has pushed away its key target audience.

The age demographic of 13 to 24, has been the main focus of the network since it was born in 2006. The initial reach and spread of Facebook, especially in the first 6 years was remarkable, giving users the chance to interact with peers and share experiences with rapid ease, without all the junk.

Since 2012 though, Facebook has continued to frustrate users by bombarding them with advertising, messing with privacy options and generally making the use of Facebook less appealing. It appears they lost their way and either failed or simply refused to concern themselves with the decline of the network. Did they care? Or did they just accept it was heading that way and moved on?

In my opinion, it appears to be the later for 2 main reasons. Firstly, since 2013, the advertising and marketing aspect of the network has risen significantly, especially over the past 3 years. They have gone overboard in trawling users for marketing opportunities. I equate this to a car owner trying to get as many kilometres out of their old bunky before she dies!

Secondly and more significantly, was Facebook's purchase of another rapidly rising platform in 2011 - Instagram. Since then, Facebook has continued to fall, whilst Instagram has been continuing to grow in popularity, especially (once again) with the younger demographic.

Facebook will be run into the ground, getting higher and higher kilometres, never getting serviced, whilst Instagram will be the brand new shiny car Facebook used to be.

Many other Social Media platforms have learnt from the ways of Facebook. They are treading a more careful line, by keeping their Apps simple and easy to use, without going too silly with advertising and annoyances. Perhaps Instagram will also follow that lead.

But if Facebook is making \$36million per day in revenue and she blows a piston over the next 2 years. Where would you imagine the need to keep that income stream flowing will be coming from?

Look out Instagram users! I think we will be getting quite a few changes in T's & C's over the coming months.

SAFETY TIPS

HOW TO HELP MINIMISE THE RISK OF EXPOSURE TO NETWORK MARKETING

1. Turn off GPS or Location Services when posting online.
2. Avoid showing links to your location (home, school, work).
3. Become familiar with Trackware & Indexing and how they work (see my other publications).
4. Do not post links or usernames of your other networks.
5. Never use the 'Remember my password' button.
6. Open your FB in one Browser, whilst surfing on another.

SOFTWARE

STUFF TO HELP YOU STAY SANE

- THE FAMILY ZONE** - See article in this publication
- SNAGIT** - A great way to screen capture evidence if your child is being bullied or groomed - <https://www.techsmith.com/>.
- ZULUDESK** - A complete Mobile Device Management system for your school and teachers. For more info visit - <https://zuludesk.com/>

LINKS

SOME USEFUL ONLINE RESOURCES TO HELP PARENTS & EDUCATORS.

- Your Sphere** - Numerous articles on the digital world : <http://internet-safety.yoursphere.com>
- Cyber Smart** - Govt resource website : Visit - www.cybersmart.gov.au
- ACORN** - The WA Police reporting gateway for online crime : Visit - www.acorn.gov.au.
- eSafety Commission** - A great site full of usable information and resources : Visit - www.esafety.gov.au

SANITY SAVER AT HOME

GET TO KNOW HOW YOU CONNECT TO THE INTERNET, YOUR ROUTER AND WHAT IT CAN DO

M Many parents don't realise methods they can use to help minimise online risk at home. One of the most effective ways of doing this is the use of 'Parental Controls' through your Internet Router. Many modern devices offer such options in their set up pages, using very easy to navigate interfaces. As an example, you can identify and list each device that your child uses at home and set time schedules for connection to the internet. That's right! You can cut off their internet without touching their device. From 8:30pm to 7:00am each day, you can block everything from the Playstation and Wii, to their Ipad and phone simply by gaining access to the settings in your Router.



Most parents do not use parental controls because it seems too complicated or technical. However, this is simply not the case. In most instances, especially with Netgear and Belkin devices (2 of the worlds' leading router manufacturers), their customer service is excellent and they will walk you through how to make alterations to your home internet connection. As well as that, there are an infinite number of websites and Youtube links dedicated to the set up of parent controls across most (if not all) routers. The trick is having the courage to make a start.

Firstly, you will need to identify if your router does offer such capabilities. If you were supplied with a free 'dongle' from your service provider, it is unlikely that device will have parental control options. As such, you will need to purchase a device that offers such capabilities. All leading retailers will sell such devices and sales staff should be able to point you in the right direction. If you already have a decent router, then visit the website of the manufacturer for detailed information about your device. If you are not computer literate, contact their customer service department for assistance. They will walk you through the steps you need to get started.

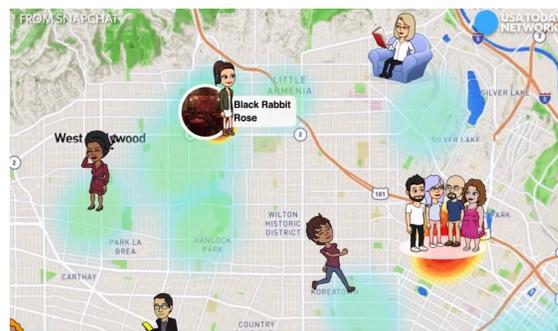
Once you get an understanding of how changes can be made, you will be surprised at how quickly you will pick up the ability to navigate and make alterations to your home internet connectivity.

For a great article and further information on this topic, visit - www.lifewire.com/internet-parental-controls-2487974

SNAPCHAT - SNAP MAP

THE LATEST UPDATE TO THIS POPULAR APP CAN BE RISKY

S Snapchat have recently made a change to their service by introducing the ability for users to 'share' their location across the app. Most social networks are doing this because they make a great deal of money from knowing where we are going. However, as a parent, I do not want the location and movements of my child being revealed for anyone and everyone on Snapchat to see! I am sure you are of the same opinion.



If users agree to share their location with Snapchat, as soon as they open the App, their exact location will be identified and 'pinned' to a map viewable to anyone on the network - The SnapMap. This of course is quite risky, given that any person could identify when and where you are at any given time. This could be home, school or a mates house. Though such changes are frustrating, I was impressed with the owners of Snapchat for clearly outlining to their users how this change works and what they can do to switch off location sharing.

Many of our kids did listen and are turning off this capability on Snapchat. It is called going into 'Ghost Mode'. However, of the 80% of students I speak to who are using Snapchat, only 50% of them know what Ghost Mode is. So we need to continue to spread that message.

When in Ghost Mode, your location will not be revealed to other users across the network and you will not be pinned to the SnapMap. So it is important users switch over to Ghost Mode and this is how they can do that.

1. Go to Snapchat settings.
2. Hit the Ghostface icon in the top left of the screen, then tap on the cog icon in the top right on the User Information page.
3. Scroll down to "See My Location" and tap on that.
4. On the next page, simply toggle "Ghost Mode" on.

This is a timely reminder to our kids, that if they are asked to share their devices' location with an App, they should say no! Some organisations may even imply the App will not work properly or they will not have the 'best experience' if they do not say yes. As parents we know that is not the case. Therefore it is always important to keep the lines of communication open with our kids.

REPORTING - WHAT CAN BE DONE?

MANY PEOPLE ARE UNAWARE OF WHERE THEY CAN GET HELP OR RESOURCES FOR ONLINE MATTERS

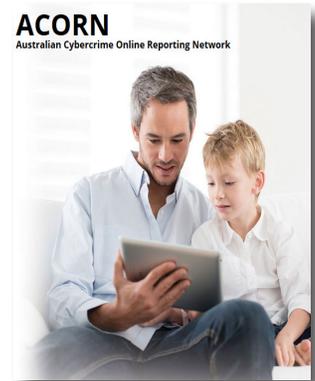
M Many people are still unaware what resources are available in Western Australia for the reporting of online matters. Two main areas where we can make a report online are ACORN and the eSafety Commission.

ACORN - The Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN) is a national policing initiative of the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. It is a national online system that allows the public to securely report instances of cybercrime. It will also provide advice to help people recognise and avoid common types of cybercrime.

ACORN has been designed to make it easier to report cybercrime and help develop a better understanding of the cybercrime affecting Australians. You can report anonymously through ACORN and I would encourage anyone who has experienced any online crime (including Cyber Bullying) to make a report. Please visit - www.acorn.gov.au.

ESAFETY - With the aim to help guide children and young people toward safe, enjoyable experiences online, the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner hopes to encourage behavioural change – where Australian children and young people act responsibly online – just as they would offline.

Their goal is to create an environment in which cyberbullying is truly unacceptable. There are also a large number of resources and a great deal of information for parents and kids on this website, so I would encourage you to sit down with your kids and have a walk through this great resource. Please visit - www.esafety.gov.au.



LOCATION SERVICES

WHERE WE GO AND WHAT WE DO, IS MAKING THEM BILLIONS

M Most, if not all Apps and websites want to know where we are going and all of our devices and tablets have GPS sharing options. We are constantly getting bugged to share our location or to 'Tag in' to places we visit. Globally, the networks are making huge amounts of money by knowing where we are going and what we are doing. Many adults are happy to share their location online, but when it comes to children, I believe sharing and displaying location publicly or even privately, is very risky.

I am not suggesting you turn off Location Services or GPS from your device completely. Because if you lose your phone, you are going to be able to 'ping' it with Apps like Find My Phone. However (especially kids), if a social networking App, a website or Google request access to the device location, then we should say no! Our kids are giving away far too much information and this is not only compromising privacy, but in some cases, it is also compromising safety and increasing risk.

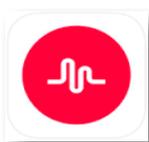
Any person can conduct basic searches on Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat and Musical.ly, by simply selecting locations or typing in places. I show every audience I present to how easy it is to do. All of the kids I present to are shocked when they see how easy it is to find them online and even more shocked when I show them where they are going in the real world. Many Apps, including SnapChat and Musical.ly as examples, will even display the location of users on maps within the App, this is fraught with danger. Of course any user can opt out of such features, but many teens will not because they want to see where their mates are.

I ask you to have conversations with your kids regarding their use of location sharing and to make sure their App settings are adjusted to stop such features. Insist they do not share their location publicly and ensure they avoid 'tagging in' to public events and locations. This will go a long way in maximising their safety and security online.

Below are some Apps and networks that will request access to our devices' GPS and the feature that can reveal a users location.



Facebook
'Graph Search'



Musical.ly
'MyCity'



Snapchat
'SnapMap'



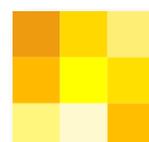
WhatsApp
'Live Location'



Instagram
'Graph Search'



Connect
'Connect'



Yubo
'Location'