

Teen Dating Violence, Trafficking, and Technology

Teen Dating Violence

- Teen Dating Violence (TDV) is a pattern of controlling and abusive behaviors that someone uses against their girlfriend or boyfriend.
- 1 in 3 teens in the U.S. is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner.
- Among high school students in the U.S., approximately 1.5 million report experiencing physical abuse from a dating partner.
- Signs of TDV: Mood swings or changes in personality; Changes in eating or sleeping habits; Constantly thinking or worrying about dating partner; Difficulty making decisions or relying on the decisions of others; Avoiding friends; Sudden changes in appearance; Unexplained injuries; Changes in school performance or activities
- Barriers to Breaking Up: Love: Remembers the good times; Fear: Partner is threatening more abuse if they leave; Relationship inexperience: Doesn't realize it is abuse; Cycle of Violence: believes when partner apologizes; They blame themselves for the abuse; Friends, family, and community; Perceived lack of support/options; There is no one to turn to for help; Legalities of TDV; Additional help-seeking obstacles for LGBTQ youth

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)/Child Sex Trafficking

- Sexual abuse involving a child in exchange for something of value, or promise thereof, to the child or another person or persons
- Risk Factors: Homelessness, runaway, mental health issues, substance use, risky online behavior, LGBTQ status, victim of abuse/neglect, poverty, child welfare involvement, friends/relatives involved in sex work, domestic violence in home, family dysfunction, gang presence/involvement, lack of community resources
- Victim Identification: child may be hostile towards those providing help; possession of expensive items; no identification; changing history; turbulent home life; may see physical signs like bruising or tattoos though not as common in school setting

Technology

- Issues with technology: hard to track, anonymity, multiple avenues, huge use – can't "block" all forms of tech, there are benefits to technology
- Tech as recruitment tool: recruitment via social media (befriending the lonely, false promises of jobs, "seduction"); pornography (show to youth to normalize behavior)
- Online warning signs: needing to take calls in private, hiding screens when you come into room, becoming increasingly secretive, spending increased time online, not talking openly about activities, vague talk of new friend with no details, patterns of leaving home for periods of time
- How teens use technology: use tech with smartphones, messaging apps, video games, and 71% report using more than one app to communicate. Teens overwhelmingly cite Snapchat as their favorite app.

- How perpetrators use technology: access children via social media and apps, gaming systems, and chat rooms, use as a means of control
- Sexting: sending explicit messages, photos, or videos primarily via cell phone or other social media
- Sextortion: explicit images shared with a third party with consent; threats to share explicit content, hacking webcams; also called revenge porn
- Benefits of social media: crowdfunding, positive challenges, support in difficult situations; kickstarter campaigns
- Tech-related protections: keep up with latest apps and trends (see apps on next page), place strong controls on computers, have conversations regularly about safe technology use, use protection software and apps, set rules and boundaries, monitor use

Resources

- Teen Dating Violence
 - PADV Teen Dating Violence Hotline: 1-800-334-2836
 - Project Safe 24/7 Teen Text line: 706-765-8019
 - National Teen Dating Violence Hotline: 1-866-331-9474 or text loveis to 22522
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children/CSEC
 - GA Cares 1-844-8GA-DMST (US Born Victims)
 - Tapestri (foreign national victims all ages; labor and sex trafficking) 404-299-2185
 - National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP to 233733
- Child Sexual Abuse
 - In metro Atlanta: Stephanie V Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children: 404-785-3820
 - Outside Metro Atlanta, find local Child Advocacy Center: www.cacga.org

21 APPS

PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Courtesy of the
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
SEPTEMBER 2019



PLENTY OF FISH



PLENTY OF FISH is a popular free dating app and website that encourages chatting with strangers. It allows users to browse profiles based on location.

HILY



HILY is a dating app where users can browse photos, engage in chats, send private videos and more. Based on the GPS location of a mobile device, strangers can arrange to meet up locally.

ZOOSK



ZOOSK is a location-based dating app and website similar to many others. The app is available in 80 countries and utilizes a "carousel" feature which matches users with random strangers.

MOCOSPACE



MOCOSPACE is a free social networking and dating app geared towards African American and Latino communities. Users can connect with strangers worldwide via text messages or voice calls.

BEST SECRET FOLDER



BEST SECRET FOLDER is specifically meant to "hide photos and videos," according to app store descriptions. It features password protection, decoy videos and alarm settings.

MONKEY



MONKEY is a live video chat app that connects users to random strangers worldwide, offering group chat and private message options. It claims to be rated for ages 12 and up but has "mild sexual content and nudity."

MEETME



MEETME is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. As the app's name suggests, users are encouraged to meet each other in person.

GRINDR



GRINDR is a dating app geared towards gay, bi and transgender people. The app gives users options to chat, share photos and meet up based on a smart phone's GPS location.

SKOUT



SKOUT is a location-based dating app and website. While users under 17 years old are unable to share private photos, kids can easily create an account using a different age.

WHATSAPP



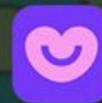
WHATSAPP is a popular messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos, voicemails, make calls and video chats worldwide. WHATSAPP uses an internet connection on smart phones and computers.

TIKTOK



TIKTOK is a new mobile device app popular with kids used for creating and sharing short videos. With very limited privacy controls, users are vulnerable to cyber bullying and explicit content.

BADDOO



BADDOO is a dating and social networking app where users can chat, share photos and videos and connect based on location. While the app is intended for adults only, teens are known to create profiles.

BUMBLE



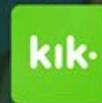
BUMBLE is similar to the popular dating app "Tinder" however, it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use BUMBLE to create fake accounts and falsify their age.

SNAPCHAT



SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear, new features including "stories" allows users to view content for up to 24 hours. Snapchat also allows users to see your location.

KIK



KIK allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

LIVEME



LIVE.ME is a live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcaster's exact location. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos.

HOLLA



HOLLA is a self-proclaimed "addicting" video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Reviewers say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content, and more.

WHISPER



WHISPER is an anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a user's location so people can meet up.

ASK.FM



ASK.FM is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.

CALCULATOR%



CALCULATOR% is only one of SEVERAL secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files, and browser history.

HOT OR NOT



HOT OR NOT encourages users to rate your profile, check out people in their area, and chat with strangers. The goal of this app is to hook up.

For more information, contact Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Community Affairs at 941.861.4005



Training for School Personnel



The Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children and the virtual Institute on Healthcare and Human Trafficking have a new online webinar to educate school personnel on the impact of human trafficking. This training is designed to meet the requirements for teacher education on child sexual abuse included in Senate Bill 401. The course covers:

- The risk factors, potential indicators, and health consequences of child sex trafficking
- Common recruitment techniques
- Strategies school professionals can use to prevent exploitation of students
- Appropriate places to refer children they suspect have been or are at risk of being trafficked

Training is geared toward:

- Teachers
- School nurses
- School social workers
- School counselors
- Paraprofessionals
- Administrators
- Other school personnel

Training Link:

<https://redcap.choa.org/redcap/surveys/?s=AFYJTMAMXL>

**The training can be completed individually or as a group and participants will have opportunity to download a certificate after completing the post-training evaluation.

For More Information Contact:
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