



Online Safety Tips

Presentation Notes

Considerations for safety and connection with minors.

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NOTE: COPPA Compliance provides restrictions regarding children's (under age 13) personal information sharing. Let's set a cautious standard.

Best Practices:

- Communicate to Groups: Avoid one-to-one interactions with leaders and minors, One way messaging from the leader to the a group of children is acceptable (ie FB Posts on a Church Family page - designed for members/ parents to show to their children).
- Appeal to Parents/Caregivers - Talk to Kids: Use the language; Hey mom and dad, after viewing this video, show it to your kiddos... or Hey parent and care-givers, here's a fun...
- Avoid One-on-one Conversations: There's a lot of people recommending Facetime or Marco Polo to the kids - this is a risky behavior and can promote opportunity for abuse. If you do these, make sure it's to a group or a parent is on the call as well.
- Know the Balance: We have an opportunity to help parents regain a voice of influence. Do your best to support parents, not replace them. Encourage families to read a passage together and respond to answers to basic questions:
 - What do you imagine it was like...?
 - Who in this story is most like/unlike you?
 - What did the person in the story do good/bad?
 - What did you see God do in this story?
 - How do you see God working in this way today?

Know when to go offline:

- There are some children who will need more than online interaction. In accordance with current regulations, devise a plan to pastor these children.
- Homes with Foster children, newborns, and children with special needs
- Homes where parents are disengaged, members of the first responder community, or perhaps abusive
- Homes where there are basic needs.