Cyber-Safety: Privacy, Protection, and the Latest Laws Affecting Children and Families

What is iQ: smartparent?

iQ: smartparent is an Emmy-winning multimedia television and web series designed for parents that will empower them with new knowledge, tools, and abilities to successfully guide their children through the changing landscape of digital media and technology. It’s a growing community of caregivers, national experts, educators, and parent bloggers who want to understand the opportunities and challenges of media as it relates to the development of their children. iQ: smartparent was created by WQED Multimedia in 2012.

About this Episode

New media technology has given us the means to connect with people around the world, but that comes with tremendous benefits and serious risks.

This special one-hour webcast includes regional and national experts who explore and explain vital information about safety and privacy settings online, and they reveal how predators, cyber-bullies, and marketers evade them. Discover ways to protect your privacy; manage your social media “footprint”; and recognize and report online harassment. In addition, legal experts will explain important new “sexting” laws and what they mean for minors; and, they will reveal strategies for young people to defend themselves from and report online predators.

This special program also delves into the personal experiences of two survivors of online harassment and sexual predators. Hear how their traumatic experiences unfolded and listen to their advice for seeking help and moving forward if you, too, are a victim of this abuse.

Watch the webcast here: www.iqsmartparent.org/webcasts

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Discussion Questions

1. Do all people have an equal need for privacy? Do some, who are more vulnerable in some ways, need privacy more than others? How does privacy change for public figures and celebrities?

2. Do you believe that our legislators should pass new laws to protect privacy, given the new technologies and products that now collect information about us?

3. Should individuals bear the responsibility of protecting their own privacy? Do you think most people understand the way in which their information is accessed, collected, or otherwise used online?

4. When the law restricts people from spreading gossip and rumors online, this affects free speech. How do you balance privacy and free speech on the internet?

5. What do you think of online shaming of bad behavior (think of parents shaming their children for disrespectful behavior or of people filming others when they behave rudely)? If people know that they will be exposed online for acting inappropriately, then maybe we'll see less rude behavior. Why isn't that a good thing? What are some problems with this?

6. Some say that the best remedy for bad information is good information. So perhaps the solution is for victims of online rumors and gossip is to put up corrective information online so that it will also pull up in a Google search under their names. Would this solution work? Why or why not?
About the Guests

Alicia Kozakiewicz is an international advocate for preventative safety education and effective legislation. As a survivor of Internet luring/abduction and child sexual exploitation, Alicia has devoted her life to raising awareness of missing persons cases and protecting children against predatory crime. She was the subject of the award-winning PBS Internet safety documentary, Alicia’s Message: I’m Here To Save Your Life and Enough is Enough’s Emmy award-winning, Alicia’s Story. Alicia has testified before Congress, and has lobbied for the Protect Our Children Act and Alicia’s Law, which has become the mechanism to apply self-reliant dedicated funding for child rescue. Alicia’s Law has passed in several states and Alicia has dedicated herself to seeing the initiative passed in all fifty states. Alicia has joined the television network, Investigation Discovery (ID), to raise awareness of, and effect change for, issues such as Internet safety, missing persons, human trafficking, and child safety awareness education. She has been engaged by the FBI to train the National Academy as part of the “Youth Violence: Victims and Perpetrators” program. Additionally, she is an Airlines Ambassador International representative and Human Trafficking Awareness Trainer. Alicia is currently working towards her M.A. in Forensic Psychology at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, and is hoping to one day work with law enforcement, joining the task forces that were instrumental in her rescue. www.aliciaproject.org

Dena Haritos Tsamitis has led the College of Engineering’s Information Networking Institute (INI) as director since 2004. Her efforts have prepared the next generation of information networking, security and mobility professionals at Carnegie Mellon University. Under her direction, the INI has spanned globally to offer programs in Greece, Portugal, and Japan and has led the innovative design of bicoastal programs offered at the Silicon Valley campus. Dena is a founding director of Carnegie Mellon CyLab, for which she spearheaded efforts in cybersecurity education, training, and outreach. She established the MySecureCyberspace initiative to raise “cyberawareness” in Internet users of all ages through a portal, game, and curriculum. Since its launch in 2005, the initiative reached over one million people in 167 countries, including more than 48K users in 30 countries of the Carnegie Cyber Academy and Game. She currently co-chairs the College of Engineering Global Campus committee. Currently, Dena serves on the board of advisors for the EWF, RedMarlin, Inc., Prime Tech Partners and the Norfolk State University Information Assurance Research, Education and Development Institute. For her achievements in information security and education, Dena received the 2008 Women of Influence Award, presented by Alta Associates and CSO magazine. Carnegie Mellon honored Dena with the 2012 Barbara Lazarus Award for Graduate Student and Junior Faculty Mentoring in recognition of her leadership promoting equality and inclusion as well as her long-standing commitment to mentoring graduate students and faculty. In 2017, Dena was named as the first recipient of the Barbara Lazarus Professorship in Information Networking at Carnegie Mellon University. www.cmu.edu/ini/about/team/tsamitis.html
Kelsey Meacham is a Data Analyst with the Allegheny County Police Department. Previously, Kelsey was an Anti-Money Laundering Investigator with Northwest Bank. Her educational background includes a B.A. in Intelligence Studies from Mercyhurst University. Kelsey is a Certified Social Media Intelligence Expert (CSMIE) and a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS). In her free time, Kelsey volunteers for Mercyhurst University’s Anti-Human Trafficking Center.

Megan Galloway is a Data Analyst with the Allegheny County Police Department. She volunteers with Mercyhurst University Anti-Human Trafficking Center. Megan previously worked at Washington County District Attorney’s Drug Task Force for two years prior to joining the Allegheny County Policy Department. She graduated with a major in Intelligence Studies and a minor in Psychology in Criminal Justice from Mercyhurst University Class of 2014.

Detective Steven Dish has been a Detective since 2009 with the Allegheny County Police Department Child Abuse / Sex Assault Unit. Detective Dish is currently assigned, since October 2015, to The FBI Western Pennsylvania Violent Crimes Against Children Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement. Detective Dish has been in Law Enforcement for 24 years collectively; 11 years with the Allegheny County Police Department and 13 years with the Moon Township Police Department. Detective Dish is a Crisis Negotiator on the Allegheny County Police Crisis Negotiation Team and he is on the Allegheny County Child Abduction Response Team. While in the Sex Assault / Child Abuse Unit Detective Dish’s responsibilities included investigating crimes against children specifically physical child abuse and sexual child abuse, and investigating sexual assaults against adult victims. As a member of the Child Abduction Response Team Detective Dish has assisted with the investigations of children who have been lost or abducted. Detective Dish’s responsibilities on the Task Force include investigating online enticement and abuse of children, and the investigation of child pornography cases on both the State level and the Federal level.
Online Resources

Cyber Safety: An Interactive Guide to Staying Safe on the Internet

Internet Safety Tips for Children and Teens

5 Myths and Truths About Kids’ Internet Safety
ww.commonsensemedia.org/blog/5-myths-and-truths-about-kids-internet-safety

Kid-Safe Browsers and Search Sites
www.commonsensemedia.org/lists/kid-safe-browsers-and-search-sites

5 Internet Safety Tips for Kids (video)
www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/5-internet-safety-tips-for-kids

Internet Safety – Common Sense Media

What Are Some Good Rules for Screen Name and Passwords


How do I keep my children safe online? What the security experts tell their kids

Federal Trade Commission Consumer Information: Protecting Kids Online
www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/protecting-kids-online

Connect Safely: Safety Tips & Advice www.connectsafely.org/safety-tips-advice/To

Keep Teens Safe Online, They Need to Learn to Manage Risk
www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/02/27/517491502/to-keep-teens-safe-online-they-need-to-learn-to-manage-risk

Teen Internet Safety Tips https://teens.webmd.com/features/teen-internet-safety-tips#1

iQ: smartparent is created with support from: