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

Coming soon...
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
www.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

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