



# Electronic Dangers

Schools – Parents –Community

This is the website that counselors will be using to educate students on online safety.

# The Issue:

**The Autauga County court system in conjunction with local law enforcement wants to partner with schools, parents and community to educate students on appropriate social media usage.**

- Social media sites and apps are an important part of how we all use the internet. Younger children may enjoy sites like Animal Jam that do not fit the traditional social media mold, but still allow users to communicate with each other, while older children, teens, and adults, may prefer sites like Facebook, and apps like Snapchat, Musical.ly and Instagram.
- Most social media sites and apps (including Facebook, SnapChat, Twitter, Instagram, and Musical.ly) require users to be at least 13 years old, though it is not uncommon for youths to be untruthful about their date of birth in order to gain access to the site or app. By accessing these platforms before age 13, young children are at an increased risk of encountering inappropriate content and/or contact from older users.

# By the Numbers

- 37% of young social media users feel pressured to post content that will get a lot of likes on social media.
- 45% of young social media users feel overwhelmed by drama on social media.
- About 70% of young social media users associate their social media use with positive emotions such as feeling included and confident.

# How to Talk About It:

## Ask

- What's your favorite website or app? What do you like to do there?
- Have you ever seen something online you didn't want to see?
- Do you ever talk to people you don't know online? What do you talk about?
- Can you show me which sites and apps you're using?
- Would you feel comfortable if I checked your accounts?
- What kinds of things do you post?
- How do you decide who to add as a friend?
- How much personal information do you share online?
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# How to talk about it:

## Reinforce

- Today, one's online reputation counts offline, too. Help children remove any personal or inappropriate images from social media and other accounts.
- If it wouldn't be OK to do so offline, it's not OK online, either. Help children and teens report any criminal behavior to the police and report inappropriate posts to the website or app -- most have a system in place to handle these complaints.
- If anyone sends them an inappropriate request, they should report it to <https://report.cybertip.org>.