

James Blackwell

DeGeekIT

Ratoath College PA – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018

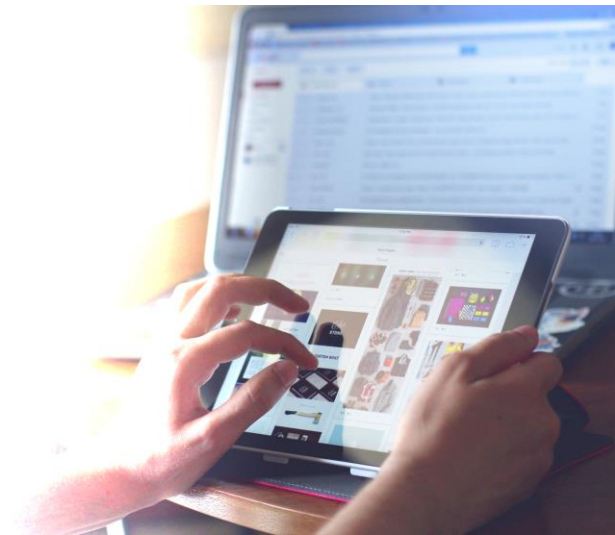
# Personal Online Safety



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# What we are looking at this evening

- Anonymous messaging and group chat,
- Streaming and broadcast video,
- Social media,
- Location Services,
- Bullying, blackmail and beyond,
- Parental controls and their limitations,
- The Internet of Things and Smart Homes,
- Computer and Phone security



# Anonymous Messaging & Group Chat

## Open your phone web browser now

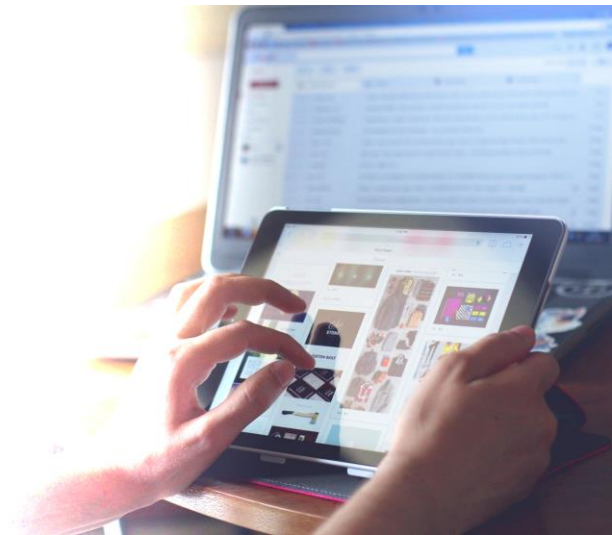
Go to

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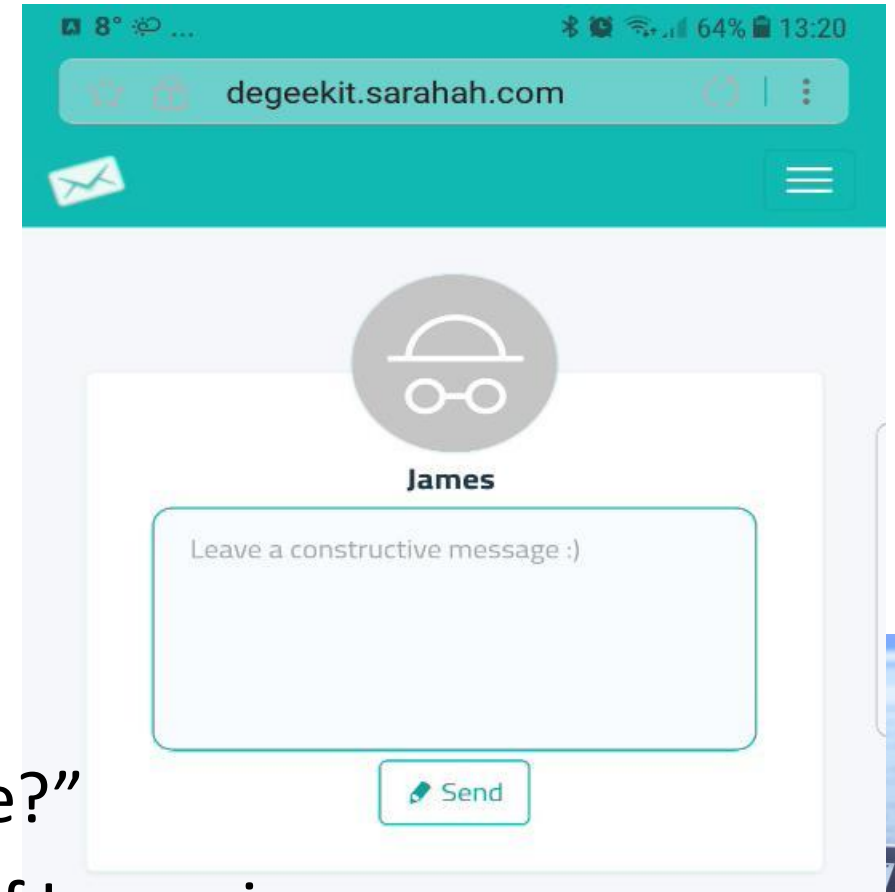
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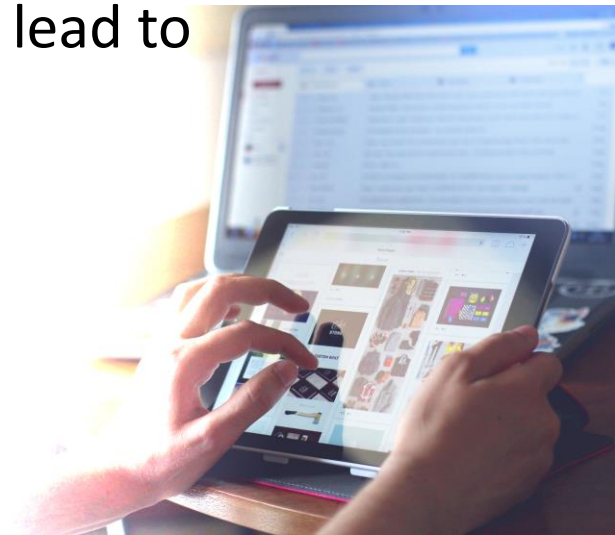
# Anonymous Messaging & Group Chat

- Open your phone web browser now please
- Go to [DeGeekIT.Sarahah.com](http://DeGeekIT.Sarahah.com)
- Completely anonymous feedback
- Huge fad of summer 2017
- Originally designed in Saudi Arabia
- Intended for good use
- Adopted by teens: “What do you think of me?”
- Plugs into SnapChat – HUGE Bullying and Self Image issues



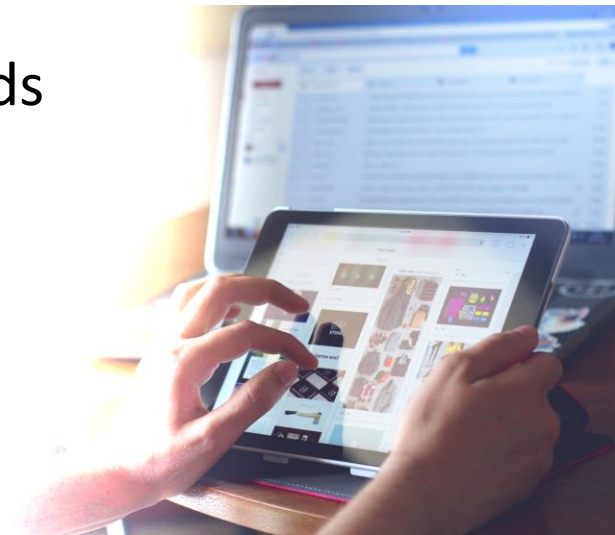
# From Anonymous to Ephemeral

- WhatsApp
  - Started as texting over internet (no SMS costs)
  - Needed a phone number but no email address to register
  - Bought by Facebook
  - Added Group Chat, Ephemeral “Status”, Video & Voice calls
  - Group Chat hugely popular with Teens
  - Not anonymous, but peer to peer conversations in groups can lead to bullying, both accidental and intentional



# From Anonymous to Ephemeral

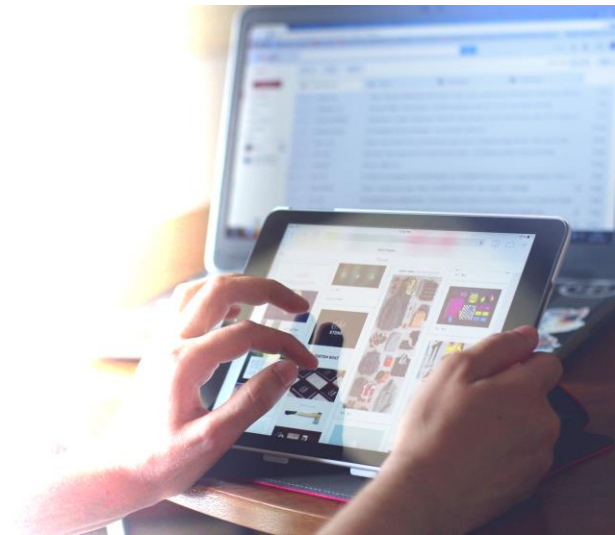
- Kik
  - Used by <2% Irish Teens
  - Founded in 2009
  - Not linked to phone number or email address
    - Essentially anonymous so...
  - ...Used nefariously as secondary messenger by people who do not want to be traced
  - Became more popular for its “Public Groups” like #MakeFriends
  - Hard to see a positive reason for using Kik IMO





# From Anonymous to Ephemeral

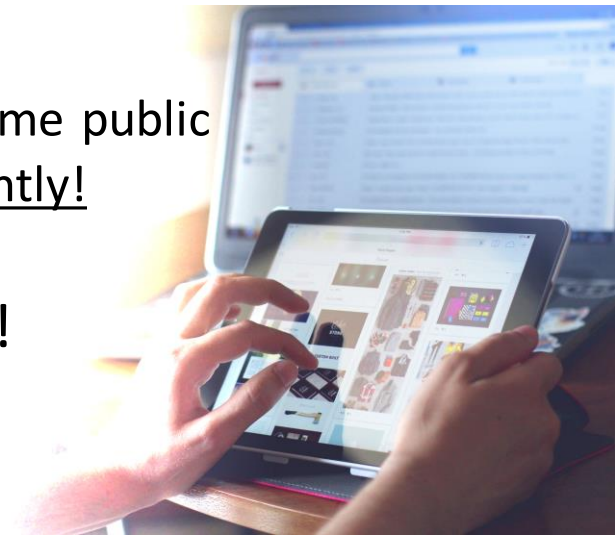
- Telegram
  - First mainstream cross platform encrypted messenger
  - Started by Russian engineers
  - Contains many of WhatsApp's features, but no live video.
  - Allows for creating groups, channels and secret chats



# From Anonymous to Ephemeral

- Snapchat

- The original “ephemeral” photo messaging app
- Photos and videos sent disappeared after set time (<10 seconds)
- Became synonymous with “Sexting” but...
- Images and videos are easy to capture
- Many instances of privately shared pictures being broadcast
- Revenge porn & sextortion has become a problem
- Added Stories in 2016 & SnapMap in 2017
  - When not reconfigured for privacy – videos, photos and location become public
  - A lot of teens in Ratoath leave SnapChat location sharing on permanently!
- Group messaging very popular with teens
- Facebook attempted to buy Snapchat and failed... so copied it!

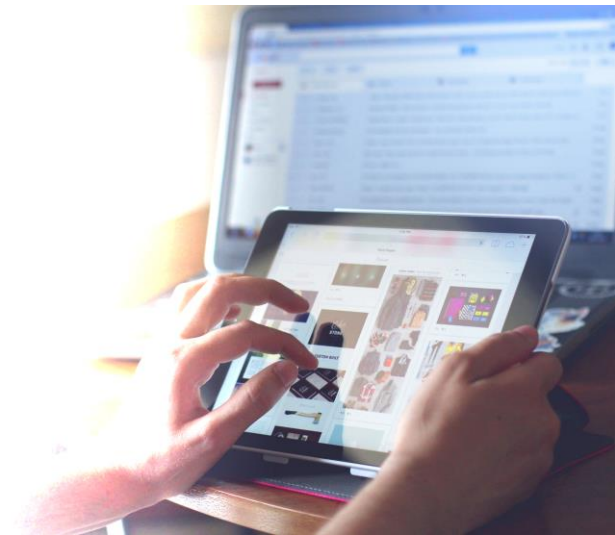




# Photo & Video Messaging

- Instagram

- Started as a means to share photos from early iPhones
- Bought by Facebook in 2012
- Added filters to photos
- Added short videos to copy Vine and Snapchat
- Added Stories to copy Snapchat
- Became popular with teens
- Very public by default – and feeds self image issues
- Images are heavily moderated
- Part of the Facebook Advertising network
- Emerging issue – Spam Accounts (spamxox)



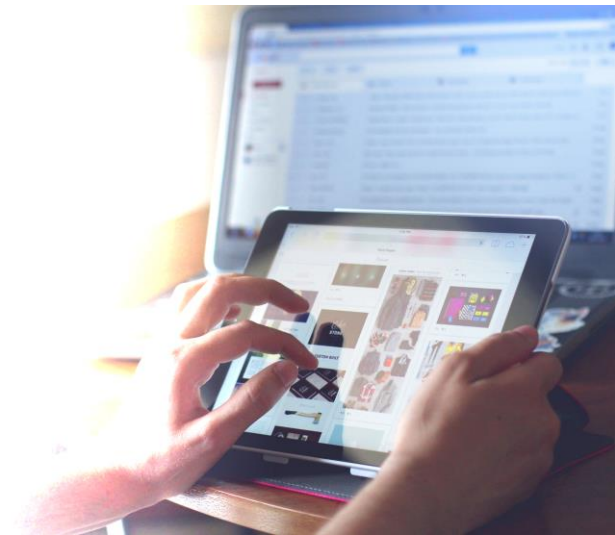
# Streaming & Broadcast Video

- Musical.ly
  - Released in 2014 and became immediate pre-teen issue
  - Encourages broadcast short lipsync & dancing edited videos
  - Fun for budding stars (in theory)
  - Public by default
  - Appeals to 8-12 year olds (but theoretically limited to 13+)
  - Dangerous from both child and household security perspective IMO
  - Even when kids stop using app, they often forget to delete old content
  - Kids chase “hearts” and views – encourages them to do more



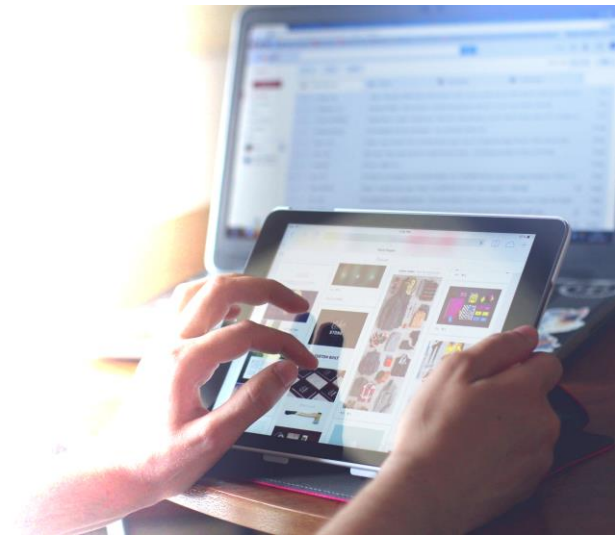
# Streaming & Broadcast Video

- YouNow
  - Live broadcast video from any phone
  - Registration is optional (live videos can be viewed anonymously)
  - Moderation is patchy
  - Great for budding musicians (prior to live YouTube & Facebook)
  - Young kids still broadcast, but decreasing
  - Broadcasters chase Likes, Gold Bars, and views
  - #Tagged subjects draw people to groups
  - People broadcast themselves sleeping
  - #TruthOrDare type groups pop up



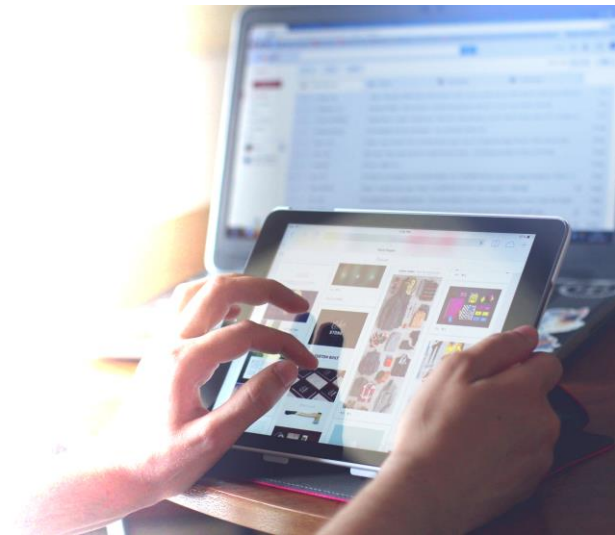
# Streaming & Broadcast Video

- Periscope
  - Live broadcast video from any phone
  - Owned by Twitter & linked to a Twitter account
  - Reveals Location
  - Often used to broadcast live news before journalists arrive on scene
  - Also often used from bedrooms :-/
  - A lot of bad language etc.



# Streaming & Broadcast Video

- Live.Ly
  - Musical.Ly wanted to take users into live broadcasting
  - Young users drawn in through cross app publication
  - Live chat while broadcasting often inappropriate and designed to evade filters
  - Users chase view and “hearts”
  - Potential positive use for people seeking an audience (musicians etc)
  - Often reveal a lot of house contents etc



# Streaming & Broadcast Video

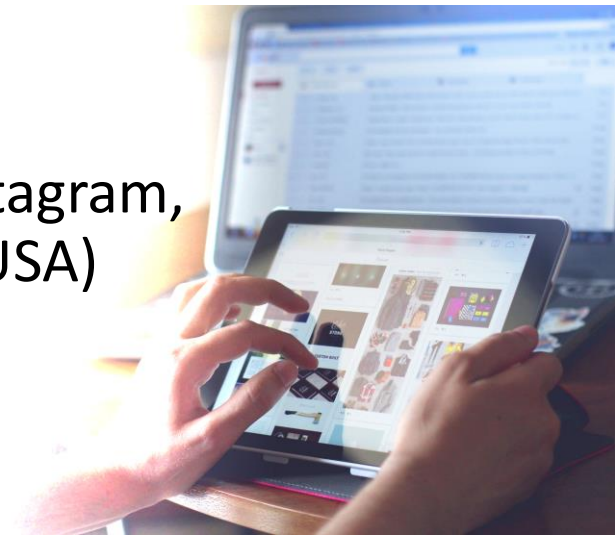
- Twitch
  - Hugely popular live game broadcasting tool
  - Gamers often share content from their consoles, computers and phones,
  - Sometimes webcams also used
  - Provides monetization mechanism for streamers
  - Not unusual to see 25,000+ viewers watching a particular game
  - eSports have become a huge money event
  - Lot of bad language & virtual violence in some games





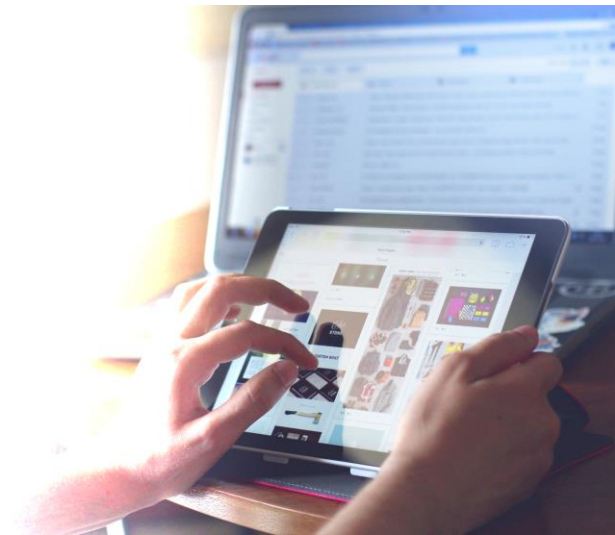
# Social Media – What did we start?

- Facebook
  - Largely abandoned by teens when parents joined
  - Facebook's biggest user base are now in the 45-55 year old range
  - A lot of people accidentally sharing personal posts publicly
  - ...including pictures of their kids
  - Everyone should be reviewing their public feed and friends list regularly.
  - Check privacy settings
  - Profile Pics and Cover photos are ALWAYS public
  - Facebook trying to draw in younger users with WhatsApp, Instagram, Messenger and just recently Messenger Kids (6+ years old in USA)



# Social Media – What did we start?

- Twitter
  - Very popular across age groups
  - Many users just “follow” and view rather than posting
  - Very useful for directly reaching public entities or individuals
  - Accounts can be set to private, but then become essentially useless
  - Great way to join a public debate, or pressure a company to act



# Location Services – The good and bad

- Location services allow photos and videos to be tagged with hidden data so you can remember where they were taken
- Makes it easy to find your old photos
- When posted publicly, it allows strangers to know where you are or where you've been.
- Can reveal, for example, an empty house when the family is on holiday
- When used with services such as SnapMap, it can be a gift to stalkers.
- However...



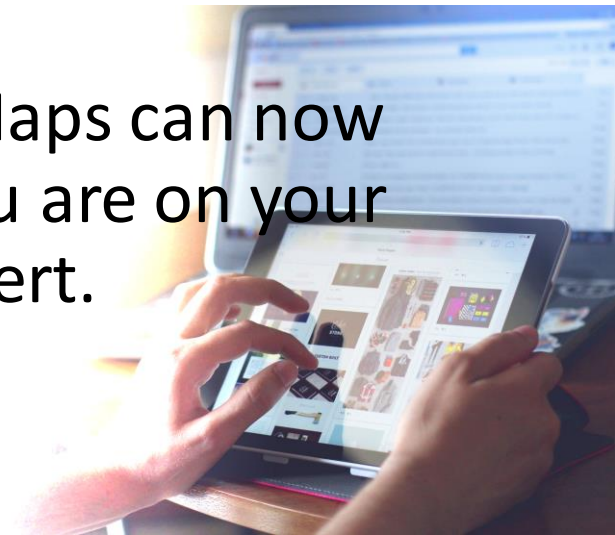
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# Location Services – The good and bad

- Location services also allow you to “find your phone”
- If used carefully, can be used to make sure you know where your kids are
- Like most things, it’s not all good or bad... It requires thought!
- Apps like Life 360 are good for keeping tabs on the family (with consent)
- Glympse, WhatsApp (share location) and even Google Maps can now temporarily share location to let someone know that you are on your way. Example... Finding your friends at an outdoor concert.



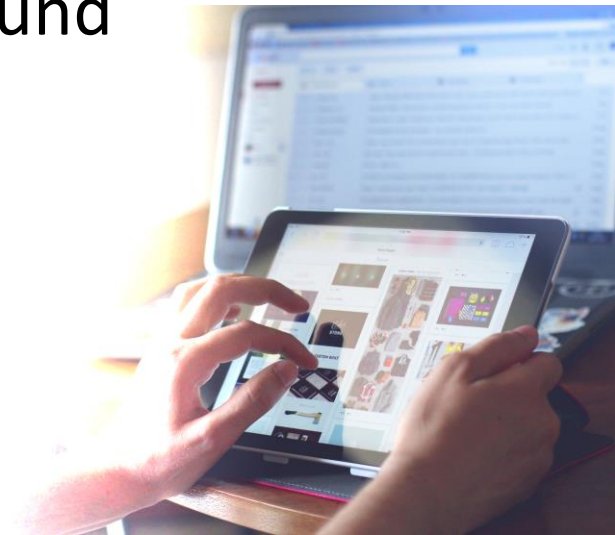
# Gaming Online

- Xbox (Xbox Live), PS4 (Playstation Network), PC/Mac, Smartphones/Tablets
- Many games have some level of online chat
- Default configurations often allow kids to chat with anybody
- Language often an issue
- Revealing real names and locations can be dangerous
- Virtual bullying can have negative psychological impact
- ...but real friendships can develop in good gaming communities
- Use available parental controls from the outset!



# Bullying, Blackmail, Extortion, Sexting...

- Most (if not all) apps that involve group communication invite bullying
- Bullying is NOT always intentional
  - Casual passing remarks, when echoed, can have a disastrous impact
- Intentional bullies can find weak peers online to amplify hurt
- Anonymous or ephemeral chat provides ideal hiding ground
- Photo & video sharing exacerbates the risk and...
- ... Can morph quickly from bullying into Blackmail...





# Bullying, Blackmail, Extortion, Sexting...

## Non-consensual sharing of intimate images

**6%** of respondents aged 13-17 years across Denmark, Hungary and the UK have had their nude or nearly nude image shared with other people without their permission in the last year, while 41% have witnessed this happening.

**68%** The majority of respondents (68%) agree that people will think badly about a girl if her nude or nearly nude image is posted online, whereas a smaller proportion would think the same if it were a boy (40%).

**25%** A quarter of respondents (25%) have witnessed young people secretly taking sexual images of someone and sharing them online, while 10% admitted they had done this in the last year.

## Sexualised bullying

**25%** of respondents aged 13-17 years across Denmark, Hungary and the UK have had rumours about their sexual behaviour shared online in the last year, with over two-thirds of respondents (68%) saying that girls are judged more harshly for this than boys.

**31%** Almost a third of respondents (31%) had seen people their age creating fake profiles of someone to share sexual images, comments or messages in the last year, while almost half (48%) witnessed other young people sharing personal details of someone who is seen as 'easy'.

**80%** 4 in 5 respondents (80%) had witnessed people their age using terms like 'sket' or 'slut' to describe girls in a mean way online in the last year, while over two-thirds (68%) had witnessed people using homophobic or transphobic language online.



# Bullying, Blackmail, Extortion, Sexting...

## Exploitation, coercion and threats

**9%** of respondents aged 13-17 years across Denmark, Hungary and the UK have received sexual threats online from people their age in the last year, while 29% have witnessed this happening.

**6%** of respondents said that someone used sexual images of them to threaten or blackmail them in the last year.

**10%** **1 in 10** respondents said their boyfriend or girlfriend had pressured them to share nude images in the last year, with girls being more likely to report this.

**“I was being pressurized into sending sexual photos and videos of myself and was threatened if I didn't. They would go on and on at me when I said no but would carry on with the threats.”**

Girl, 13 years, UK



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Boy, 14 years, Hungary

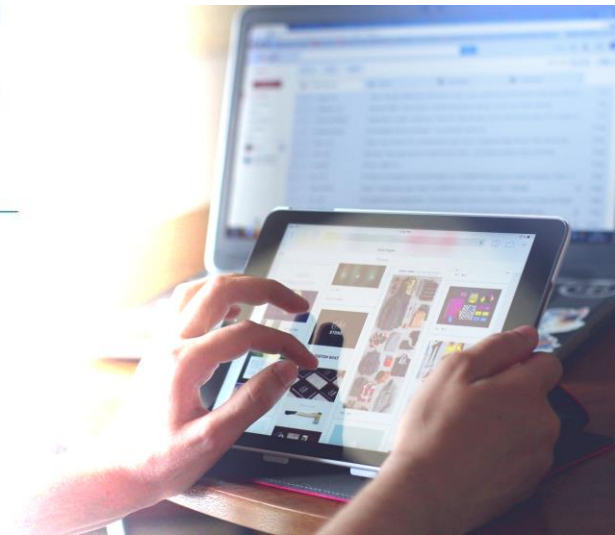
## Unwanted sexualisation

**24%** of respondents aged 13-17 years across Denmark, Hungary and the UK have received unwanted sexual messages and images in the last year, with girls being significantly more likely to experience this (30%) compared to boys (13%).

**24%** **Almost a quarter** of respondents (24%) reported that they had received sexual comments on a photo they posted of themselves in the last year, with girls being significantly more likely to experience this (26%) compared to boys (18%).

**45%** **Almost half** of respondents aged 13-17 years (45%) said that they have witnessed people their age editing photos of someone to make them sexual, for example putting their face on a pornographic image or placing sexual emojis over them.

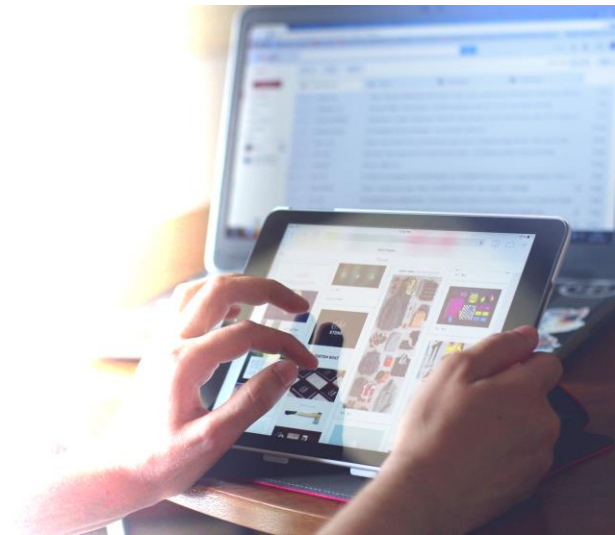
**“If they write like, huge knockers, nice ass and so on, then you think... Then you'd feel like you're violated by the person, because it is a boy.”**  
Girl, 14-15 years, Denmark





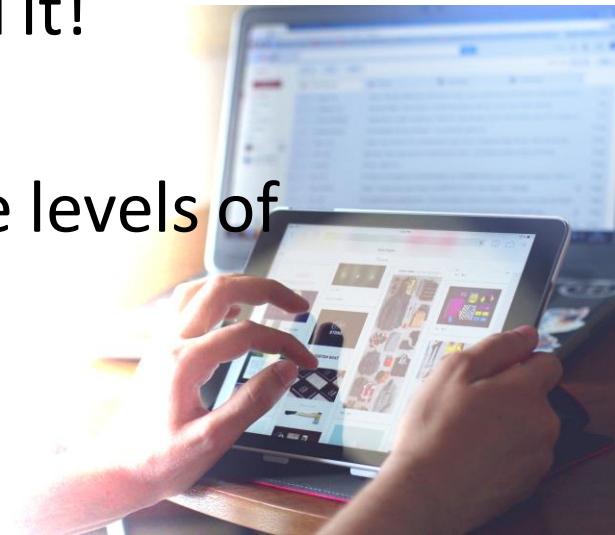
# Bullying, Blackmail, Extortion, Sexting...

- Blackmail has grown beyond teens asking to “show more” or “do more”
- Professional gangs across the world have turned it into Sexual Coercion and Extortion
- PLEASE watch the 10 minute Europol “Say No!” video in full



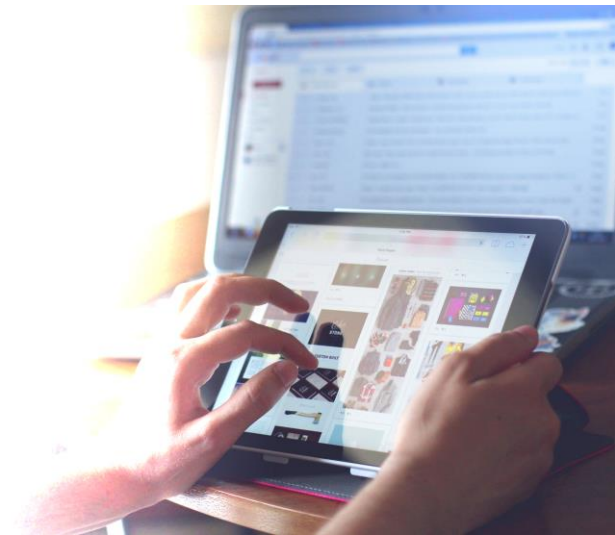
# Parental Controls

- No one system is fool proof
- Use App Restrictions on phones & tablets
- Use parental controls on consoles
- WiFi / ISP restrictions useless if your kids have a SIM (or friend's WiFi)
- Use 3<sup>rd</sup> party tools on devices with inadequate built in controls
- Keep it reasonable, or expect teens to find a way around it!
- Keep conversation open – be interested, not invasive
- Don't leap to ban or block... discuss, negotiate and agree levels of restrictions



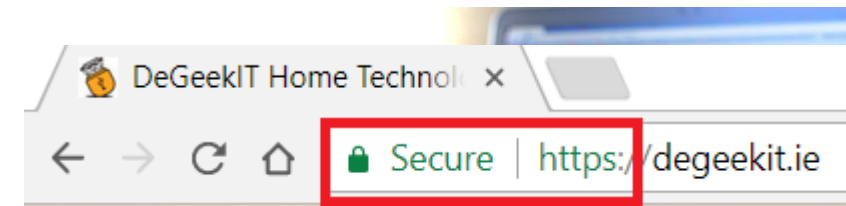
# Internet of Things & Smart Homes

- Thousands of appliances now connected to the Internet
- TVs, Audio Systems, Home Alarms, Cameras, Door locks, Plugs, Lights, Fridges, Ovens, Washing Machines...
- Every one of them is a potential vulnerability
- Keep the software (firmware) up to date
- Change any default passwords
- Keep your WiFi network patched and secure



# Computer & Phone Security

- Always keep Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android as up to date as the device will allow
- Windows Vista & XP is no longer patched and IS insecure
- Browsers should always be kept to the latest version
- Keep 1 (just one) antivirus on a PC/Mac, and keep it up to date
- Use a personal firewall (built into Windows 10)
- Use TWO FACTOR AUTHENTICATION
- Never transact with a webpage unless it is using HTTPS





# Where to go next?

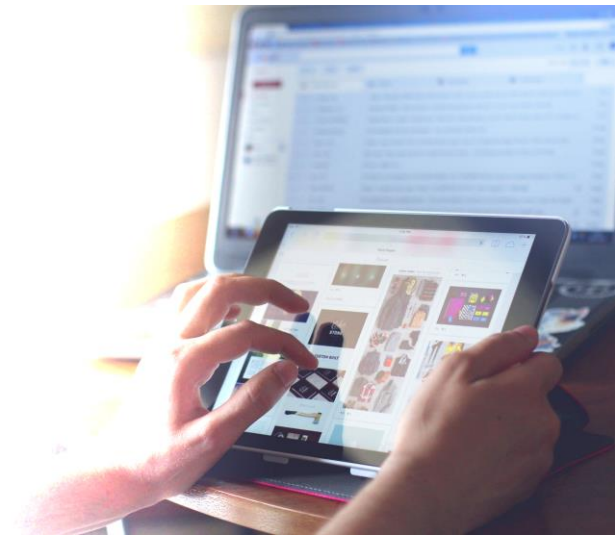
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