

The Online Adolescent

She's right next to you! Why are you texting her?

Adolescent Cognitive Development

- Frontal Lobe – Executive thought (reasoning, self-control)
- Pre-Frontal Cortex not fully developed until adulthood
- Rational vs. Reactive thought

Online Behavior

Opportunity	Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressive 	<p>No social cues – discrimination, hate speech</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient 	<p>Scammable - identity theft, no skepticism</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative 	<p>Criminal access – stalking, abduction, grooming</p>

Collaborative

Texting is the most preferred

- Self-regulated speech
- Cultural Membership

Remember...

- Phone = Primary communication device
- Adults tend to overreact
- Students do not report abuse

Connected Risks

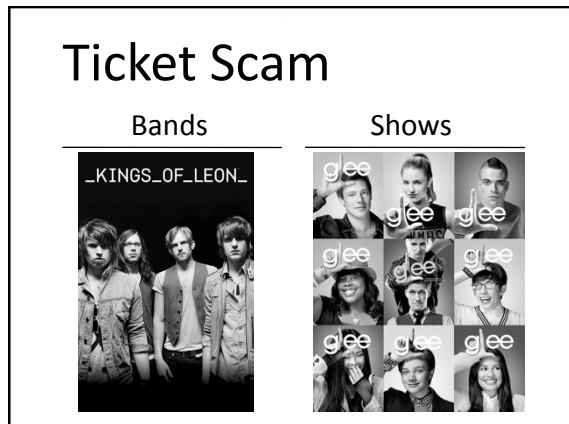
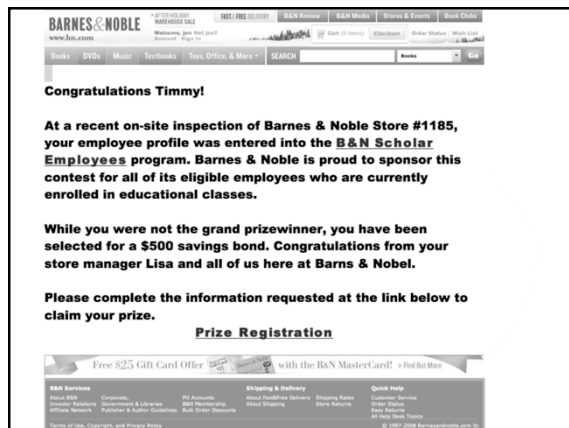
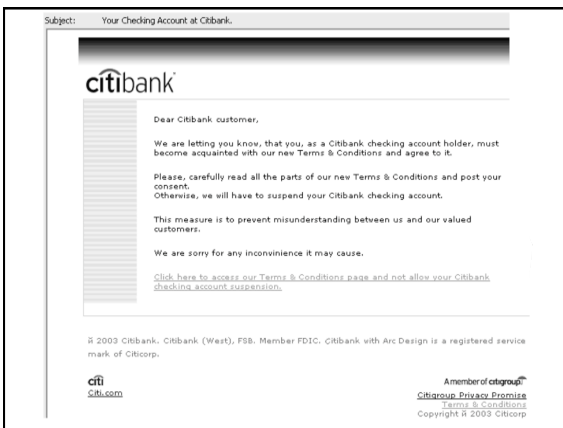
- Textual Harassment
- Sexting
 - Sexual maturity/curiosity vs. cultural norms
- Anyone, anywhere, anytime
 - Organized, practiced, intentional
 - Random - Chatroulette

Efficiency

Lack of Skepticism



- ## Changes to Facebook
- Photos now public
 - Default setting : Friends of Friends
 - Applications can access your profile
 - Groups can access your profile





Self Expression

Biological Need for Self Expression
+
Biological Lack of Self Regulation
+
Internet
=
Social Train Wreck
(MySpace, Facebook, etc)

Profile Pics are Public



Personal Exposure

- Social networks hit all the psychological buttons
Self-expression, belonging, interests, sharing, validation, social, romantic, visual, fun...
- Personal Info at risk in three areas
 - Commercial attacks (scams, advertisement, etc)
 - Inside the social sphere (frenemies)
 - Outside the social sphere (stalkers, predators, etc)

How do we deal with this?

- Pencil vs. Technology
- Remove personal info from accounts
- Teach Vetting Truth not Fact Finding
- Provide boundaries, scaffolding, and modeling
- Stay Informed

