

Teens Attitudes on Sexting

- Majority of teens believe it's normal to share peer's photos
 - 1 in 5 teens (age 13-17 yrs old) report seeing shared images of peer's nude or partially nude photo
- Teens don't perceive consequences of viewing or forwarding peer's images
 - Aren't aware of legal implications
 - Look at it as a joke between their friends
 - Will share in group chats on social media apps

Additional Resources:

Online Safety Webpage:



Parental Control Information:

<https://cacofbc.org/technology-for-caregivers/>

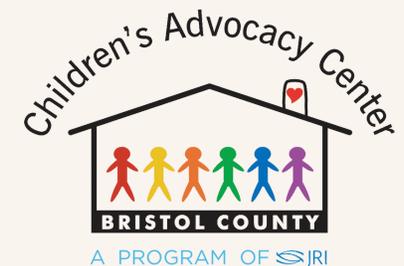
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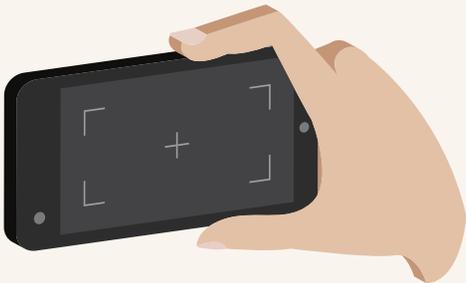
Tips for Caregivers: What to Tell Kids About Sexting



What is Sexting?

THE ACTION OR PRACTICE OF SENDING SEXUALLY EXPLICIT PHOTOS, VIDEOS, OR MESSAGES VIA CELLULAR DEVICE.

It is illegal to send, receive, and/or forward partially nude/nude photos or videos



Legal Consequences

Age of Consent in Massachusetts for photos is 18 years old.

- But, it is illegal to take them, share them and/or possess them
- Legal Consequences can include:
 - Fines up to \$5,000
 - Court mandated programs
 - Diversion programs
 - Felony Charges
 - Sex Offender Registry

Promoting Safe Behavior

- Discuss Age of Consent in Massachusetts
- Explain the legal consequences of sexting
- Establish expectations for online behavior
- Discuss appropriate vs. inappropriate posts
- Establish rules about what they can share
- Learn about reporting & blocking
- Talk to children about healthy relationships
- Set a policy about meeting offline for older teens