

# 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/>

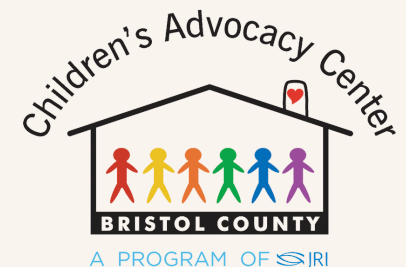
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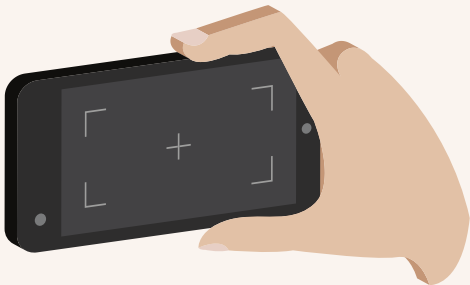
## Tips for Caregivers: What to Tell Kids About Sexting



# 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