

**Title of Session:** Cyberethics, Cybersafety, and Cybersecurity

**Moderator:** BJ Berquist

**Title of File:** 20060206cyberethics

**Date:** February 6, 2006

Room: After School Online

**BJB2:** we'll start as soon as Davina, the discussion leader logs in

**JoanW:** Besides being the assistant director of PATH, I'm also the Vice President of WHOA-KTD - which is working to halt online abuse - kids and teens division.

**JoanW:** Jayne Hitchcock who founded WHOA is a professor.

**BJB2:** ahhh, great, Joan.

**JoanW:** She went through cyber hell, but after fighting back she founded WHOA back in 1997 to help others.

**BJB2:** while we wait for Davina, how about a couple tips...

**BJB2:** go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH

**JoanW:** Well, #1 rule is if someone is bothering you, SAVE all documentation, but DO NOT contact that person back.

**LizMK:** I did that

**JoanW:** The more you engage with that person who is cyber-bothering you (bullying harassment, stalking, etc.) the more they know they are pushing your buttons.

**LizMK:** so now the screen's bigger

**LizMK:** nice

**JoanW:** Most of the WHOA-KTD internet safety advocates are either teachers or involved in law enforcement.

**JoanW:** WHOA-KTD believes in education, as well as giving advice.

**JoanW:** They're not out to make a media name for themselves like some groups.

**BJB2:** Joan, how about if we have everyone introduce themselves, please

**BJB2:** tell us where you are located and what you teach

**BJB2:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

**LizMK:** I'm Liz - in NJ - teach 8th grade French and Spanish - pursuing masters in ed tech - conducting research for a project

**JoanW:** I'm Joan - (disabled) YA Librarian

**HelenK:** I am in BC, Canada and I work with adult students

**JoanW:** Who LOVES helping people even though I can't in real life.

**BJB2:** it doesn't get much more real than this, Joan!

**JoanW:** I'm also helping a friend who is starting an after-school center in her town, and giving her and the founder suggestions

**MaryMa** joined the room.

**BJB2:** We've had discussions in Tapped In led by Nancy Willard who is big voice in cybersafety

**JoanW:** I know Nancy !!!!!!!

**JoanW:** She's great !!!!!

**BJB2:** is anyone familiar with her information?

**BJB2** smiles...yes, she is

**JoanW:** In fact a friend of mine has been helping her with her book!

**LizMK:** I'm unfamiliar

**MaryMa:** I'm new as of today

**JoanW:** In fact, I think I can credit Nancy with finding TI

**JoanW:** I think that's how I found you guys in the first place - one of her articles that had a transcript online.

**MaryMa:** question, if you don't mind

**JoanW:** sure

**MaryMa:** Are we waiting for Davina, the leader of this discussion?

**BJB2:** yes, Mary

**LizMK:** I was wondering the same

**MaryMa:** okay, thanks, this is my first time on this site

**JoanW:** ooops sorry BJ

**MaryMa:** where is everyone from?

**BJB2:** I appreciate your contribution to the discussion, Joan

**LizMK:** NJ

**JoanW** is on Long Island, NY

**BJB2:** Mary, we did intros a little earlier

**MaryMa:** I'm sorry

**MaryMa:** I'm from Chicago, an elementary teachers for Chicago's district

**BJB2:** glad you could join us, Mary

**BJB2:** Joan was telling us about some of the cybersafety issues she is involved with

**BJB2:** and I mentioned Nancy Willard who is active in cyber safety issues

**JoanW:** WHOA-KTD contacts the isps that folks have problems with and send them transcripts, etc., plus give advice to the folks that come to them.

**LizMK:** interesting

**JoanW:** They also have a list of attorneys and pi's if it gets beyond their scope.

**JoanW:** Whoa was started by a professor/author

**LizMK:** I don't know if this is at all what you deal with...

**LizMK:** but I had some students a few years back that found out my aol screenname

**LizMK:** and were im'ing me filthy, dirty sexual msgs

**LizMK:** it was terrible

**JoanW:** AOL is probably one of the toughest ISPs to fight, but they do have a legal department.

**JoanW:** Just SAVE all documentation, IM logs, emails, anything that is sent electronically.

**JoanW:** but do not respond to them.

**LizMK:** the way I handled it was print and ignore

**LizMK:** that's exactly what I did

**JoanW:** GOOD for you !!

**LizMK:** it was so inappropriate

**LizMK:** I felt a little bit helpless

**JoanW:** I am so sorry - this has been a very long day for me, but I hope to participate with this group in ensuing weeks.

**JoanW:** Take care, and good evening

**JoanW** left the room (signed off).

**BJB2:** tell us what you did, Liz...

**BJB2:** anything other than ignore?

**LizMK:** not too much

**LizMK:** it didn't get very elevated

**BJB2:** we are all vulnerable to this kind of thing...and we're adults...

**LizMK:** it was a few isolated times

**BJB2:** just think how the kids feel when it happens to them

**LizMK:** so I felt like ignoring was the best thing to do

**LizMK:** eventually it dwindled off

**LizMK:** I can imagine

**LizMK:** and I hear that it happens all the time, being a middle school teacher

**LizMK:** and of course then there's the whole myspace issue

**BJB2:** the site that Davina usually shares is  
<http://www.edtechoutreach.umd.edu/C32005/index.html>

**HelenK:** there are features that will let you block out unwanted contacts but I usually use a more restricted access to control who can contact me

**LizMK:** that's what I did as well

**LizMK:** nowadays, with aim, kids can have like 10 different usernames

**LizMK:** so you block one and then another comes within a minute...

**BJB2:** is blocking the answer?

**BJB2:** or is it an educator's responsibility to teach safe use of online resources?

**BJB2:** during the last discussion Davina talked a little about MySpace...are you familiar with that?

**LizMK:** I am

**BJB2:** I've explored the site...

**BJB2:** they do have all kinds of rules and regs...

**BJB2:** but the bottom line is that the users have to be responsible for what they post

**LizMK:** right

**LizMK:** I've actually had a profile on myspace for years

**LizMK:** along with all of my friends

**LizMK:** WAY before any of my students started to become crazed

**BJB2** grins...crazed is about it!

**LizMK:** my profile states nothing that I'm concerned about students viewing

**LizMK:** I know that they've seen it

**LizMK:** so it's very general - nothing to hide

**LizMK:** but I've seen some of my student's

**LizMK:** they're horrific

**LizMK:** if I were a parent, I'd be all over it

**BJB2:** ahhh...another important idea...

**BJB2:** are parents aware of what their kids are doing online?

**LizMK:** parental awareness?

**BJB2:** is it their responsibility to check?

**LizMK:** they certainly ought to be

**LizMK:** I believe so

**BJB2:** I agree, Liz

**LizMK:** what are your thoughts?

**BJB2:** Melissa? Helen? Mary?

**MaryMa:** yes

**LizMK:** there was one of those wife-swapping shows on a few weeks ago

**MaryMa:** I'm wondering how to check my teen daughter's activities on the nt

**LizMK:** and one of the families didn't realize what their teenage daughter (from NJ) was doing on it

**LizMK:** they were shocked to say the least

**BJB2** nods to Liz.

**LizMK:** and then worked together with her to make her site appropriate

**BJB2:** Mary, have you asked your daughter?

**BJB2** . o O ( to show you the sites she goes on )

**AndreaM** joined the room.

**MaryMa:** no, but I see her using IM's

**BJB2:** you can also check the history of the sites she's visited

**MaryMa:** that's about it

**BJB2:** most of the kids use IM. Sometimes it's enough to let your kid know you are interested

**BJB2:** Hi, Andrea

**AndreaM:** Hello

**MaryMa:** true, BJ

**LizMK:** and I'd suggest

**LizMK:** discussing the nature of myspace with your daughter

**MaryMa:** I am not familiar with myspace, is it free?

**LizMK:** if she knows that you know and are aware, she'll probably be more inclined to act appropriately???

**LizMK:** yes it is

**LizMK:** it's been all over the news lately

**MaryMa:** I will ask her

**LizMK:** supposedly, the deaths of at least 2 teens may be traceable back to myspace predators

**BJB2:** <http://myspace.com/>

**LizMK:** I think that'd also be a topic worthy of a heart-to-heart discussion

**LizMK:** it's really scary

**MaryMa:** I will definitely check it out

**LizMK:** not scary to me - a 33 year old, educated woman that knows how to make decisions

**LizMK:** but, I fear for some of my 13 year old students that have profiles

**BJB2** . o O ( like not posting a photo of yourself in your underwear )

**LizMK:** exactly!

**MaryMa:** Liz, why do you go to my space, it sounds like a kids hangout?

**LizMK:** not really

**LizMK:** in my opinion

**LizMK:** that's the most recent

**BJB2:** it wasn't originally created for kids, Mary

**MaryMa:** I don't know, I will have to check it out

**LizMK:** it started as more of a 20's-30's networking site

**LizMK:** it wasn't until about a year ago that the kids started getting on it

**MaryMa:** rats, kids ruin everything!

**LizMK:** the idea itself isn't bad, it's a great way to keep in contact with friends and/or colleagues

**LizMK:** they really do!

**LizMK:** it just needs to be used appropriately

**LizMK:** there was a similar site before myspace called friendster

**LizMK:** it never blew up like myspace did

**LizMK:** but I found some long-lost friends from my college days

**BJB2:** and kids need to see appropriate internet space modeled by parents and teachers

**MaryMa:** oh how fun

**LizMK:** true

**LizMK:** which is why I've decided not to remove my profile

**LizMK:** there's nothing wrong with communicating, sharing blogs and pics with your friends

**BJB2** agrees



**LizMK:** in my opinion

**MaryMa:** no, that's what's best about the net

**LizMK:** I had a parent tell me last year that the kids have seen my myspace profile

**LizMK:** and I just told her that I was aware of that and it was ok with me

**LizMK:** I actually have a message to the students on my site

**MaryMa:** I'm wondering, Liz, if your students act better knowing that you are on the site

**LizMK:** well... that would seem logical...

**LizMK:** however

**LizMK:** they've sent me friendly requests

**LizMK:** which I always deny

**LizMK:** but they bring me to their profiles

**LizMK:** where they curse

**LizMK:** and have half-naked pics of themselves

**LizMK:** that's actually the worst part

**LizMK:** that I try to avoid dealing with

**MaryMa:** girls or boys or both?

**LizMK:** I've gone to our sac/counselor about this

**LizMK:** both

**BJB2:** I apologize for the discussion leader not showing up.

**MaryMa:** np

**LizMK:** we've had a nice discussion though

**BJB2:** was there anything else that anyone wanted to discuss?

**MaryMa:** does anyone have ideas on how to prevents kids getting inappropriate pics from google or yahoo?

**LizMK:** hmmm

**MaryMa:** or is there a kid appropriate place to find pictures

**BJB2:** good question, Mary

**LizMK:** yahooligans?

**BJB2:** Let's make that the topic for next month's discussion

**MaryMa:** I'm there!

**BJB2:** and if you have resources to share on that, bring them to the meeting

**BJB2:** sound good?

**MaryMa:** I did an image search for Cherokee and came up with nude people in front of the Cherokee lodge

**HelenK:** you could always use a service like clipart.com There is an annual fee but all of the picture are available to copy and save

**HelenK:** thanks once again for the great job you do BJ. see you next month

**LizMK:** good night everyone

**MaryMa:** bye, all

**BJB2** waves goodnight and heads for Arts and Literacy