What's my role?

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Our online presence is constantly growing – even when we're not actually online. Being online allows us to do many things, including connecting with family and friends, learning about different issues and helping us with work. While being online can be beneficial in many ways, there can also be downsides to having an online presence. Cyberbullying and online predators are problems that touch kids every day. No one is immune.

Being online has its responsibilities, too. Everyone has the right to be safe while online. As a parent, what's your role when it comes to keeping kids safe online?

The following are some examples of commitments you can undertake to ensure your kids' safety online and offline:

- **Be informed:** I will learn more about cyberbullying so I can be aware of what my kids may be facing.
- **Raise awareness:** I will talk to others, like my friends and colleagues, about cyberbullying.
- **Start a conversation:** I will talk to my kids about cyberbullying and about how we can all be safer online. (For example: who they can go to if they ever feel unsafe and are uncomfortable talking to me.)
- **Be open:** I will talk to my kids about what they do online. I will share with them what I do online.
- **Work together:** We will talk about an online agreement for our family which we can all feel good about and live with.
- **Establish boundaries:** We will decide together what the consequences will be if any of us ever break our agreement.
- **Keep the lines of communication open:** I will not get mad if my kids come to me about what they or their friends are doing online or about something that happens to them or their friends online.

What are some other things you can commit to doing in order to keep kids safe online?

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