

Cybertip.ca is Canada's tipline for reporting online child sexual exploitation including child pornography, luring, child prostitution and child-sex tourism. Cybertip.ca is operated by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, a national charitable agency, and was launched with support from the Government of Canada in January 2005. The tipline accepts reports from the public and forwards those that are potentially illegal to police. Cybertip.ca contributes to public education and prevention through its online safety strategies and national awareness campaigns.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Cybertip.ca plays an important role in public safety by preventing crime and assisting police bring child offenders to justice
- Cybertip.ca provides a single access point for the public to report online child sexual exploitation
- Cybertip.ca works with government, industry and law enforcement to create Internet safety information for children

WHAT THE DATA TELLS US

- Every day Canadians are encountering online child sexual exploitation, using www.cybertip.ca to report over 30,000 suspected cases
- Cybertip.ca is a trusted source of online safety strategies, having processed over 4,000 requests for information
- Reports to Cybertip.ca have resulted in 27 arrests and the removal of numerous children from abusive environments
- 96% of Canadians feel it is important to have a place to report child pornography online (*Pollara 2005*)
- More than 80% of Canadian parents view Internet luring and sexual exploitation as big problems (*Ipsos-Reid 2006*)

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Internet holds incredible potential and educational value for youth in Canada. However, along with its benefits, it can also be a dangerous place if children are not properly monitored.

SOME IMMEDIATE STEPS THAT PARENTS/GUARDIANS CAN TAKE TO SAFEGUARD THEIR CHILDREN INCLUDE:

- Become familiar with the Internet forums that your child uses (IM, P2P, Blogs)
- Explain to your child that their Internet activity will be monitored. Your child should have no expectation of privacy on the computer
- Be aware when your child is sending pictures. Closely monitor the use of webcams, digital cameras and cellular phones
- Emphasize the public nature of the Internet, the permanence of sent pictures, the legal implications of distributing naked images and the harm it may cause in their lives

Cybertip.ca is partly funded by the Government of Canada under the national strategy to protect children from online sexual exploitation. For more information, please visit www.cybertip.ca.