EMPOWERING TEENS: NAVIGATING ONLINE SAFETY

Dr. Pallavi Guha
Dr. Paro Pain
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

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AGENDA

• Introduction
• 5-minute activity
• 15 minutes: concepts, tools, and examples
• 20 minutes will be a role-play activity applying the concepts & tools,
• 5 minutes for any questions.
Please Share:

Have any students/child/young stakeholders come to you for cyber safety help?

How have you supported them?

What do you wish you had known to support them?
WHO DID THE ASIAN FEMALE TEENAGERS REACH OUT TO?

- Friends,
- Parents,
- School,
- Platform,
- Teachers.

Parents: 35%
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO EMPOWER TEENAGERS?

Digital natives: Spending more time online
Access to digital devices & platforms
Education is online
Not a part of curriculum yet, like ELA, MATH
Online safety related to physical safety

WHY EMPOWER TEENS?

Digital exposure requires awareness and education.
Online safety is intertwined with physical safety.
Early education can prevent cyberbullying and harassment.
ONLINE RISKS FOR TEENS

Potential for cyberbullying and harassment.
Risk of data breaches and identity theft.
Exposure to inappropriate content and contacts.

GENDERED ABUSE AND TEENAGERS OF ASIAN DESCENT

75% of Asian girls have reported experiencing online harassment; 50% have encountered racial references in comments. What did they do?
REACTION: GENDERED ABUSE AND TEENAGERS OF ASIAN DESCENT

35% of Asian girls ignore the perpetrators, 30% politely ask them to stop, and 25% engage in conversation with them.

Only 10% block or report them.

ABCDS OF ONLINE SAFETY

- Awareness: Understanding online risks.
- Behavior: Encouraging safe online practices.
- Control: Using privacy settings effectively.
ISSUES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:

- AI personal information: emails, DoB, Cellphone.
  - Leads to data breaches, identity theft, or financial fraud (if it has credit card information)
- WashPost article on ChatGPT intruding student lives, more than essays, how:
  - Creating workout plans,
  - Give relationship advice,
  - Suggest characters for a short story,
  - Make a joke
  - Provide recipes for the random things left in their refrigerators.
  - Valentine's Day poetry.

ISSUES OF BROWSING:

- Unsafe browsing and browser:
  - Losing personal information.
  - Downloading files without checking.
  - Sending forwards! Yes, still a thing on chatting platforms.
- Concept of phishing.
- Links in games and platforms.
- Chatting with unknown folks and using links to send personal information.
DIGITAL LITERACY & TEENS

Digital native  ➔  Digital literacy

Importance of verification online information

Understanding and managing digital footprints

*What happens in Vegas gets to Venice?*

ROLE-PLAYING SCENARIOS

Role-Playing for Real Understanding:
- Use role-playing to apply online safety concepts.
- Create scenarios for teens to navigate digital dilemmas.
- Encourage creative problem-solving and discussion.
PARENTAL TIPS & TRICKS

- Regularly review privacy settings with teens.
- Encourage teens to restrict unknown online contacts.
- Integrate online safety in regular discussions.
- Encourage your child to report.

HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT?

- Encourage seeking help from trusted adults.
- Discuss the importance of reporting harassment.
- Foster a community of support and vigilance.
EMPOWERING DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP:
KEY TAKE AWAYS

- Online safety is a continuous learning process.
- Encourage proactive and open dialogue.
- Empower teens to be responsible digital citizens.