

MARCH 5, 2010

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

This session will provide youth safety information needed to help stop a child from becoming victim of technology-facilitated exploitation. The “virtual world” possesses countless opportunities for youth to learn, create and connect with others. However, the “virtual world” not unlike the “real world” can pose serious risk to our youth. Therefore, it is critical that parents and other caring adults understand the benefits and risks associated with new technologies.

Technology is becoming more creative and efficient everyday, and so is its appeal to younger generations. Today, the majority of youth have more skills and awareness of new technology than their parents and teachers. Fortunately, you don't have to be a computer expert to help keep children safe from technology-facilitated abuse. Actually, there are simple tips that can help you use modern technology to strengthen communication between you and children. At the conclusion of this session you will learn the following objectives:

- Empower children to protect their NAME, IDENTITY and REPUTATION when using technology.
- Communicate with children about the benefits and risks of popular technologies such as ...
 - SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES .i.e. facebook, myspace
 - TEXT MESSAGING
 - ONLINE GAMING
 - WEBCAMS AND OTHERS.
- Identify the red flags that a child may be engaging in dangerous online behavior.
- Know how to REPORT if you suspect a child is in danger of technology-facilitated abuse.

Learn how you can help keep kids safe online! Lets teach children how to use technology responsibly so that they may reap it's numerous benefits, safely.

INSTRUCTOR: CHERISSE THIBAUT, MSW

Cherisse Thibaut holds a Masters Degree in Social Work from Saint Louis University. In accordance with her desire to work with children and communities she obtained a practicum at The Child Center, Inc. The Child Center is one of twenty Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) in Missouri. CACs respond to allegations of child sexual abuse with an approach that puts the needs of the child first. This experience fueled her passionate commitment to creating a world where children are treated with respect. Cherisse is currently working at Missouri Kidsfirst as a Prevention Specialist and Liaison for the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (MOICAC). MOICAC serves criminal justice agencies and Missouri citizens by offering investigative, forensic and prevention training, and resources in an effort to fight technology- facilitated child exploitation. Cherisse is also part of the Net Generation, which allows her to have a modern perspective on Internet Safety Education.

Location: MBCH Regional Office, 4001 NE Lakewood Way, Lee Summit, MO 64064

Time: 8:30am-12noon

Cost of Workshop: \$65

3 CEHs: Washington University, George Warren Brown School of Social Work for MO & IL

3 CEHs: NBCC