




## Lesson Plan # 4


# Online/Electronic Lure


**Presenter Overview:** Most teens regularly and safely interact online with people they don't know via social networking, media and gaming sites. Although news organizations have exaggerated the threat of online predators, there are criminals who search the Internet for lonely, rebellious or trusting young people. Since today's teens have been online since grade school, most are well versed in blocking, ignoring or deleting solicitations.

Teens put themselves most at risk by disclosing personal information, sending/posting pictures or videos of themselves, having sexual conversations with people online or electronically, and agreeing to meet face-to-face (f2f). While anyone can easily distort their identity in cyberspace, recent studies show that only 5 percent of sexual predators do so. Most adolescents who meet online acquaintances f2f go willingly, are expecting a sexual encounter and go more than once.

The ease with which youngsters can post images and video to the Internet and cell phones puts them at greater risk of exploitation by peers, themselves and others. Students need to understand the real life implications of risky online and digital behavior and are encouraged to commit to the Online-Electronic Safety Pact (available on page 38 or for free download at [childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp](http://childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp)).

 <b>Key Points:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teens should set boundaries - and stick to them.</li> <li>• Teens should not send or post suggestive or nude images, nor have sexual conversations via the Internet or electronically</li> <li>• Inappropriate, excessive or violent e-mail, texts, or IMs should be ignored, saved and reported to <a href="http://cybertipline.com">cybertipline.com</a> and to local police.</li> <li>• Face to face meetings should only occur in public and in the company of a trusted adult.</li> </ul>
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 <b>Vocabulary:</b>	exaggerated, electronic, gaming clan, meetup, pact, savvy
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 <b>Props:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Teen Lures TV Newscast</i> "Online-Electronic Lure"</li> <li>2. Online-Electronic Safety Pact on page 38 and available for download at <a href="http://childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp">childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp</a></li> <li>3. Posters: "2Smrt 2B Lured" (on page 39) and "Pics Don't Stay Private" (on page 40) and available for free download at <a href="http://teenluresprevention.com/posters.asp">teenluresprevention.com/posters.asp</a></li> </ol>
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## The Presentation:

**Quick Review:** The Ego/Fame Lure taught us how ego can interfere with personal safety. This lure can be used by adults, dates and even friends. It's important to stand firm against peer pressure to remove clothing for pics or video. We should be extra cautious of people who inundate us with compliments or say they can make us famous.

While it's important to pursue our dreams, involving parents or guardians helps us do it safely.

## Learning Objectives:

The threat of online predators has been exaggerated in the media. As you know better than anyone, teens safely interact online everyday with people they don't know. However, there are some creeps that may be encountered, so let's take a fresh look at how teens have been lured online and electronically.



## Discussion:

(Display Classroom Poster “2Smrt 2B Lured”)

1. We’ve heard for years, “Be careful of online predators.” Do you know why?  
*(Student responses.)*
2. Although news organizations have exaggerated the threat of online predators, there are those who do use the Internet to target potential victims. And guess who their prime target is?  
*Teens and preteens.*

3. Although only five percent of online predators distort their identity, when we chat online with people, do we really know who they are? *No.*

Could a male pretend to be female? *Yes.*

Could a 53-year-old man pretend to be a 15-year-old girl? *Yes.*

Could a violent criminal pretend to be a nice person? *Yes.*

4. A recent Youth Internet Survey reports that 20% of 10-17 year olds receive unwanted sexual solicitations online, **and many of these sexual solicitations are from other teens.**

So whether it is an adult or a peer we are communicating with, what should we do if the content turns inappropriate or abusive?

*Block it.*

*Ignore and don’t respond.*

*If necessary, report to [www.cybertipline.org](http://www.cybertipline.org) and/or save and share with someone you trust.*

5. By giving someone our phone number, they can use a search engine like Google to pinpoint our address and get a map directly to our house.
  - a. Could they call us at home? *Yes.*
  - b. Could they show up at our house, school, or sports events? *Yes.*
  - c. Could they follow us to places where we hang out or work? *Yes.*
  - d. Once they find us, could they assault us? *Yes.*
6. There are times online when we can’t avoid giving out some personal information. What are some examples?
  - *Joining a members-only website.*
  - *Registering for a virtual community.*
  - *Buying from an online store.*
  - *Entering a contest.*

In these situations, what should we always do?

- *Check with a parent or guardian before giving any information.*
- *Choose no public profile*

7. We always hear how dangerous it is to go alone to meet an online-only friend. Is it really dangerous?  
*Yes, it can be dangerous.*

Does it surprise you to know that in a recent study, most teens who agreed to face-to-face meetings went willingly, expected a sexual encounter and went more than once?

*(Student responses.)*

What could happen if we went alone to meet someone, or let them visit us without our parents knowing?

- a. Could they end up being a dangerous person? *Yes.*
- b. Could there be more than one person? *Yes.*
- c. Could they end up hurting us? *Yes.*



8. If someone, even a boyfriend or girlfriend, asked us to send nude or semi-nude pictures of ourselves, who could end up seeing those images?
- *Everyone else at school*
  - *Family members (parents, grandparents, siblings, cousins)*
  - *College admissions officer*
  - *Future employer*
  - *Anyone worldwide – possibly forever*

That's right. Once sent or posted, images don't fade away. They can be shared with anyone.

(Display Classroom Poster "Pics Don't Stay Private")

9. How could we be affected for the rest of our lives by inappropriate images we send and post **now**?
- *May embarrass us now and in the future.*
  - *May be denied college admission.*
  - *May be denied a job.*
  - *May be charged with a crime.*
  - *May be seen by our own children some day.*

10. If a friend or boyfriend/girlfriend is controlling, disrespecting or pressuring us in online and electronic spaces, what should we do?

*Tell them they've crossed the line. Get help if necessary.*

Why is it important for teens to set boundaries with peers and others?

*To be respectful of ourself and others.*

Where can teens get help if someone is not respecting set boundaries?

- *From a friend*
- *From an older sibling*
- *From someone you trust, like a coach, teacher, school counselor or parent.*

**Positive Thinking:**

- Do you have your own blog?
- Would you consider being a Web designer as a career?

There's also a free hotline to call. It's for teens who need advice.

Teens can call free anytime of the day or night, any day of the year, and it's confidential.

It's the **National Teen Dating Hotline** and the phone number is 1-800-331-9474.

11. How might an online offender (adult or peer) befriend us and gain our trust?  
(Allow students to give responses. Offer responses below that are not suggested.)

- *Spend time trying to get to know us.*
- *Encourage us to share personal feelings.*
- *Ask about problems at home.*
- *Pretend to offer support and understanding.*
- *Start to introduce sexual conversations.*
- *Send pornography to us or ask us to send pics to them.*

12. Why shouldn't we share family problems with online-only friends?
- a. Can it show them our weaknesses? *Yes.*
  - b. Does it allow them to get very close to us? *Yes.*
  - c. Could we become very dependent on this friend? *Yes.*
  - d. Could it lead to an invitation for a face-to-face meeting? *Yes.*
  - e. Could an online-only friend become dangerous? *Yes.*

We all have problems at home sometimes. When we do, who can we talk to about those problems?

- *A friend, trusted adult or a hotline*

Most adults want to help teens with problems. All we need to do is ask someone we know and trust.



13. Suppose we have an online friend we've known for a long time. Our parents know about our friendship and agree that this friend is really who they say they are. If we decided we wanted to meet our friend offline, how would we do it safely?
- *Talk on the phone before we meet, and have our parents talk to each other.*
  - *Bring our parents or another trusted adult along to the f2f meeting.*
  - *Meet in a busy public place during daylight hours.*

## Practice Scenarios:

1. For the past year, Tina has spent lots of time after school and on weekends playing games like Counter Strike as part of an all-girl online gaming clan. She's never met anyone in the clan offline, but she's one of the best players, and feels like she's an important member of her team. This summer, members of the clan are planning to have a meetup at a local cyber café so everyone can finally get to know each other and play Counter-Strike together. Tina is really looking forward to it.
  - a. Are the people in Tina's gaming clan probably safe to meet? *Yes.*
  - b. Should Tina take steps to stay safe? *Yes.*
  - c. Should Tina go to the meetup alone? *No.*  
Who should she bring with her? *Her parent(s) or other trusted adult(s).*
  
2. Zach has just moved to a new town and is having trouble making friends. Online though, he has lots of friends. He can talk to one of them, Eric601, about anything – even his parents' divorce and his loneliness. Eric601 has offered to meet Zach downtown and show him around. Zach is very tempted.
  - a. Does Zach really know who Eric601 is? *There's no way to know for sure.*
  - b. Should Zach discuss personal things like his parents' divorce with online-only friends? *No.*
  - c. Should Zach go alone to meet Eric601 downtown? *No.*
  - d. Would Zach possibly be putting himself in a dangerous situation by meeting Eric alone? *Yes.*

Suppose Zach is convinced that Eric601 is just another student his age that he really likes. If he wanted to meet Eric in person, how could he do it as safely as possible?

- *By talking on the phone first and having their parents talk, too.*
- *By meeting in a busy public place during daylight hours.*
- *By bringing his parents or another trusted adult along.*

**The majority of teens are too Internet savvy to be lured online. Most people we meet online are safe. However, here's a real life example of how it can happen, one step at a time.**

## Real Life Scenario:

Justin had a hard time making friends in school, so he turned to the Internet and was surprised how quickly he made friends online. Little did he know, most of them were not other teens; they were adults with criminal intentions.

One day, Justin was offered \$50 to take his shirt off in front of his webcam. Justin wanted the money, so he went along with the request, telling himself it was no different than being shirtless at the pool. Little by little, the requests to remove clothing escalated into full-scale pornography. Soon there were hundreds of Internet pedophiles talking to Justin; giving him nice compliments and lots of attention, and even buying him everything he added to his Amazon wish list. Before long, Justin was making a lot of money.

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He was able to keep everything secret from his mother, who had responsibly installed Internet safety software on his computer. But eventually, a schoolmate came across pornographic video of Justin online, and forwarded it to classmates. Humiliated, Justin left school and turned to drugs, which predators would buy him as long as he kept making pornography.

- Did Justin's loneliness make him vulnerable to online luring? **Yes.**
- Should Justin have taken his shirt off for the webcam? **No.**
- Do you think that incident was the beginning of further exploitation? **Yes.**
- Should Justin have reported the request to take off his shirt to his mother? **Yes.**
- Was Justin bribed with money and gifts? **Yes.**

Justin's story is extreme, but true. It clearly illustrates that teens can be exploited online. With the help of a [New York Times](#) reporter, Justin left the world of Internet pornography, got off drugs, and told his story to the press and the U.S. Congress to help prevent other kids from going through similar experiences.

**Hand out copies of the Online-Electronic Safety Pact (page 38 or available for free download from: [childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp](http://childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp)).** Encourage students to read and commit to it.

## Lesson Recap: Keeping online & digital communications harmless:

- Set boundaries - and stick to them.
- Do not send or post suggestive or nude images, nor have sexual conversations via the Internet or electronically
- Inappropriate, excessive or violent e-mail, texts, or IMs should be ignored, saved and reported to [cybertipline.com](http://cybertipline.com) and to local police.
- Face to face meetings should only occur in public and in the company of a parent or guardian.



### Additional Resources

- For the Classroom:** School Program Posters: "Pics Don't Stay Private" and "2Smrt 2B Lured" - Available for free download @ [teenluresprevention.com/posters.asp](http://teenluresprevention.com/posters.asp)
- For the Home:** The *Online-Electronic Safety Pact*. Copies may be made and distributed to students and/or parents. The *Online-Electronic Safety Pact* is on page 38 or can be downloaded from [childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp](http://childluresprevention.com/parents/pact.asp).
- Online:** Websites: [cybertipline.com](http://cybertipline.com) (from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children) and [teenluresprevention.com](http://teenluresprevention.com)

## Presenter's Notes