

## Tips for Parents

- Talk to your kids about the dangers of cell phones and social media.
- Know who your kids are communicating with.
- Talk with your kids about appropriate ways to use technology.
- Teach your kids that just because a photo is deleted off one device doesn't mean that it isn't archived elsewhere.
- Talk to your kids about peer pressure. Some teens feel forced by romantic partners or "love interests" to send inappropriate images.
- Monitor your kids phone and social networking sites.
- Discuss legal and social consequences of sexting.

We believe all people have a right to a life free of physical violence, sexual assault, verbal/emotional abuse, and restriction of personal liberties.

We believe that violence is a societal problem, a learned behavior, and with intervention and education, the cycle of violence can be broken.

We believe in the worth, dignity, and uniqueness of the individual, and we support these values through education, personal growth, self-reliance, and self-determination.

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*This pamphlet is sponsored in part by the Office of the Attorney General: Division of Victim Services.*

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## Sexting

**Toll Free 24-Hour Crisis Line**  
**1-877-864-9688**

Cody Office  
1220 13th St.  
Cody, WY  
307-272-4754

Powell Office\*  
335 N. Gilbert Street  
Powell, WY  
307-754-7959  
Fax: 307-754-4448

\*Powell office is ADA accessible



## **What is Sexting?**

“Sexting” means sex-texting. This a new term that means “the use of a cell phone to send sexually suggestive texts or emails with nude or nearly nude photos.” Sexting can be done using any technology including the internet and social networking sites.

## **Consequences**

- Sexts do not stay private
- Social embarrassment
- Bullying
- Fear
- Compromised reputations
- Legal ramifications

## **Statistics**

- 39% of all teens have sent sexually suggestive texts.
- 48% of all teens say they have received these messages.
- 33% of teen boys and 25% of teen girls stated they have received nude photos that were originally intended to be private.

- 44% of teen boys say they have seen nude photos of a female classmate.
- 71% of teen girls and 67% of teen boys who have sent sexually suggestive content say they sent these messages to a boyfriend/girlfriend.

## **Sexting in the News**

- September 2007: Vanessa Hudgens, star of High School Musical sent nude photos to her then boyfriend. These photos were leaked to the internet and Vanessa faced public humiliation.
- February 2009: a 15 year old girl in Pennsylvania faced child pornography charges after police say she posted nude photos of herself on the internet.
- March 2009: An Ohio teen committed suicide after a nude photo she sent to her boyfriend was forwarded to other students at her school.

## **Before You Hit Send**

- Do not assume that anything you send of post will remain private.
- Your messages and pictures will get passed around. Even if you think they won't.
- Once sent, these messages can never be redacted.
- Do not give in to pressure.

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## **Crisis Intervention Services**

### **Toll Free Crisis Line:**

**1-877-864-9688**

**[www.cispark.org](http://www.cispark.org)**

CIS provides 24 hour services to victims of physical and emotional abuse, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, and incest.

## **Our Services Include:**

- 24 Hour Crisis Line
- Emergency Safe House
- Domestic Violence Protection Order Assistance
- Support Groups for Victims of Abuse
- Emotional Support
- Prevention/Education Programs