

Cyber Sense 2 of 7

Attorney General Bill McCollum: While they're putting it up there, it will just tell you that it's about a child and she is going to give you, I think a little story of her own. And I hope you'll get the sound system too. If it doesn't work I can do it without it, but I prefer you to see it.

[Video plays]

Child: I thought I knew. I thought I knew who he was.

(Music)

Child: I didn't want to let him down.

(Music)

Child: I couldn't get away.

(Music)

Child: He hurt me.

(Music)

Child: It was out of control. I couldn't stop it.

(Music)

Child: He made me feel special, like I was the only one.

(Music)

Child: The only one he wanted to be with, the only one he wanted to talk to, the only one he wanted to see. You know really see. That's when it started, when it got out of control. But I thought I was going to get into trouble, but there in I followed. It's better to let someone, someone who can make it stop. Then it won't happen at all. Now I know you can do something, now I know it's never too late. But you see, I thought I knew.

Attorney General Bill McCollum: That's a British produced little film and I'm going to make a little more noise because the kids up front probably can't see this. I'm going to move this all the way back, if we can behind the mayor here. Cause we are going to look at some more video here in a minute, so why don't I just get it out the way. Then we will all be done, thanks Mayor for that extra hand. How many of you have a MySpace site? Now I want you to come on raise your hands, everybody got one don't worry about that. Okay, put your hands back down again. Let me tell you that kids under 14 and most of you 11, 12, 13 in middle school aren't suppose to have a MySpace site. Now the fact of the matter is that MySpace can't keep you from getting them, kids lie about their age, and they go and all have a MySpace site. So if parents are concerned, I tell them forget it. I don't think it's a big deal whether you have a MySpace site. The important thing is that you learn and your parents learn with you too, how to help protect yourself on the MySpace site, or on Facebook, or anywhere else you go. Of those of you that have a MySpace site, I want you to tell me, and raise your hands accordingly how many of you have more than 25 friends? Okay, put your hands down. Now, how many of you have more than 50 friends? More than a 100 friends? More than 200 friends? Anybody here got more than 500 friends? Alright I got one right there, I got three. How many friends do you have for the ones who have over 500 friends?

Child: 625

Attorney General Bill McCollum: How much?

Child: 625

Attorney General Bill McCollum: 625. Another one over here who had over 500. How many? Seven? How many?

Child: 717

Attorney General Bill McCollum: 717. How many? 724, who else had over 500, one other person over here did? Didn't he, no that's it, nobody else? Alright, that's not too surprising. I've been in a classroom down in umm a high school where I had half a dozen kids in a group like this who had over a 1,000 friends? One of them said that he had over 2,500 friends. When you have over 25 or 30 friends on MySpace, you don't know all those people. You haven't met them all in person. I know only a few of you raised your hands when Dr. Jay asked you that question a minute ago about if you have ever communicated with someone you don't know. Well if you've got 50 friends or more, I guarantee you that you probably haven't really met them in real life. And that's one of the really interesting thing about all of this to talk about its really dangerous. We are going to go through some slide up here and umm I'll like to keep the lights down. I know that's hard for TV, but to the degree we can. A/S/L, who here can tell me what A/S/L mean? Alright what does it mean?

Child: Age, sex, location.

Attorney General Bill McCollum: Age, sex, location, those are three dangerous words. They are dangerous when they are but together because that's what you guys talk to each other about. That's the first thing most of you ask each other when you go on a MySpace site. Not yet, were not going to quite go to that yet, we'll do it in just a second. A/S/L and location is dangerous to give out your location with your age and your sex because the bad guys that are out there are looking for that. Alright you can put up your, okay LMIRL what is LMIRL? Who can tell me what that means? Somebody here ought to be able to tell me what that means, LMIRL in high school everybody knows what that is. Somebody here knows this surely, nobody? Let's meet in real, yeah there's one who knows it; he's looked on the back probably. Let's meet in real life and let's meet in real life is what a little girl did in Polk County the other day. I don't know if you read about that in the newspaper, but she's 15 years old. She thought that she was talking on the internet to somebody who was twenty something. She probably shouldn't have been thinking about talking to someone who is twenty something yet alone going out to try to meet him. You know that person turned out to be forty something and a previously convicted sex offender and he took her up to Georgia. And very fortunately with all the news and the press he release her unharmed, but that not always the way these things work out. If you really think about what happens we have had some really dangerous things happen in the country. There's a woman name Alicia and I think that's what next up on my slide. Alicia thought she had a special friend, this is Alicia's picture she's now 19. She was 13 years old when that picture was taken, Alicia is from Pittsburg. Alicia is the first known abductee, the first known child, that the National Center for the Missing and Exploited Children tell us was taken as a result of internet by a child predator. And when she was 13, she was taken and held captive by a man for four days. What she did, she went out on New Year's Day to meet somebody. She went out on New Year's Day and he took her and held her and did all kinds of horrible things. She said she doesn't have any memory of that. This is her when she was missing, that's her profile when they put it up there. She had also been written up in a major magazine, People Magazine, in which the next slide shows you about what happened to her. But in any event, they found her fortunately for her the FBI found her. They had a picture posted, this guy was so proud of himself for what he did what he was doing to her. She was shown with a dog collar around her neck and picture was up on the internet and that's how they found her. Usually after a period of something like 2 day maybe 24 hours you not going to be expected to find a child alive after that period of time. That's how dangerous that can be for somebody. Umm, she was abducted, she was enslaved and it's just a very dangerous thing to see happen in a situation like that. So, I think that's very very important for you to be aware of who you think you're talking to internet maybe not be who you think it is. It could be somebody else. I think we have another slide that demonstrates that. You can be assault, you can be abducted, you can get disease, death, all kinds of things can happen to you because you meet up with somebody in real life you just don't want to go do. Let's go to the next slide. Profiles are dangerous, they are easy to search, they are easy to find. Is MySpace private guys? Do you think it's private? You think that because you, what do you think?

Child: You get to choose if it's private or not.

Attorney General Bill McCollum: Yeah, you get to choose, but you know what else nothing you put up on MySpace is actually private, even if you choose it. You chose it, that's something you don't realize nothing you put up there, nothing you put up there, you put there these things name, date of birth, school, membership teams, they can be hacked into by these bad guys. They know exactly how to do that. There is nothing on the internet that's private. If I don't get anything else across to you today, no matter what they say to you about it, unless they say it's one of those bank accounts things that got all kinds of whatever built into it. Certainly not MySpace, Facebook, it's not actually private, and you think your restricting someone whose getting access but you really aren't restricting it.