



What is Inappropriate Online Content?



Inappropriate online content refers to online materials (e.g. games, text, ads or images) that:

- ✓ promote self-harm, violence and illegal or dangerous activities;
- ✓ are age-inappropriate, overly sexualised or pornographic; or
- ✓ encourage hate or discrimination based on factors such as gender, race, religion, culture or nationality.



Why is it a Concern?



Regular exposure to inappropriate online content may negatively influence children to:

- ✓ Follow harmful or dysfunctional behaviours, e.g. online gambling, pornography, extremist ideologies, or self-harm;
- ✓ Create or post inappropriate content; or
- ✓ Have a distorted understanding of relationships.



How can Parents Help?



Parents can help reduce the risks and harm caused by inappropriate online content by:

- ✓ Setting and enforcing family guidelines and parental controls on *what* the children view and post online; *how* long they are online; and *who* they meet online / offline;
- ✓ Conversing regularly, openly, and empathetically with children on their media use;
- ✓ Modelling and guiding responsible, respectful and healthy media use;
- ✓ Teaching children to **A.C.T.** i.e. '**Avoid** inappropriate content; **Check** feelings; and **Talk** to a trusted adult'.



Key Messages



Model & guide respectful, responsible and healthy media use



Talk openly with child on media use



Set parental controls

A. C. T.

Teach child to 'Avoid', 'Check', and 'Talk'



Resources



Ministry of Education

MOE's Cyber Wellness Portal contains strategies for students to identify and manage inappropriate online content.

ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/cyber-wellness-101/handling-inappropriate-content



Media Literacy Council

MLC provides strategies for parents to block and manage their children's exposure to harmful online content.

medialiteracycouncil.sg/Online-Safety/Inappropriate-Content



Clique Click

This handbook has practical tips for parents, e.g. how to set up parental controls and check media ratings, to guide their children to stay safe online.

medialiteracycouncil.sg/-/media/MLC/Resources/Pdf/CliqueClick_updated7Apr17.pdf

