

## American Library Association

### This is your brain on DOPA: THE DATA

Michele L. Ybarra MPH PhD

Internet Solutions for Kids, Inc.

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\* Thank you for your interest in this presentation. Please note that analyses included herein are preliminary. More recent, finalized analyses may be available by contacting CIPHR for further information.



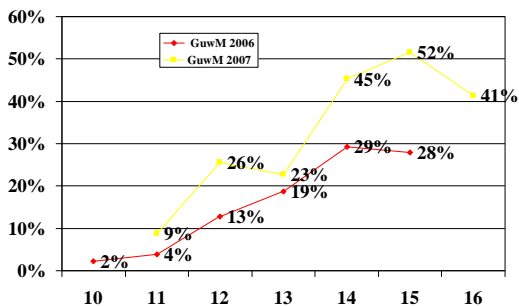
## Background

More than 9 in 10 US youth now have Internet access (USC Center for the Digital Future, 2006; Lenhart, Rainie, & Lewis, 2001)

One in three teens 12-17 engage in some form of content creation in 2006 (Lenhart, Madden, Magill et al., 2007)

- Girls are more likely to post photos (54% v 40%)
- Boys are more likely to post video (19% v 10%)

## SNS use is growing across time and increases by age



## Roadmap

Today we will talk about:

- Experiences:
  - Internet harassment and bullying
  - Unwanted sexual solicitation
- Exposures:
  - Unintentional and intentional access to pornography
  - Access of other violent web site content

## Brief Description of the data

- Growing up with Media
  - 1,588 households
  - Online Survey: Baseline survey in 2006, 14-month follow up in 2007
  - Youth between the ages of 10-15 years
- Youth Internet Safety Surveys 1 and 2
  - 1,500 households
  - Random digit dial telephone survey: First survey in 2000, follow up survey in 2005
  - Youth between the ages of 10-17 years
  - Conducted by Dr. David Finkelhor and colleagues at UNH CCRC

## Online experiences of youth:

### Internet harassment & CyberBullying

## Internet harassment *What Youth Said...*

- **Boy, 14:** "I have my own ... website and I have my own page on it and someone posted something bad about me on it."
- **Boy, 15:** "I was playing a first person shooter game and unintentionally offended this person who became very serious and began to threaten me by saying if this was real life he would physically harm me. [It happened because he] was unable to accept this was just a game."

Quotes taken from the Youth Internet Safety Survey – 2 report (Wolak, Finkelhor, Mitchell, 2006)

## Internet harassment: Definitions

Depends on the survey..

- YISS1 & YISS2
  - Rude or mean comments (YISS1 only)
  - Felt worried or threatened because someone was bothering or harassing them online
  - Someone has used the internet to threaten or embarrass them by posting or sending information for others to see
- Growing up with Media
  - Rude or mean comments
  - Threatening or aggressive comments
  - Spread rumors about youth, whether they were true or not

## Internet harassment: Prevalence rates over time

- From YISS1 to YISS2, the 12-month prevalence rate of Internet harassment increased from 6% to 9% (Mitchell, Wolak, Finkelhor, 2006).
- In the Growing up with Media Survey, **34%** reported harassment at baseline, **34%** at follow-up
  - Frequent harassment: **8%** reported being harassed monthly at baseline, **8%** at follow-up
  - Continuity of harassed youth over time
    - **20%** reported harassment at baseline and follow-up
    - 13% reported harassment at baseline only
    - 14% reported harassment at follow-up only

## Internet harassment: Who is the harasser?

Based upon data from the YISS2 (Ybarra, Mitchell, Wolak, Finkelhor, 2006).

- 8%: Preadolescent (10-12 years old)
- 51%: Adolescent (13-17 years old)
- 21%: Young adult (18-25 years old)
- 2% Adult (26-40 years): 2%
- 18% Don't know: 18%

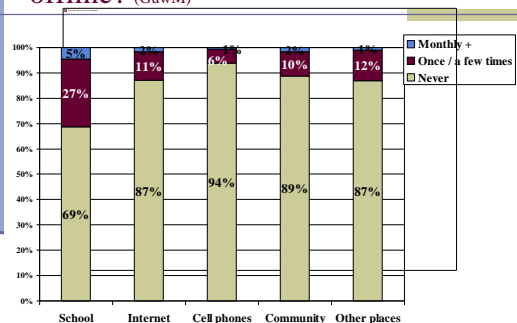
**The majority (59%) of harassment comes from other minors**

## Impact of Internet harassment

About one in three youth targeted by Internet harassment report feeling very/extremely upset (or afraid) because of the incident:

- 30% in YISS-1
- 38% in YISS-2
- 25% in GuwM (wave 2)

## How do rates compare online and offline? (GuwM)



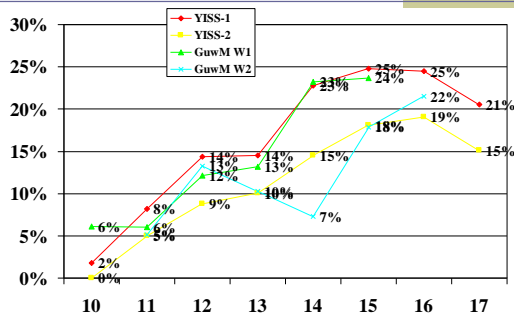
## Online experiences of youth:

### Unwanted sexual solicitation

## Defining unwanted sexual solicitation on the Internet

- Someone tried to get me to talk about sex online when I did not want to.
- Someone online asked me for sexual information about myself when I did not want to tell the person, e.g., really personal questions, like what my body looks like or sexual things I have done.
- Someone asked me to do something sexual when I was online that I did not want to do.

## Prevalence rates of unwanted sexual solicitation across time and ages

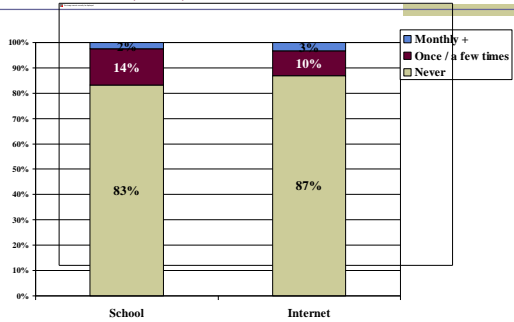


## Impact of unwanted sexual solicitation

Across studies, about one in three solicited youth report feeling very/extremely upset (or afraid) because of the incident:

- YISS1: 26%
- YISS2: 31%
- GuwM: 39% (at Wave 2)

## How do rates compare online and offline? (GuwM)



## Online exposures of youth:

### Unintentional exposure to x-rated material

## Demographic profile of youth reporting unwanted exposure to porn

Among 1,501 10-17 year olds surveyed in 2005 YISS-2:

34% reported an unwanted exposure (40% reported ANY exposure)

- 54% were boys
- Most (76%) were older youth (14-17)

Wolak, Finkelhor and Mitchell, 2006

## Demographic profile of youth reporting unwanted exposure to porn

Similarly, in the UK...

- 57% of 9-19 year olds who use the Internet weekly have been exposed to pornography.
- As age increases, the likelihood of exposure also increases: 21% of 9-11 year olds, 58% 12-15 year olds, and 76% of 16-17 year olds

Livingstone & Bober, 2005

## Where did the exposure happen?

- YISS2: Wolak, Finkelhor and Mitchell, 2006
  - 83% happened while surfing the web
    - 40% occurred when doing online searches
    - 17% clicked on links within sites
    - 12% were from misspelled web addresses
  - 18% came in the form of an email or IM
- In the UK: Livingstone & Bober, 2005
  - Surfing the web:
    - 38% from a pop-up
    - 36% accidentally found themselves on a website
  - 25% received pornographic junk mail

## What does it mean to be “unwanted”

- 21% in YISS2 said they could tell it was x-rated before entering (Wolak, Finkelhor, Mitchell, 2006)
  - Perhaps they didn't understand the term “x-rated” until they \*saw\* it
  - Perhaps they saw a different type (e.g., more extreme) of pornography then they were expecting

## Other important event characteristics

- There is significant overlap of youth reporting unwanted and wanted exposure
  - YISS-2 respondents reporting unwanted exposure are 2.8 times more likely to report wanted exposure than those not reporting unwanted exposure to sexual material online.
- 2% report going back to the web site

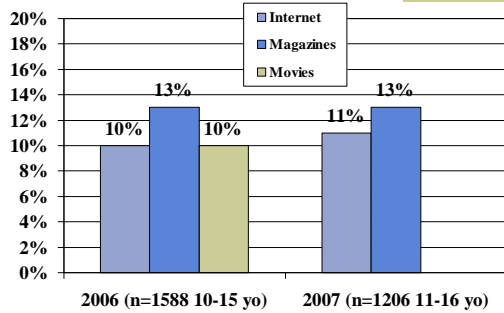
(Wolak, Finkelhor, Mitchell, 2006)

## Online exposures of youth:

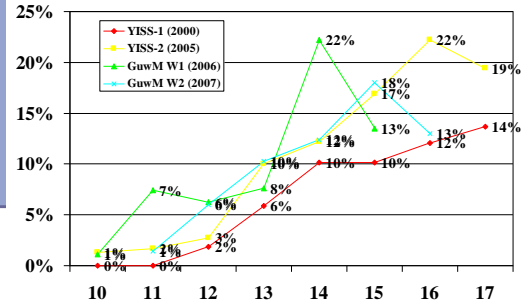
Intentional exposure to x-rated material

## Frequency of intentional exposure

(GuwM)



## Intentional exposure to x-rated material across age and time



## Demographic profile of youth looking at internet porn (GuwM)

Among 1,206 11-16 year old youth in Oct-Dec, 2007:

- 80% male (OR = 4.2, p<.001)
- 14.4 years old (OR = 1.3, p<.001)

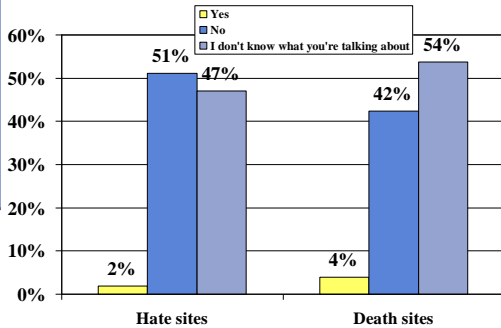
How did they hear about the site? (top 5):

- From a friend: 53%
- Search engine: 30%
- Another web site: 29%
- Typed in an address to see what would come up: 22%
- Pop-up ad: 22%

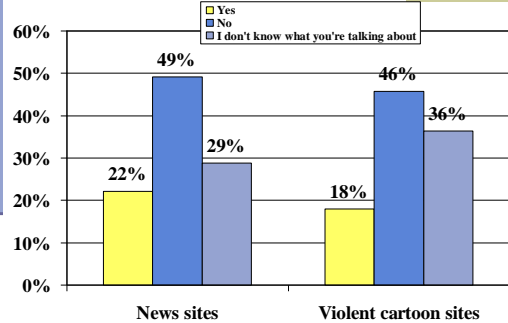
## Online exposures of youth:

### Exposure to violent web sites

### Frequency of exposure to violent web sites (GuwM)



### Frequency of exposure to violent web sites (GuwM)



### Final thoughts

- The **majority** of youth who use the Internet have **positive** experiences and report that none of these types of exposures occur.
- The data do **not** support the assertion that youth are more likely to have negative experiences (i.e., sexually solicited, harassed) or exposures (i.e., access x-rated material) online than offline.

### Implications for professionals working with youth

- We need to do more to provide support and intervention for youth who are targeted by peer aggression, both online **and offline**.
- We need to **focus on the child**, not the online application.
- Most youth do not operate in a 'vacuum'. What are we doing to treat children more globally and provide services that address all of their needs?



## Acknowledgements

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