



## Mistakes Parents Make Concerning The Internet!

1. Taking for granted that your kids know how to stay safe while using the Internet. Just because they are taking a computer course at school, don't assume they know all of the rules about online safety or that they will follow them.
2. Denying kids use of the Internet at home without teaching them how to protect themselves from giving away their identity.
  - Kids of every age are exposed to the Internet at school and at the home of grandparents or friends.
  - Talk to the grandparents and make them aware of the rules to stay safe on the Internet.
3. Not monitoring the use of the Internet. You can be in the same room with a teen using the Internet and not realize they are talking online to a stranger. Do your homework and find out how to set limits. Go to your preferred search engine and type in "parental controls." Most Internet Service Providers will offer some type of free parental controls on their websites.
4. The number one reason kids do not tell their parents about encountering a predator on the Internet is fear of losing computer privileges.
  - Build a relationship of trust with your child concerning the Internet so they won't be afraid to tell you if they stumble into a dangerous situation.
5. You are the parent! Remember that what you don't know may hurt your child!