

UPLOAD ONCE
ONLINE  FOREVER



watch your space

IF PEOPLE
CAN POST
COMMENTS
ON YOUR
PROFILE
CHECK THEM
REGULARLY



AHH

FACE TOFACE

As you know, people you meet online are not always who they seem to be. Be careful about getting together with someone you "met" online unless you are certain of their identity. If you do meet them arrange the meeting in a public place and bring some friends along.



Don't be a victim.

Being online is very public and very real, although it doesn't always feel that way. **Be creative! Be yourself! Be in control!**

www.watchyourspace.ie





think before you upload

Before uploading a photo, think about how you'd feel if it were seen by your parents, teachers, or future employer. Remember, you can't control who sees your photo once it's online so take a second to think before you upload anything.



upload once online forever

The laws of physics tell us that what goes up must come down. **Not on the Internet!** What you upload can be downloaded by anyone, altered, and passed around or posted online pretty much forever. Once you upload a photo, you've lost control over where it appears, who sees it, and what happens to it. Try it yourself, right-click on any picture on the Internet and choose Save Picture As... to see how easy it is.



If people can post comments on your profile, check them regularly. Don't reply to comments that annoy you or make you angry. **Stay in control, delete them, block the person, and report them to the website owner.**

AHH
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AHH



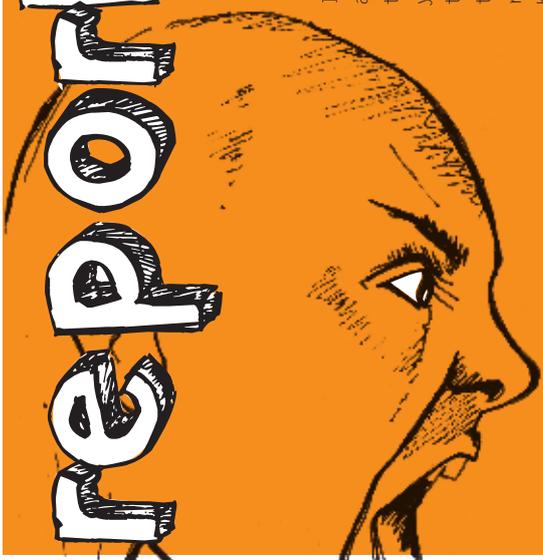
Try and be selective about **who** you become friends with, you can tell a lot about someone by the company they keep. **Ladies,** if a guy you don't know 'adds' you and he has nothing but half-dressed girls on his page, don't add him back. Even though they are called friends, people you 'add' are really little more than acquaintances, nobody has 500 friends. Add people you know. Be as popular as you are or aren't.

friends & friends



report to the website... reporting serious issues

If something is posted on a website that is intended to be hurtful to someone, your first step should be to contact the owners of the website and get it removed. If this doesn't have any effect move on to and report as a serious incident.



You should report



You should report serious incidents that could be illegal to the authorities. Illegal issues include someone making inappropriate sexual suggestions, racist remarks, child abuse images, or persistent bullying. These incidents can be reported to the Gardaí or www.hotline.ie – all reports are taken very seriously.

KNOW who can see YOU who can see my profile



Many sites allow you to decide which parts of your profile can be accessed by others. Assume that everything is public unless you are sure that it isn't. Opting for private doesn't always mean that only your friends can see your profile. In some cases, everything you put on your profile can be seen by everyone but only your friends can post comments or IM you.



Remember, anything you post can not only be seen by others but can easily be copied and stored. Your photos and blogs might be getting you noticed in a way that you didn't intend. Next time you're thinking of posting a pic of your 6 pack or you in your new bikini on your profile think about whose attention they are likely to attract and what site those photos can end up on.

ONLINE SOMEONE TALK

someone's looking at you

Talking to your parents, friends, or **someone you trust** is usually the first step in dealing with any issue. If you come across images that are being used to bully someone, you should also talk to a teacher or guidance counsellor about it. If you need someone to talk to, go to Childline Online www.childline.ie.



? DON'T BE A VICTIM

Where

Use nicknames or first names on your profile. It's not a good idea to give away online who you are and where you are at the same time. **Sometimes online relationships go wrong;** in those cases you'll be the one in charge if you've kept your online and offline identities separate. You can allow people to find you by giving out your address, the name of your school, and talking about where you hang out in your **blog.**

& Who

