



**Curated By:** Connect for Freedom

**Grade Level:** 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Lesson Title:** How to Protect Yourself & Your Friends

**Instructional Time Required:** One Class Session

**Lesson Objectives:** Students should be able to:

- Define online enticement.
- Define sextortion.
- Identify various privacy suggestions for digital devices.
- Understand how to take action if they see something inappropriate online.
- Understand the importance of speaking up and protecting their friends if they notice red flags in their relationship.

**Lesson Overview:**

This lesson starts by differentiating between online enticement and sextortion, two forms of online sexual exploitation. Students will learn about the statistics of online enticement and understand how common this crime is. Students will watch a video called “It’s Called Sextortion” created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, which details a story about a boy texting a girl he met online whom he also has mutual friends with, but then later he finds out one of his teammates recently got sextorted by her. Students will learn about privacy suggestions when it comes to digital devices and how to take action if they see something inappropriate online. Students will watch a video called “Friends Can Help Stop Sexual Abuse” created by Fight Child Abuse. This video highlights how friends can notice the red flags that we cannot and the importance of speaking up to protect those closest to us.

**Key Terms in Lesson:**

**Online enticement**- an individual communicates with a minor online with the intent to commit a sexual offense or abduction.

**Sextortion**- a form of child sexual exploitation. It is when a minor is threatened or blackmailed with their nude image with demands for additional images, sexual activity, or money from a minor.

**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.** “*Online Enticement.*” MissingKids.org, <https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/topics/onlineenticement>

**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.** “*Home.*” MissingKids.org. <https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/home>  
**Connect for Freedom & Kent Place.** “*Workshop.*” 2023. Summit, NJ.

**New Jersey Student Learning Standards Addressed in This Lesson:**

- 2.3.8.PS.1: Assess the degree of risk in a variety of situations, and identify strategies needed to reduce deliberate and non-deliberate injuries to self and others (e.g., digital safety, sexting, dating violence, domestic violence, gang violence, human trafficking, nonconsensual sexual encounters, other threats of violence).
- 2.3.8.PS.6: Demonstrate strategies to use social media safely, legally, and respectfully (e.g., sexting, sextortion).
- 2.3.8.PS.7: Evaluate the impact of technology and social media on relationships (e.g., consent, communication, respect).

**Lesson Enrichment Activity:** Protecting Yourself Online Kahoot!

**Lesson Handout:** NCMEC Social Media Safety for Teens

**Student Assessment Recommendations:**

- Describe the difference between online enticement and sextortion.
- Do you think online exploitation is common now with the rise of social media?
- List five privacy suggestions to protect yourself online from exploiters/traffickers.
- Describe how you would take action if you saw something inappropriate online.
- What would you do if you noticed red flags in your friend's relationship?

***Important Notice: Connect for Freedom has compiled information and materials from the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, Polaris Project, Thorn, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and other reputable organizations.***