

Safe Environment of the Archdiocese



Go Make
Disciples

January, 2018

Promise to Protect; Pledge to Heal

Dear Facilitators,

The new year has begun! I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a very happy, healthy and holy 2018. Each year brings new challenges, new joys, new beginnings and new opportunities. Let us pray for one another that we may be open to whatever comes our way during the months ahead.

Very often people make new resolutions at the beginning of new year. My hope is that each of us will renew our pledge to keeping children and vulnerable adults as safe as we possible can. As it says at the top of this newsletter heading "*Promise to Protect; Pledge to Heal*". That is our commitment as a Church and as an Archdiocese. When I accepted the position of Safe Environment Coordinator and when you accepted the position of Parish Facilitator, that is what we have committed ourselves to do. Perhaps we all need to work harder to make sure we are fulfilling that pledge.

May 2018 bring to you and your family many blessings, great joy and peace. **Happy New Year!**

Sister Catherine Powers, C.N.D.

Don't forget—it's the month of January. That means, it is time for the **THIRD publication** of Safe Environment in the **Parish Bulletin**

The announcement can be found in your Manual, Section VII, page 2

Once again I remind you to **save the date of April 19th** for our annual in-service meeting. It will be held in the Conference Center from 9:00-12:00. Our presenter is a nationally known speaker, Father Sean Kilkawley from the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska. Father is well know for his outstanding presentations on Theology of the Body, Human Love and Pornography. **We hope that as many staff members as possible will be able to attend**



Rose Mary Story, our data base administrator, wants you to know that the next billing cycle for background checks will be sent in February. This bill will be for the months of November, December and January. **The bill will also include the cost of reruns for 2017.** Please make sure that this bill is paid in a timely manner.

Periodically I receive the question - "**who needs to be trained in Safe Environment?**"

The answer : **ALL EMPLOYEES (no matter what their position)**

All volunteers who have REGULAR contact with children or youth. This includes Church ushers and Church sacristans; all Catholic school teachers, aides, lunchroom personnel or anyone else who works in the school; all catechists who are teaching in religious education present while religious education is happening. If the choir is made up of adults and youth or youth are present while the choir is practicing, then all choir members need to be trained



6 Takeaways About How Parents Monitor their Teen's Digital Activity

(taken from Pew Research Center by Monica Anderson—January, 2016)



Parents have long faced the dilemma of when to step back and when to take a more hands-on approach with their kids. Technology has added a new wrinkle to that problem: Today's parents must navigate how, when and to what extent they oversee their teens'

online and mobile activities.

A new Pew Research Center report on parents of 13 to 17 year-olds find that parents take a wide range of actions to monitor their teen's digital life and to encourage their child to use technology in an appropriate and responsible manner.

Here are six takeaways from the report:

1) Parents are keeping a close eye on their teen's digital life, but few do so by tech-based means. Roughly six-in-ten parents say they have either checked which websites their teen has visited or looked at their teen's social media profile. And about half say they have looked through their teen's phone call records or messages. But few parents are utilizing more technical measures—such as parental controls or location tracking tools—to monitor their teen. **A majority of parents employ “digital grounding” or restrict their teen's online access.** Sixty-five percent of parents say they have taken away their teen's internet privileges or cellphone as punishment, while half of parents limit how often their teen can be online. Pew Research Center surveys have found that 92% of teens say they go online daily, with 24% using the internet “almost constantly,” and nearly three quarters of teens have access to a smartphone. Therefore, “digital grounding” is a potentially potent form of discipline. But limiting online screen time isn't always a consequence of bad behavior: 55% of parents say they limit the amount of time their teen can go online, regardless of behavior. Moreover, parents of younger teens are especially likely to place limits on their teen's internet use.

2) A majority of parents check their teen's web history or social media profile, while fewer use tech-based parental controls. Among parents of teens ages 13 to 17, the % who have ever...

*Checked which websites their teen visited = 61%

*checked teen's social media profile = 60%

* looked through phone records/messages = 48%

*used parental controls for online activity = 39%

*used parental controls to restrict cell use = 16%

*used monitoring tools to track location = 16%

3) Nearly half of parents know their teen's email password; roughly a third know teen's social media password. Among parents of teen ages 13 to 17, the % who know the password to their teen's...

*email account = 48%

*cellphone = 43%

*social media accounts = 35%

4) Some parents take the additional step of friending or following their teen on social media. Some 44% of parents are friends with their teen on Facebook, while one-in-ten report following their teen on Twitter. In total, **56% of parents are connected with their teen on Facebook, Twitter or some other social media platform**



5) Nearly all parents have talked with their teen about how to behave on the web, including more than nine-in-ten who have discussed what is appropriate to share online (94%), what constitutes appropriate online behavior towards others (92%) and what is appropriate content for teens to view online (95%).

6) Mothers are more likely than fathers to frequently communicate with their teen about appropriate vs. inappropriate behavior. Among parents of teens ages 13 to 17, the % who say they frequently talk with their teen about what is appropriate or inappropriate behavior in the following areas.

	<u>Mothers</u>	<u>Fathers</u>
*behavior in school, home and social lives	63%	48%
*to share online	46%	32%
*content for them to be viewing online	46%	31%
*content to consume via TV, music, books, other media	42%	29%
*online behavior towards others	41%	30%

Whether or not parents *frequently* discuss acceptable conduct with their teen varies by a number of demographic characteristics. For example, **mothers are more likely than fathers to report talking frequently with their teen about appropriate online and offline behavior.** There are also differences based on household income. Across the five types of conversations measured, parents who are less affluent *are more likely* than those from higher-income households to have these regular conversations. And Hispanic parents (51%) are more likely than white (32%) or black (32%) parents to frequently speak with their teen about their online behavior towards others.



For further information on this research please see: www.pewinternet.org/2016/01/07parent:-teens-and-digital.

As a parent where would you fall in the above statistics? Parent monitoring of our children and youth is so important to fight against online predators and pornography.