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## Online Predators – Part 1

# ONLINE PREDATORS

An online predator is an adult Internet user who exploits vulnerable children or teens, usually for sexual or other abusive purposes.

Online victimization of minors can include child grooming, requests to engage in sexual activities or discussions by an adult, unwanted exposure to sexual material (email with naked pictures, etc.), and online harassment, threats or other aggressive communications that are not sexual in nature but cause distress, fear or embarrassment.

Online predators use communication tools to victimize minors such as social networking, electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, internet forums and child grooming.



### Through Social Networking

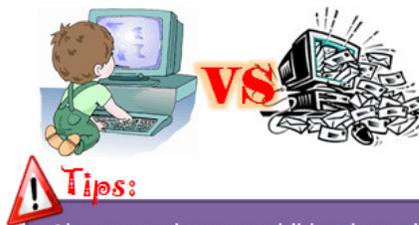
Social networking web sites are popular for expressing user's views, to post and share photos, and videos over websites. Online predators take advantage of these web sites. They pretend to be a child, establish online friendship and try to collect the child's personal details. Gradually, they will introduce sexual communications and engage the child in sexual activities.



Always take security measures by checking the privacy settings and giving limited views to your child's profile. Control posting of personal information, photos and videos.

### Through Electronic Mail (email)

An online predator collects the email addresses of children. They start by sending them hoax emails, photographs, links related to adult sites and others. Then they will try to abuse and threaten the child to be involved in sexual communication.



Always monitor your children's emails and teach them to ignore or delete the mails from unknown senders.

To be continued...

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**Information Security:** It's a Shared Responsibility

References: <http://infosecawareness.in/children/online-predators>, [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)

**Enterprise Information Security Manual**

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