

## Tip of the Month – August 2009

### “Protecting our Children on the Web”

“It’s 10:00 p.m. do you know where your children are?”

Remember that phrase from your childhood? It’s still a valid question, but now, it comes with a twist: Do you know where your kids are – and who they’re chatting with online?”

#### **Parents/Guardians, You Must:-**

Help your kids understand what information should be private.

Explain that kids should post only information that you – and they – are comfortable with others seeing.

Use privacy settings to restrict who can access and post on your child’s website.

Remind your kids that once they post information online, they can’t take it back.

Talk to your kids about avoiding sex talk online.

Tell your kids to trust their gut feeling if they have suspicions. If they ever feel uncomfortable or threatened by anything online, encourage them to tell you.

Don’t hesitate to involve the police; if necessary.

Remember, there are many people who spend a great deal of time browsing websites which attract children. These individuals may at first appear to be quite friendly, but many of them are people with less than friendly intentions.

Feel free to email us at [dataprotection@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:dataprotection@bahamas.gov.bs)

(Adapted from the USA FTC.)