


# *Texting, Sexting and Bullying*

*What you need to know NOW so you don't have regrets LATER.*






# KIDS

 It's not an issue of whether or not your parents trust you...


*It's an issue of you trusting your parents*



# Parents



-  You are legally responsible for your kids until they reach the age of 18.
-  You signed the contract for the phone your child is using—he/she didn't.
-  The frontal lobe of our brain is the last to develop—usually around age 21. It gives us the ability to predict the short and long term consequences of our actions. This is why parents need to be involved; kids aren't there yet.

# *What is Sexting?*



 Sexting is when a person creates, sends, and/or posts sexually suggestive images or videos via cell phone, email, or over the internet.

(Facebook, My Space, Twitter, etc.)

# *What does Sexually Suggestive Image mean?*



-  **Nudity: partial or entirely**
-  **Being sexually suggestive isn't just nudity. It's also how one wears their clothing and if it "suggests" something sexual.**

# *Why is Sexting Bad?*

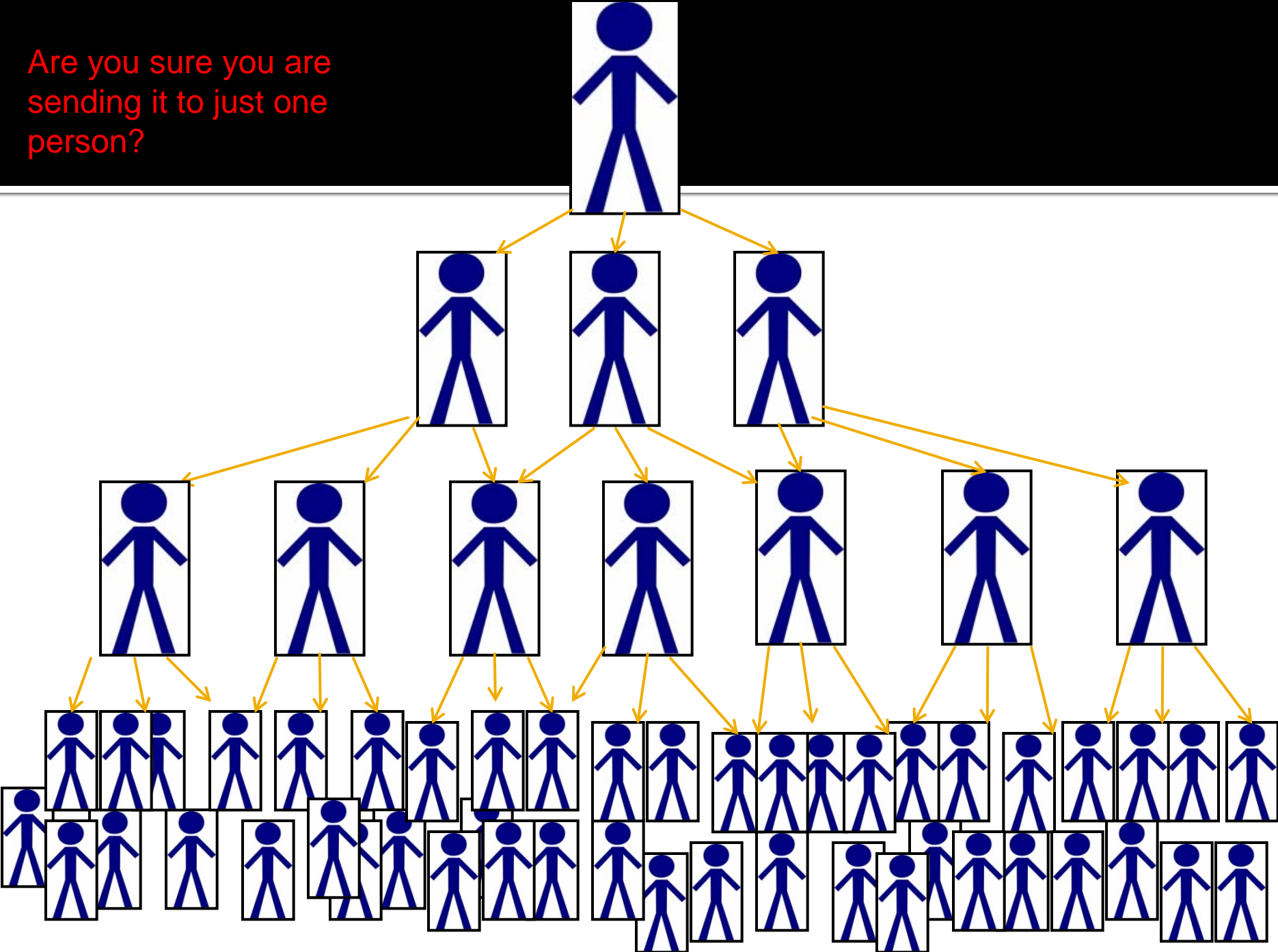
-  Most sexting is, by itself, consensual and intended to be harmless, although naïve.
-  Far too common is when a person gets upset with another and sends a suggestive image they have of that person to another person. At that point sexting is neither consensual or harmless.



# *Think Before You Send*

-  Pictures that you share online or by your cell phone are digital. This means they can **EASILY** be shared with millions of people.
-  It takes **ONE** click to **SEND** your picture all over the world to people you don't even know and most likely will never meet.

Are you sure you are sending it to just one person?







# Think About It!



**Don't assume anything you send or post is going to remain private. Just the opposite is true. Assume the recipient WILL forward your picture.**






# Think About It

-  There is no changing your mind on cyberspace. Once you push “send” or post something onto the internet, it is out there forever. Forever is a long time!
-  Would you go to the mall and take your clothes off and run all around the stores to make sure everyone saw you naked?



# Think About It!

-  Your messages and images will get passed around, even if you think they won't.
-  40% of tweens/teens said they have received a sext, and 20% said they have shared that sext with another person.

# Think About It

-  Even if you have second thoughts and delete a racy photo, there is no telling who has already copied that photo and posted it elsewhere.
-  Would you say or show the same thing to someone if they were standing right in front of you?
-  Your phone and computer give you something to hide behind. IF you wouldn't say it to their face, then don't send it into cyberspace.

# Think About It



-  **Don't give in to the pressure to do something that makes you uncomfortable even in cyberspace. Just because you can't see it, doesn't mean it's not there.**
-  **Consider the recipient's reaction. This person may be appalled by the picture or it may embarrass them. It may even traumatize them.**

# *IS SEXTING ILLEGAL?*









***YES!!***



# Washington State Law

-  If you keep a sexually suggestive photo on your cell phone/computer you could be charged with possession of child pornography.
-  If the picture goes to a person in another state (and that happens very easily) it's a Federal Felony.

# Consequences

-  Register as a sex offender for life
-  Mandatory Sex Offender Class (\$1500-yr)
-  Probation for 5 years
-  Kicked off a sports team/cheering squad
-  Face Humiliation
-  Lose educational privileges (financial aid)
-  Kicked out of school
-  Internet Restrictions



# REMEMBER

 **Never take pictures of yourself that you wouldn't want everyone to see.**





 **Classmates**

 **Family**



 **Teachers**

 **Employers**

# Think Ahead

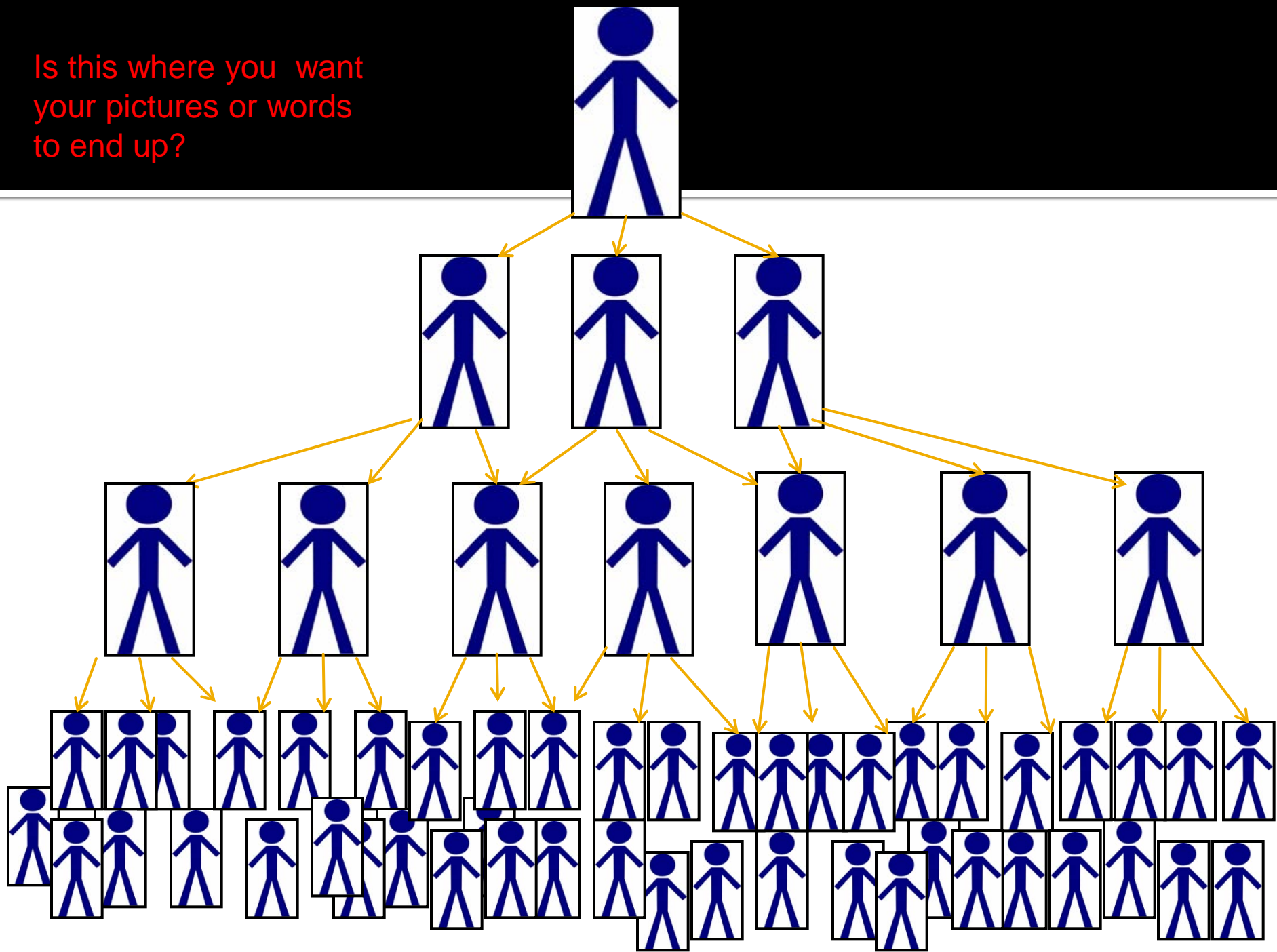
-  **College Recruiters**
-  **Future Employers**
-  **Future Spouse and families**
-  **Your children**

# THINK BEFORE YOU SEND




-  You **DO NOT** have control who will see that picture or read that message once it hits the internet.
-  You **CAN NOT** take it back. Once you push send, it's out there forever.






Is this where you want your pictures or words to end up?




# Things To Remember

-  **Don't open attachments unless it's from someone you know and trust**
-  **Report any nude picture you receive on your cell phone or computer to an adult you trust.**
-  **Do not delete the message or picture; take your phone to a trusted adult.**




# Things To Remember

-  **Involve your parents, teachers, counselors and principal immediately.**
-  **Don't share your cell phones with other people.**
-  **Don't share your **PASSWORD** with other people.**

# What Is Cyberbullying






-  Cyberbullying is harassment, intimidation, or bullying through electronic media such as social networking sites, email, instant messaging, online gaming, and chat rooms, or through a personal electronic device like a cell phone.

# How Do You recognize Cyberbullying?





-  There is often a fine line between teasing and bullying.
-  Teasing is meant to be harmless and fun but often leads to hurt feelings.
-  Cyberbullying is when someone persists with mean words or behavior to you in person or electronically, and makes you feel scared or uncomfortable.



# What if you're a Target of Cyberbullying?

-  **Tell an adult IMMEDIATELY**
-  **Do NOT respond to the person who is bullying you**
-  **Block that person from your phone and remove them from Facebook, Twitter, etc.**
-  **Document incidents**
-  **Call Police**

# What if you witness someone being bullied?








-  **DO NOT BE A BYSTANDER!!**
-  **Tell an adult IMMEDIATELY!**
-  **You become a participant by NOT taking action.**
-  **Remember the golden rule. What if you were the one being bullied?**

# HOPE VIDEO



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MU7QO8ojxLI&feature=email>

# What Parents Can Do

-  **Be PROACTIVE with your kids**
-  **Parental controls on ALL electronics**
-  **Monitor your kids**
-  **Take control over their accounts (you choose their password)**
-  **Make random checks on cell phones, computers, email, Facebook, etc.**
-  **Keep your computer in an open place at home**
-  **COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR KIDS**

# Questions? Thank You!

**Presented By:  
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