



Office of The Attorney General
State of Connecticut

“Children should not be involved in a cyber environment that includes adults who are posting sexually explicit images or looking for sex. I want parents to be aware that they are the first line of defense.”

“As a father of four children, I urge parents to create a profile on MySpace.com and search and browse to see if your child has posted personally private information about themselves, family and friends exposing them to sexual predators and inappropriate material. I hope you find the following information helpful.”

Connecticut State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal

SIGN UP

1. Go to www.myspace.com.
2. Click on “Sign Up.”
3. Create a profile of yourself. (Provide only the information necessary to create profile, nothing more.) Then, you can search for your child’s MySpace page.

SEARCH

4. Go to the “Search” page and then to the “Find a Friend” box. Type in your child’s name and see if it comes up. (Remember, your child may have given a false or code name, so this search might not find his or her MySpace page.)
5. You can also search using the “Classmate Finder” box. Type in the name of your child’s school. All children who have listed this school in their profiles will be identified pursuant to this search. If your child is not identified in this list, you can select friends of your child to see if your child is listed on their pages as a friend.
6. You may also perform searches of the MySpace website using keyword and email address searches.

CANCELLATION

7. You may cancel your account by clicking on “Help” on the upper right corner and following the directions in the help list. (You will need your child’s password to cancel his or her account.)

BLOCK MYSPACE

8. In response to my investigation and proposals, MySpace has agreed to provide a link to free software that allows parents to block their children from accessing this site. In order to access

the link to the software, scroll down to the bottom of the MySpace.com homepage and you will find "Safety Tips". Click on "Safety Tips" and right next to it are "Tips for Parents". Click on "Tips for Parents" and scroll down to the following link: K9Web Protection.com. The following links should provide parents with easy installation and detailed information on different setting levels, including entering a site to see if K-9 has categorized it to be a Adult/Mature site. Parents can also view computer histories and check sites to see the grouping and provide information to K-9, through its parent company, if a parent believes a site has been inaccurately categorized.

Please visit www.k9webprotection.com, www.k9webprotection.com/docs.html, and www.k9webprotection.com/siterating.html.

I have met and spoken with hundreds of concerned parents who share our concerns about children using this site. I sincerely hope that parents will closely monitor their children's internet usage and join efforts to protect our children. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at Attorney.General@po.state.ct.us or (860) 808-5314 if I can be of any assistance.