



# Cell Phones & 'Sexting': THINK BEFORE YOU SEND

A message from the RCMP and the Minister of Education

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# SEXTING: What is it?

- “Sexting” refers to the sending of photos, videos, or messages that are **sexual in nature** by cell phone or the Internet.



Associated Press / Kristin Murphy



# Cell Phones: Is there a risk?

- There is no question that cell phones are **valuable**, as they allow you to call or text family and friends from almost anywhere.
- Texting on your cell phone can be **cheaper** than calling and allows you to **communicate** without much interruption.
- It also allows you to update 'statuses,' and send pictures or videos to stay **connected**.



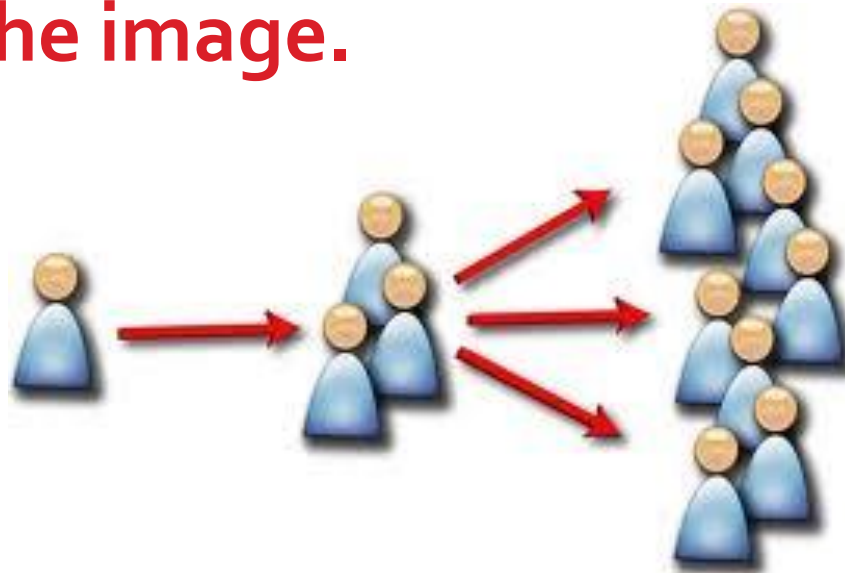
# Cell Phones: The Risks

- However, **a lot of personal information**, such as phone numbers, GPS locations, photos, and videos are made available just by **using** a mobile device.
- If you are **not careful** with **how you share**, this type of information can be made available to the **wrong people**.



# Cell Phones: The Risks

- If the photos you send with your cell phone are **intimate photos** you intend to share with only one person, remember that **once you send something online, you no longer have control of the image.**



# Cell Phones: The Risks

- If your videos or pictures include **nude images or sexually explicit videos**, and you are under the age of 18, **you could be charged with a criminal offence of Child Pornography.**



Minimum sentences for Child Pornography offences can be **jail time.**

# Cell Phones: The Risks

- BUT...what carries a longer sentence is how **your actions online can follow you for a lifetime.**



- *Photos, videos, and messages can be saved for later viewing, published to a website, or saved to a CD or thumb drive and be distributed.*



# THINK...

- Think about what you say, take photos of, and send...



**Think.**





# THINK...

- Now think about how this would affect you if your **parents or siblings** saw this...



- Think about how your **teachers or principal** would react if they saw this...



- Think about how your **future employer** would react if they read or saw this...



# THINK...

- Do you really want this information to be seen by all of those people?

**THINK BEFORE YOU SEND**



# What do I do if...

- If you have any questions or are aware of this type of activity, please contact your local police or RCMP detachment.



Royal Canadian  
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale  
du Canada



The logo for Nova Scotia Education, featuring a stylized blue bird or wing shape above the text "NOVA SCOTIA" in a bold, blue, serif font.

Education

A message from the RCMP and the Minister of Education

# Related Information

- Check out [www.deal.org/the-knowzone.ca](http://www.deal.org/the-knowzone.ca) or [www.mobility.protectchildren.ca](http://www.mobility.protectchildren.ca) to know the risks of living in a wireless world.
- Nova Scotia Cyberbullying Task Force  
<http://cyberbullying.novascotia.ca/>