

TMI: Making Personal Information Public

What is personal information?

- Your name, your gender, your age, your birthday, your phone number
- Your school, your school schedule, your sports schedule, your current location
- Pictures of you, especially revealing pictures
- Your friends' names, ages, birthdays, phone numbers, schedules, locations, pictures etc.
- Your parents'/siblings' names, ages, birthdays, phone numbers, locations, pictures, etc.

What should you do if someone asks for personal information?

- Do not give personal information to anyone online – even if you know them.
- Ask an adult for advice if you want to give your personal information (like when you want to make your own email address)
- If someone else gives you personal information about themselves that makes you uncomfortable, stop talking to them right away. Do not respond. Block them. Tell an adult you trust right away.

What should you do if you see someone making his or her private information public?

- Do not resend or forward the message to anyone else.
- Tell the person that posting personal info online has great risks.
- Encourage the person to delete the message.
- Delete the message from your own device to respect their privacy.
- Encourage others to delete the message as well, to respect the person's privacy.

What can you do NOW to prevent a personal information leak?

- Create an Internet Emergency Plan with your parents, so you feel comfortable talking to them when you need help (for yourself or a friend).
- Never share your personal information online.
- Use privacy settings so that only people you trust can see your messages
- Choose gender and location neutral usernames
- Only accept friend requests from friends you know well in real life
- Keep your passwords private (share it with your parents, but never anyone else).
- *Never post personal/embarrassing information about yourself online or text it to anyone.*