Online Consent

Online consent has become increasingly critical in the two worlds we live in today. Whether you're sharing photos, posting content, or engaging in online communities, understanding and practising consent is essential for ensuring privacy and respecting others.

Why Online Consent Matters

Just as you would ask permission before sharing someone's personal information in the physical world, the same applies online. Online consent involves voluntarily agreeing to share your data or content, such as photos, videos, or posts, and accepting the terms and conditions of a platform. This also means respecting others' decisions about their privacy.

Failing to seek consent can lead to severe consequences, including cyberbullying, identity theft, or even legal action. Social media platforms provide privacy settings to help manage consent, but breaches like sharing content without permission are still common, highlighting the need for vigilance.

Key Principles of Online Consent:

Before sharing someone else's photos, personal information, or content, get their explicit consent, even if it's something as simple as a family photo or a friend's news. Respect their right to say no.

If someone declines to give consent, respect their decision. Sharing without permission can damage trust and lead to negative consequences.

Understand the implications of the permissions you give online. This ranges from allowing access to personal data when signing up for a service to agreeing to terms for sharing content.

Protect yourself by configuring privacy settings on social media and limiting what others can see or share about you. Regularly reviewing these settings helps you stay in control.

Common Online Consent Breaches

Sharing Photos or Videos Without Permission - Whether intentional or accidental, sharing someone else's image without their consent is a violation.

Distributing Sensitive Information - Sharing private or confidential details online without consent can harm someone's reputation or emotional well-being.

Protecting Yourself and Others

Monitor Your Digital Behaviour - Be cautious about what you share and how it may impact others. Treat others' content with the same respect you expect for your own.

Teach Consent at Home - Ask for your children's consent before posting their photos. This teaches them the importance of digital safety and respect for privacy.

Set Parental Controls - Use parental controls to monitor minors' online activities and protect their digital privacy.

Top Tips for Online Consent

Ask Before You Share - Always get permission before posting someone else's content or photos.

Update Privacy Settings - Regularly review your social media privacy settings to control access to your information.

Stay Vigilant - Be cautious about friend requests and online interactions—only engage with people you know and trust.

Educate Your Community - Promote discussions on digital safety and online consent within your family or network.

Report Violations - If your content is used without your consent, report it to the platform and relevant authorities.

Limit Personal Information - Be mindful of sharing sensitive details, such as your location, address, or phone number.