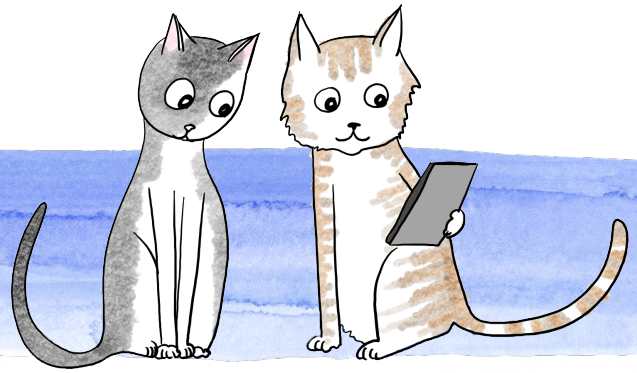


FOR EDUCATORS SEXTORTION.



“

WE COULD BRING IT TO THE SCHOOL.

THIS IS TALKING ABOUT AN IMPORTANT TOPIC, BUT IT ISN'T SUPER HEAVY AND WOULDN'T BE BAD FOR THE CLASSROOM. IT WOULD BE VALUABLE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

- Teen Council Member

”

You play an important role in students' lives and as new threats emerge, it is important to stay ahead of the trends. Teens clearly told us that you are often the first line of defense.

THE CLASSROOM IS A SAFE SPACE, AND WE WANT TO HELP YOU KEEP IT THAT WAY.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

LEARN MORE AND TALK ABOUT IT

#1 DECIDE HOW YOU WILL HANDLE DISCLOSURES

when a student shares a troubling story. As a trusted adult in many students' lives, there is a chance you will come across situations involving images legally considered child pornography, and you are required by law to report certain situations related to child abuse. Before you come across these situations, make sure you understand the laws and your school policies around mandatory reporting. The first priority is always to keep students safe, and that can require different actions depending on the situation.

PRO TIP:

We've seen some educators create a script to guide conversations, and keep students aware of the implications of what they're saying:

"Thank you for trusting me. I can see you're about to tell me something difficult - I'm here to listen and help, not judge. I want to make sure you're safe, but need you to know that by law I'm required to report to [specific person or entity] if you tell me anything about [mandatory reporting issues]. That said, I will only speak with the people I need to speak with, and we can talk about who those people are. If that is not what you want, let's talk about who else in your life you can go to for help right now."

THORN

www.stopsextortion.com

YOUR NEXT STEPS... CONTINUED

LEARN MORE AND TALK ABOUT IT

#2 TALK TO STUDENTS ABOUT ONLINE SAFETY

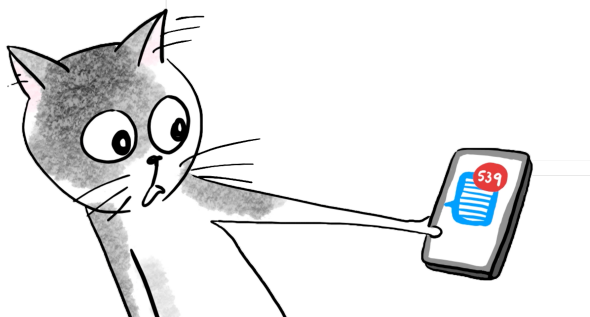
and the common ways sextortion happens. We heard from kids that [our video](#) felt like it belonged in the classroom - bring it there! To really understand how sextortion happens, the severe consequences and barriers to disclosure, check out our report and infographic here [<https://www.wearethorn.org/sextortion/>]. Make sure that you explain mandatory reporting laws in your state so that when a student shares their experiences they are not surprised by the outcomes.

PRO TIP:

Talk with other educators about online safety too. You've just learned a lot of information that would be valuable for other teachers to understand. Plus, the more unified responses are across all educators, the less confused students will be and the more confident you'll be in your decisions.

#3 KEEP UP WITH TECH TRENDS

that your students are engaging with. Ask them what's cool or new, and why they like it. The more common these conversations are when there is no abuse happening, the easier it will be to understand when something is wrong, and the easier it will be for students to share what's happening.



#4 BRING CURRICULUM TO THE CLASSROOM

Find the one that is right for your class from one of the many options below:

Love146 works on preventing trafficking and sextortion through education. Their resources are available at love146.org/notanumber.

Cybertip CA released a sextortion PSA and developed accompanying lesson plans. Learn more about their work at dontgetsextorted.ca.

Netsmartz teaches kids how to stay safe online and be good digital citizens. Their curriculum is available at www.netsmartz.org/Educators.

Audrie & Daisy focuses on sexual assault that was documented and shared. Watch the powerful documentary and review their lesson plans at www.audrieanddaisy.com/teach-and-learn.

#5 RAISE AWARENESS

and consider hosting an anti-bullying assembly at your school, especially one that focuses on help seeking behavior and healthy and unhealthy relationships. Sextortion often results in bullying, and many of the same tactics used to address bullying can be used to address sextortion.

IMPORTANT!

You can report any nude or semi-nude images to law enforcement or contact www.cybertipline.com. Don't forget to tell your students not to forward these images. These may be considered child pornography, and there can be both legal and personal consequences if they do.