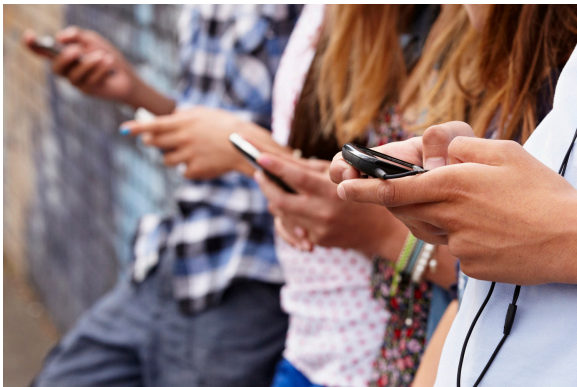


Just the Facts



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SEXTING



**15% OF TEENS
AGED 12-17
HAVE RECEIVED
A SEXUALLY
SUGGESTIVE
PHOTO VIA CELL
PHONE**

Sexting is the sending of sexually suggestive or provocative images or videos using a mobile device.

Youth may not want to engage in sexting but may feel pressured to do so by peers, significant others, and classmates.

Although sexting typically happens between youth in a romantic relationship, the images rarely stay private and can easily be shared with others outside the relationship.

Youth may think sexting is a “safe” way to explore their sexuality. However, youth do not often consider the many emotional and legal consequences of sexting.

Youth who receive or send a sext message could be charged with possession and/or distribution of child pornography.

Emotional consequences can include lowered self-esteem, embarrassment and shame, objectification, and bullying.

Many youth who sext are not having conversations with their parents about sex, sexual health, and decision making – but should be.

Do you have more questions about sexting? Visit our Resources page on our website for additional tips, tools, and strategies for talking with your kids about this issue.

Helping youth and families learn the skills they need to be more successful at home, in school and throughout the community.

www.ysb.net