

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Parents and concerned citizens invited to area libraries to learn more about keeping the children they love safe online**

Adults are invited to attend an internet safety presentation on June 10, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at the Fruitport Branch Library, located at 47 W. Park (corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Park) in downtown Fruitport. An additional presentation will be held on June 12, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Heights Public Library, located at 2808 Sanford in Muskegon Heights. Attendees will learn about online predators, exposure to inappropriate material, cyberbullying, safe social networking and more.

Teen and pre-teens are not always careful online. 27% of teens reported that they have talked to a stranger about sex online, 42% have posted personal information about themselves and 54% have frequently had private conversations with someone that they do not know through instant messaging. Sometimes what they find is not their fault. 70% of children have encountered pornography on the web by mistake. These statistics are scary and it is the role of a parent or concerned adult to keep those they love safe while using the technology that is available. This includes cell phones, computers and interactive games.

Internet safety is an issue that touches everyone. If a youth that you love uses the Internet and you would like to learn more about keeping them safe online please consider attending this interactive presentation.

If you have any questions or would like to hear about hosting your own presentation please contact Kerri Roberts at the Child Abuse Council of Muskegon County at (231) 728-6410 or visit [www.beenbullied.com](http://www.beenbullied.com).

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