



## **Resolution: Protecting Children While on the Internet**

**WHEREAS**, the internet is a valuable tool that provides children with opportunities for learning, social interaction, and creativity; and

**WHEREAS**, children and young people are increasingly exposed to risks such as cyberbullying, online grooming, sexual exploitation, and exposure to inappropriate content; and

**WHEREAS**, online predators use deceptive tactics to manipulate, exploit, or harm children through social media, chat rooms, gaming platforms, and other online spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, parents, guardians, educators, community leaders, and law enforcement all have a shared responsibility to ensure the digital safety of minors; and

**WHEREAS**, education and awareness about online safety are essential in preventing children from falling victim to online predators;

**WHEREAS**, parents and guardians may unknowingly expose children to additional risks by oversharing personal information, photos, locations, or other identifying details about their children on social media platforms;

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

#### **1. Education and Awareness Programs:**

Schools, community organizations, and local governments shall promote and implement digital literacy and online safety education for children, parents, and educators.

#### **2. Parental/Guardian Involvement:**

Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss internet safety openly with their children, set appropriate boundaries, monitor online activities, and use parental control tools.

Parents and guardians should also be educated to recognize possible warning signs that a child may have become involved with an online predator, such as secrecy about online activity, sudden behavioral changes, or communication with unknown individuals.

Additionally, parents and guardians should be made aware of the potential dangers of oversharing information about their children on social media, including posting identifiable photos, personal details, school locations, schedules, or other information that could be exploited by individuals with harmful intentions.

### 3. **Safe Online Practices:**

Children shall be taught to:

- Never share personal information online (such as addresses, phone numbers, or school details).
- Avoid interacting with strangers or sharing images with unknown persons.
- Immediately report uncomfortable or suspicious online interactions to a trusted adult.

### 4. **Reporting and Response Systems:**

Schools and community centers shall establish clear procedures for reporting suspected online predatory behavior, in coordination with law enforcement agencies and child protection services.

### 5. **Promote Mental Health Support:**

Establish confidential, easily accessible mental health resources for children who may have encountered online threats or predation. Support efforts to destigmatize reporting and seeing help, ensuring that children feel safe when talking about their online experiences.

### 6. **Collaboration with Law Enforcement:**

Partnerships between schools, local authorities, and law enforcement agencies shall be strengthened to ensure quick and effective responses to online threats against children.

### 7. **Public Information Campaigns:**

Governments and organizations shall collaborate to raise public awareness about online exploitation, using media campaigns, workshops, and community outreach.

**Resolved Further**, that these measures, when implemented, will create a safer online environment for children, helping them navigate the digital world without fear of exploitation or harm.

**Be it finally resolved**, that this resolution calls upon all relevant stakeholders, including governments, educators, parents, technology providers, and law enforcement to work in collaboration to protect children from online predators, ensuring the safety and well-being of future generations.

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### **Adopted by:**

General Federation of Women's Clubs of Montana  
April 18, 2026