



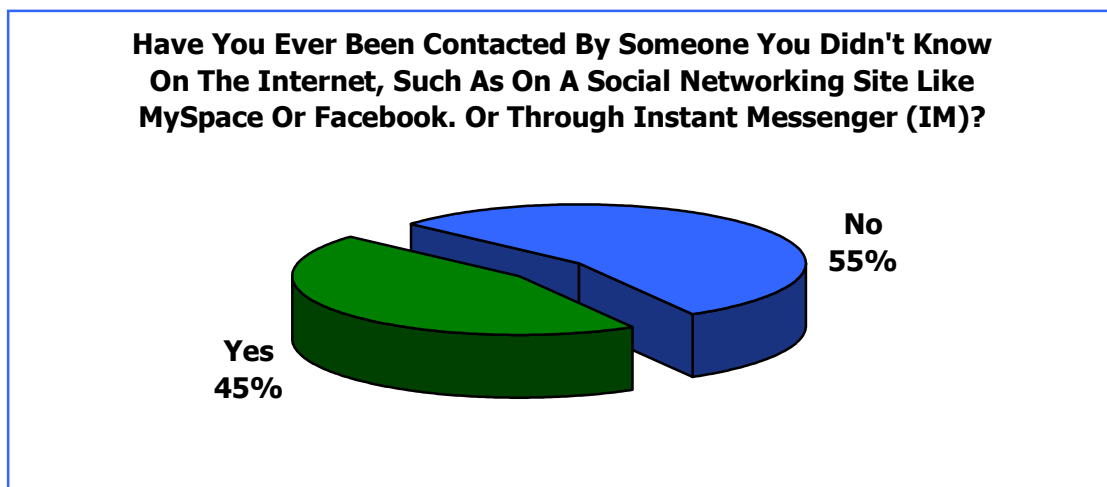
Cyber Safety Check

Survey Finds Teens and Adults Alike Aren't Safeguarding Their Personal Information Online

From an unstable economy to the skyrocketing price of essentials like food and gas, there are plenty of things Americans feel they have no control over these days. Yet when it comes to something they can easily manage—the security of their personal information in cyberspace—a disturbing percentage of online Americans aren't taking the proper steps to protect themselves and their families. According to a new study commissioned by CA, teens ages 13-17 and adults know the possible dangers that can be found on the Internet, yet they continue to put themselves at risk of being contacted by a stranger online—or having their identity stolen.

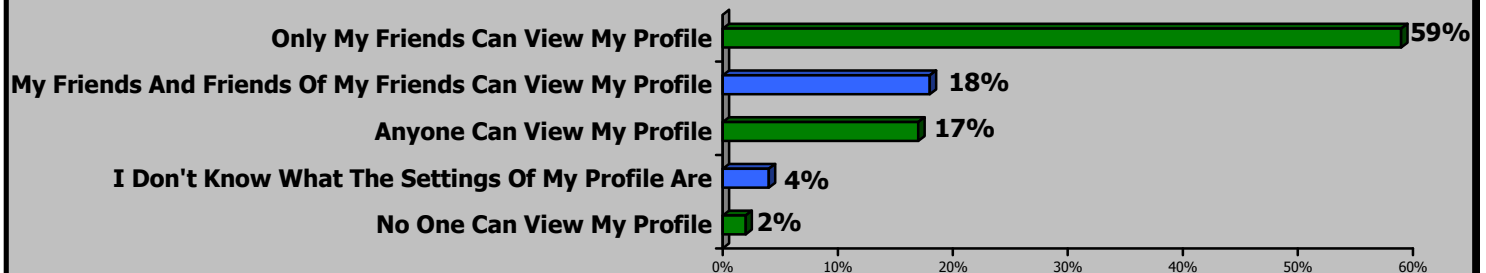
1) TEEN TROUBLE

- **Strangers in Cyberspace.** Nearly one out of two (45%) teens have been contacted by someone they didn't know on the Internet, such as on a social networking site or through Instant Messenger.



- **The Kind Of Friends You Don't Need.** And nearly four in ten (35%) teens with memberships on networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace are jeopardizing the security of their personal information because their profile pages are viewable by people other than their friends, including friends of friends and even complete strangers (see chart next page.)

If You Currently Belong To A Social Networking Site, Such As MySpace Or Facebook, Which Of The Following Best Describes Your Profile On The Majority Of These Sites?*



*Among Teens Who Currently Belong To A Social Networking Site

- **Boys Take The Risk.** More than four in ten (42%) teenage boys leave their profile open to the prying eyes of more than just their friends, compared to just 30 percent of teen girls.
- **In The Public Eye.** And if their lack of security features wasn't bad enough, the majority (70%) of teens who belong to networking sites include pictures of themselves and their friends and family on their profile pages, perhaps not realizing these photos can be re-posted anywhere on the Internet.
- **Girls Are Picture Crazy.** Nearly three quarters (74%) of teen girls post personal and family pictures on their profile pages—just 65 percent of teen boys do so.
- **Too Much Information.** Many teens also have their education information (38%), email address (32%), birth date (28%) and full name (19%) currently posted on their profile, giving predators all the information they need to contact them.

2) PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED

- **Security 101.** In better news, the majority of teens say their parents have chatted with them about talking to strangers online (91%), avoiding inappropriate sites (88%) and protecting their personal information on social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace (85%).
- **Where's The Software?** Yet talking about these issues only goes so far. Unfortunately, more parents have communication applications like IM (60%) and music downloading software (44%) on their home computers than they do parental control software (30%)—a key item in regulating what their children can do online.

- **Parents Not Proactive.** What's more upsetting is that parents aren't keeping a close eye on what their children are doing online, especially regarding the social networking sites they belong to. In fact, only 40 percent of parents actually monitor the amount of time their child spends on these sites. Even worse, less than a third (32%) restrict access to their child's profile by controlling the security features.
- **No Oversight of Networking Sites.** Perhaps most unsettling of all is that more than a third (34%) of parents are taking a complete backseat to their children's online activities: they don't monitor the amount of time their child spends on social networking sites, they don't view their child's profile or those of their friends and they don't restrict access to their child's profile.

3) **FEARFUL OF THE FUTURE**

Though many parents seem lackadaisical when it comes to their teens' online safety, they have great concern for their own.

- **Identity Theft.** A majority (57%) of American adults fear their identity might be stolen online within the next two years.



- **With Age Comes More Worry.** Nearly three in five (58%) Americans ages 30 and older are afraid their identity might be stolen online within the next couple of years, vs. just 52 percent of their younger counterparts ages 18-29.
- **Shopping Stress.** And an overwhelming 90 percent of adults worry about the security of their personal information in everyday situations involving their computers. For instance, six out of ten (60%) admit they've been worried about protecting their identity when shopping online.
 - Another 58 percent have worried about the security of their personal information when they signed up for a website membership, and 51 percent have been anxious about protecting their personal information when banking online.
- **Precautionary Measures.** Thankfully, many American adults have taken some of the proper steps to safeguard their computers and their personal information. A majority currently have anti-virus software (86%), pop-up blocking software (81%) and anti-spyware programs (77%) installed on them.