

# WHAT IF I'VE MADE A MISTAKE...

## On Social Media?

Contact the social media site directly, report the photograph and request that it be removed immediately.

## On the Internet?

Contact a reputable information removal service to assist with finding and removing personal information and photographs from the Internet.

## In the possession of someone else?

Contact law enforcement immediately for assistance.

# IT'S NOT GOING AWAY... WHAT NOW?

Unfortunately, information or pictures released on the Internet are difficult to get back; however, each individual has the ability to overcome their mistakes by learning to cope with the consequences. The support of family and counselors can often help.

Irvine Police Victim Advocate	949-724-7032
City of Irvine FOR Families	949-724-6650
Community Services Programs	949-724-7032
Orange County Child Abuse Hotline	800-207-4464
Suicide Prevention Hotline	877-727-4747

Stay connected with us! Friend or follow us on:



facebook.com/  
IrvinePD



twitter.com/  
irvinepolice



youtube.com/  
user/  
IrvinePolice



instagram.com/  
irvinepolice



AccessIrvine  
Mobile  
Application

# Avoid a Text Regret



**IRVINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

One Civic Center Plaza • Irvine, CA 92606

949-724-7000 • www.irvinepd.org

*"In Partnership with the Community"*





# HAVE YOU EVER

sent a mean text message,  
bullied someone on social media,  
or sent someone a revealing picture

## AND HAD TEXT REGRET?

### WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Our online reputation has become just as important as our reputation in person. What is said and done online or on a mobile device often affects our lives and future.

### SEXTING? WHAT'S THAT?

Sexting is the sending of sexually explicit messages in picture or text form. While sexting typically describes messages sent between mobile phones, the use of social media and mobile device applications have become prevalent.

### THE TRUTH ABOUT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Child pornography address photographs or videos, "media," of persons under the age of 18, "minors." An element of the child pornography laws addresses the intent of the creation and/or distribution of the media. Common child pornography may include:

- ◆ Minors creating media, which includes their nude body, may be in violation of creating child pornography
- ◆ Any person, regardless of age, who creates media of a nude minor may be in violation of creating child pornography
- ◆ Any person who sends media, including the nude body of a minor, may be in violation of distribution of child pornography, even if the media is of the sender
- ◆ Persons convicted of child pornography laws may be required to register for lifetime sex offender registration

With the advances in technology, minor's curiosity and the ease in which media is shared, law enforcement is addressing child pornography allegations more frequently across all age groups.

### IT'S AGAINST THE LAW

Some Text Regrets rise to the level of criminal activity. Here are some of the associated laws:

- ◆ **PC 653m – MISDEMEANOR**  
Annoying or harassing messages via electronic device
- ◆ **PC 653.2(a) – MISDEMEANOR**  
Threats causing fear for safety via electronic device ("cyberbullying")
- ◆ **PC 646.9(g) – FELONY**  
Repeatedly follows or harasses another person via electronic device ("cyberstalking")
- ◆ **PC 311 – FELONY**  
Subsections addressing child pornography

For additional information, please fully review the applicable laws. Please note that every circumstance is unique and investigated independently with individual outcomes that may or may not result in a criminal investigation and/or prosecution.

