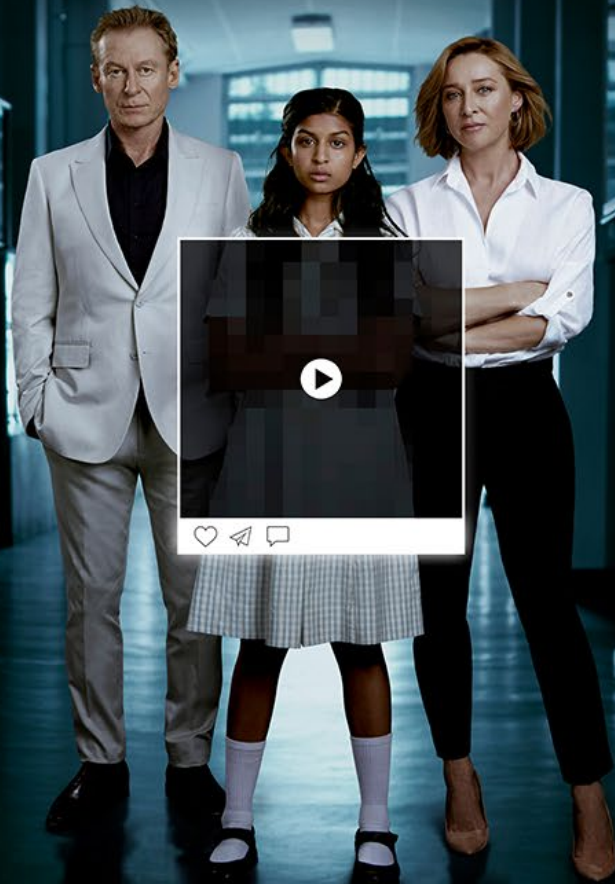


The Hunting

Parent Discussion Guide



This discussion guide has been developed to support SBS drama, *The Hunting*. The television series explores the lives of four teenagers, their teachers and families throughout the lead up, revelation and aftermath of a nude teen photo scandal. The purpose of this guide is to provide parents, carers and families with conversation starters around cyberbullying and image sharing, to promote positive experiences online.

Use the clips from the series to develop greater understanding of how negative experiences, often unintended, can arise. This information is designed to raise awareness and assist in identifying signs of risk-taking behaviour in young people.

The goal is to minimise harm and promote self-awareness and knowledge of healthy behaviours in young people that will lead to positive experiences and digital identities.

On the following pages are some ways to have conversations with young people about emerging technologies, helpful strategies and support services available.



This guide is to be viewed in parallel with clips available to watch at:
sbs.com.au/learn/the-hunting

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1. How to bring up conversations around sharing images



Clip 1 – Image sharing

It is important to talk with your children and young people about the possible consequences of sending or sharing intimate or sexually explicit messages, images, photos or videos. It is especially important to reiterate that sharing intimate images without consent is never okay. There are ways you can help if things go wrong. Talk early and often – for example you could refer to the clip above and ask questions like “Do you think it was right for Nassim to share that photo with a friend?”. Explore what their friends think about sharing photos, or if it happened to a friend, how it might make them feel.

Most importantly, let your child or young person know you are there to support them if they are uncomfortable about anything they see or have experienced online, or may have been a part of.

Helpful language:

- Ask open-ended questions in a non-judgmental way about risk-taking behavior.
- Avoid 'too much information' for younger people.
- Problem solve together.
- Talk about the importance of consent, safety and respect in all relationships, including online interactions.

These discussions can help build trust and start an ongoing conversation. The more informed young people are the better they are able to stay in control of their decisions and get support if something goes wrong.

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2. Schools and parents navigating through emerging technology



Clip 2 – Emerging technology and school responses

There will always be additional platforms and technologies emerging that bring challenges and new ways for children and young people to socialise. Informed use of digital technology also has many benefits to learning and education.

It can be difficult to stay on top of online trends, which may impact how to help children and young people understand the risks. It is therefore important to focus on the behavior rather than the technology. Young people are programmed to take risks. Impulse control is still developing in young people's minds and the reward of their peers' admiration often outweighs the merits of pragmatism, rules and safety.

Schools and families have a vital role to play in supporting young people as they develop their relationships, values, attitudes, and expectations. Adolescent development is a delicate and vulnerable time to foster respect, kindness, consideration, and empathy.



Important:

When a nude image is shared without consent, it is a breach of trust, a betrayal – the nude image itself is not the issue, the choice to violate someone else is.

Everyone needs to be held accountable when they behave without empathy, consideration, and respect for others. The online space is an extension of the real world and so the ideas of trust, consent, respect and kindness should be used equally in that space.

Schools should have well considered policies and practices in place to deal with online issues such as image-based abuse (IBA) and cyberbullying. It's important that parents and carers understand and support these procedures.

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3. Helpful strategies and support services



Clip 3 – Open conversations

Have you noticed your child or young person behaving differently? Ask them how they are, and what they are feeling. Be calm, kind and caring and offer support. It is never a good idea to be confrontational.

If your child has experienced image-based abuse or cyberbullying and would like to report it, visit: [esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting](https://www.esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting)

Remember to:

- Model appropriate behaviour. You have the capacity to positively influence your child's behaviour, their safety and their ability to navigate healthy, respectful and consenting relationships.
- Use opportunities from the media (i.e a celebrity nude photo scandal) to start conversations about sensitive and awkward topics.
- Ask open-ended questions in a non-judgemental way about risk-taking behaviour and use this as an opportunity to talk about the issues. Shoulder-to-shoulder conversations, like when you're driving in the car together, can make these talks less awkward.

- Set age-specific rules around device-use, such as no phones after a particular time.
- Use parental controls and safeguards on devices to help limit what your children and young person is exposed to. Revisit these regularly.
- Help your child or young person report and block disturbing content they see on social media sites or apps.
- Encourage healthy use and behaviours. It is not helpful to be anti-technology, as this is not realistic in a highly digitised world.

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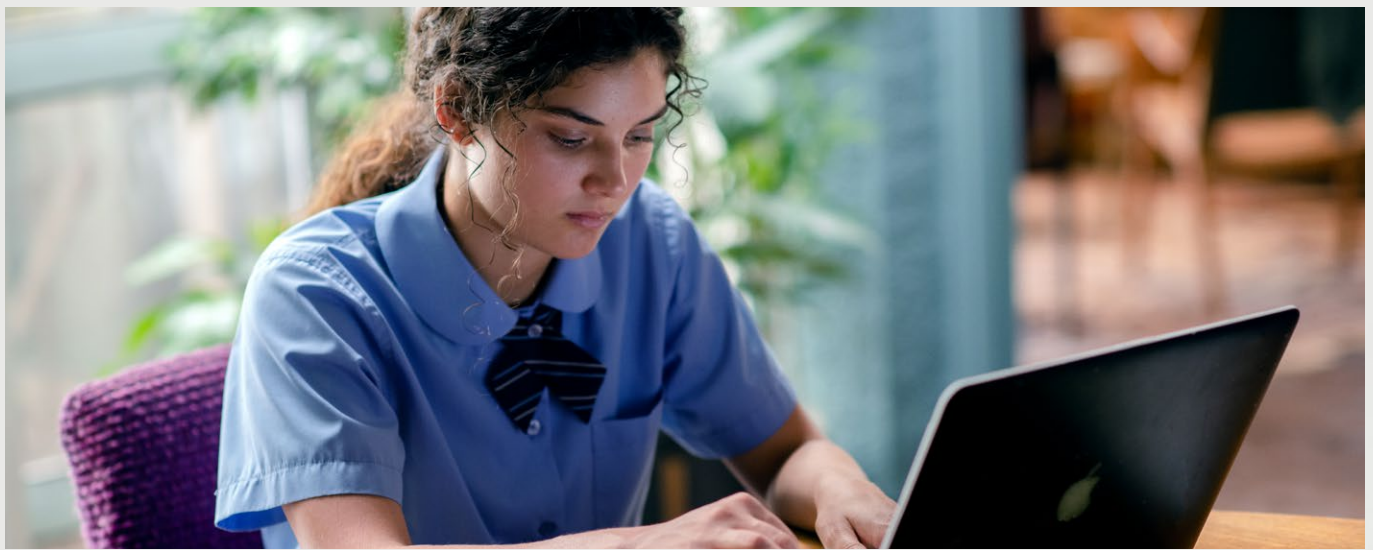


Support services:

ReachOut: How to ask a friend if they're ok:
au.reachout.com/articles/how-to-ask-a-friend-if-theyre-ok
Kids Helpline: kidshelpline.com.au 1800 55 1800
Youth Law Australia: yla.org.au
Beyondblue: beyondblue.org.au 1300 22 4636

Further resources:

SBS Voices: What parents need to know about 'sending nudes': sbs.com.au/voices
eSafety's Image-based abuse site: esafety.gov.au/image-based-abuse
Toolkit for parents: esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues/sending-nudes-sexting
Kids Helpline: kidshelpline.com.au/teens/issues/sexting
Raising Children Network: raisingchildren.net.au
ReachOut: reachout.com/thehunting



Luca Sardelis who plays Zoe in SBS's *The Hunting*. Photo by Nat Rogers.

Watch four-part series *The Hunting* on SBS and SBS On Demand.

Visit sbs.com.au/learn/the-hunting for more educational resources.

