

My Positive Virtual Identity

Think of the video clip you just watched “*Don’t Laugh at Me*” by Mark Wills and write a brief *comment* about it that you would want others to know. If you didn’t like the video that’s okay, but I’m sure there is something in the message that you could identify to comment on. Make sure your comment supports your PVI.

1. _____

Think about things you could add to what you do online that would make a good PVI image of yourself. If you’re not online think about what you would do when you get older to create a PVI.

List 3 things:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Remember

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Posting on the Net

Stay in control of your site.

1. Check to see if your blogging service has a "friends" list that allows you to control who can visit your blog.
2. If so, be sure to allow only people you know and trust. These should be people that you know personally, not just from an online friendship.
3. Be very careful before adding strangers to your list and be extremely careful about the information you post that can be accessed by people outside your friends list.

Show yourself in a positive way.

1. Be very careful about photographs you put on your blog or webposting site like Facebook.
2. It's a very bad idea to post photos that are suggestive or sexual in nature.
3. What you post on the Internet can be downloaded by others and can hang around forever.

Be truthful & honest.

1. Do not lie about yourself any time online.
2. Claiming you are someone that you're not puts targets on you. **Targets** put you at risk.
3. InterNet Stalkers look for targets.

Make positive comments.

1. Put things on your site that are funny, supportive, interesting, and thought provoking.
2. You don't have to create all of your own stuff.
3. Embed quotes, songs, videos.
4. If you allow non-friends or strangers to post comments to your site, check the comments regularly to make sure they're appropriate. If not, remove them.

Stand for what you believe.

1. Never allow messages that are mean, threatening or embarrassing to you or others.
2. Make appropriate responses about why you won't allow such postings. Then delete them.
3. After one warning block that person from visiting your blog or webposting site. Let people know you have blocked them.

Ask your grandparents what they think of your postings.

1. Before uploading a photo, ask how you would feel if that picture were seen by your grandparents, your parents, a college admissions counselor, a potential employer, a future boyfriend/girlfriend or a future spouse.
2. What if you were to run for an important position someday?