

7 MESSAGING APPS THAT PARENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF

by netSociety 



KIK MESSENGER

Features: send texts, videos and pictures, anonymous names, unlimited messaging, group chats, web searches

What to watch for: in-app purchases, auto messages, easy to reach out to strangers, anonymous messages



WHISPER

Features: ages 17+, make confessions, share photos, anonymous

What to watch for: troubling confessions, easily published in public places, inappropriate content



ASK.FM

Features: post questions, anonymous answers, Q&A's

What to watch for: live streaming, anonymous answers, cyber bullying, posts can be linked to Facebook



YIKYAK

Features: anonymous posts to anyone in the area, send pictures and messages, app reports potential threats

What to watch for: inappropriate content, used for threats to people and establishments, promotes illegal underage activities



OMEGLE

Features: matches users to strangers, anonymous

What to watch for: inappropriate content, interactions with strangers, sexual predators



SNAPCHAT

Features: send videos, pictures, and messages that disappear, share and view stories

What to watch for: sexual images, photos easily screenshotted, third-party image savers



LINE

Features: send voice messages, text, video, group chats, games, avatar based, video calls

What to watch for: minors need parental permission, in-app purchases, hidden chats similar to Snapchat