How Protected Are You... Really?

Online security, social safety, protected, protected, victim, criminal, crime, stalking, social, internet, cyberspace, sexting, privacy, risks.
Think before you connect. Here’s why:

Social Media & Apps

According to an October 2011 post by Elinor Mills on news.cnet.com, Facebook stops approximately 600,000 suspicious log-ins per day.

If you believe your Facebook account has been hijacked, visit: facebook.com/hacked

For general Facebook security tips, visit: facebook.com/security

• Avoid connecting to “public” or open wireless networks. These networks generally don’t offer an encrypted connection, meaning that anyone within your local vicinity could potentially “see” everything you are doing.

Mobile Technology

• Use a PIN or password to keep others from using your mobile device. This may seem inconvenient, but you will be glad you enabled this feature if your device is ever lost or stolen.

• Make use of available “remote-wipe” tools to erase all of your personal information from a lost or stolen device. Examples of such tools are Apple’s Find My iPhone and the multi-platform tool Prey.

• Be mindful of the default “location tracking” features available within many apps – especially social networking apps such as Facebook, foursquare and Google+.

Email & Internet

According to “Hacked!”, a November 2011 article in the Atlantic Magazine, Google detects thousands of hijacked Gmail accounts per day.

If you believe your Google Account has been hijacked, visit: gmailaccountrecovery.blogspot.com.

For general Google Accounts security tips, visit: google.com/security.

• Things may not always be what they seem on the Internet (including email). It’s relatively easy to convincingly impersonate people, businesses or non-profit organizations online.

• Always stay vigilant and never be afraid to seek help.

DID YOU KNOW?

• Online postings leading to eventual in-person meetings have been used to commit violent crimes: craigscrimelist.org

• Tech-savvy criminals can use social media to find out when you are not home: pleaserobme.com/why

• Once you share digital content, such as pictures, movies or even PowerPoint presentations, you lose control of the content.

  » For example, type the following four words into your favorite search engine: duke female sex powerpoint.

For additional security tips, please visit security.sc.edu. Helpful information is easily accessible.
What is Security?

In the context of personal privacy, security describes the means used to maintain privacy. Security can include technologies, such as antivirus software, encryption, passwords and locks, but can also include non-technical practices such as always travelling in a large group at night, being aware of your surroundings and generally avoiding putting yourself in dangerous situations.

Other Useful Links

Information from the National Cyber Security Alliance: staysafeonline.org

Electronic Privacy Information Center: epic.org

UTS Security: security.sc.edu

utm.sc.edu/facebook  twitter.com/uofsctech

What is Privacy?

While the word privacy can mean different things, when it comes to online safety, we typically want privacy to mean the expectations I have regarding the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information.

In this sense, a violation of privacy can be understood as my personal information being collected, used or disclosed in a manner inconsistent with my expectations.

Personal information can include identifiers such as your birth date, sex, phone number, social security number, driver’s license number and where you live.

Also, where you work, relationship status, political and religious associations may also be considered personal and private.