

# The Dangers of Application Usage, the Internet, and Social Media

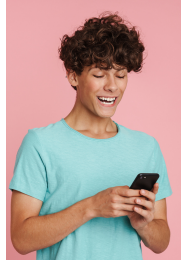


Extension - Health and Human Sciences

## Series #2

### Dangerous Applications Youth Might Use

Now that you are more educated about social media, the internet, and applications (apps) let's discuss the specific applications that youth may be using. One specific app that you should be aware of is called, "The Calculator#." This app looks just like the calculator app on your smartphone, however it is a secret app for photos, videos, and other files. If your child is going to hide things from you, it may be in something like this.



- Social media applications
  - YouTube: where videos are posted. They aren't screened before publication, allowing kids to find plenty of inappropriate content.
  - Snapchat: app that shows content and then it disappears after 24 hours. Some kids (and predators) take advantage of this by sharing explicit photos or videos.
  - TikTok: has very loose content guidelines, so kids may run into offensive or explicit content.
  - Other potentially dangerous social media apps: Tumblr, Reddit, Facebook, Twitter, QZone, Tout, Spreely, Trilled, MeWe, Gab, Rumble, social, IRL, YikYak, Hoop, GETTR, VSCO, WeChat, Wishbone, Marco Polo
- Live-streaming and video chat apps
  - Many times these videos are live and unmonitored, which makes it very easy for people to say or show whatever they want. Kids have the ability to use live streams to access content that you have blocked elsewhere, similar to video game footage or explicit music. There are also opportunities for kids to two-way video chat, which allows them to connect with random strangers, also called "chat roulette." Some "chat roulette" apps are meant for dating or have sexual undertones.
  - LiveMe: concerning because it shares the broadcaster's exact location with viewers and allows users to pay others for photos.
  - Other potentially dangerous live-streaming and video chat apps: Houseparty, Big Live, BIGO Live, Uplive, Clover, REALITY, Quibi, Twitch, Tango, Yubo, Livestream, Nonolive, YouNow, Spoon, 17Live, SuperLive, MICO, Imo love, OK Live, Hakuna, Likee, Coco, ly, Camsurf, Omgea, Hola
- Chat apps
  - Chat apps pose a serious problem for kids when their main purpose is to connect with strangers. That's exactly what many of these dangerous messaging apps do. Some also include video chat. Some chat apps, like "WhatsApp," take the place of text messages when a friend or family member lives abroad. Similar chat apps include Messenger, Line, and Discord, as these emphasize "invite-only" conversations. Strangers might still find a way to chat with your kid on these apps, so they are worth monitoring regardless.
  - Dangerous apps include: Kik, Viber, Telgram, Caffeine, Clubhouse, IMVU, Friends, Fam, Threema, Wink, Itsme, BOSS Revolution, Chatjob, Nowchat, Signal, ICQ, Hangouts, Addchat, Wizz, BOTIM, BiP, Anonymous Chat Room, Cheers, Squad, Byte, Omegle, Telonym
- Dating and Explicit apps
  - Teens can be curious and it could lead them to a dating app. This is a sign that you should have serious conversations with them regarding relationships, etc. Many of these dating apps aren't meant for dating at all, but for casual hook-ups. Your teenager may not know why that's risky unless you tell them!
  - Some of the many dating apps include: Tinder, Grindr, Plenty of Fish, Hily, Match, Zoosk, Mocospace, MeetMe, Bumble, BLK, Skout, Badoo, Tagged, SweetRing, Cougar, 3Fun, Flourish, Hinge, Pure, InMessage, Chaturbate, Wild
  - Explicit apps include: iGirl, Dipsea, Juice Live, Lifestyle for Men, Kegel, JoyHouse, Galatea, Radish Fiction
- Secret Storage apps: These apps allow the user to keep photos and other files in a password-protected location. The app icon often looks like a calculator or another inconspicuous app. Your child might use a secret storage app to hide inappropriate photos sent by or to a sexual predator. Some of these apps are called: Best Secret Folder, Calculator#, Locker, Privault, Secret Photo Vault, Calculator Secret Folder, Secure Private Calculator