

APPS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW



TINDER



Tinder is a popular dating app. Only for 18 years and up, but kids can falsify their age. Has a reputation for casual sex. Users are vulnerable to explicit material and online grooming.

Snapchat is one of the most popular

apps. Promises disappearing photos,







videos, and stories but doesn't prevent screenshots. Snap Map can let others know your location.



Saturn Calendar is a calendar app intended to keep high school students connected with classmates and organized. Shows student's daily schedule to other users and can link

to social media accounts. Allows for direct messages. MONKEYCOOL



MonkeyCool is a video chat and social media app that allows kids and teenagers to connect with strangers online. Has a video chat feature and duo chat feature. Actively pushes its users to record themselves live.

ASK.FM



ASK.fm is known for cyber bullying. Users are encouraged to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.

YUBO



Yubo is a popular app amoung teens. Called "Tinder for teens" it is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other. Has been frequented by sexual predators.



X, formerly Twitter is a very popular app. Allows users to post and interact with messages. Explicit material is allowed and is promoted to users via the "For You" page.

INSTAGRAM

X

Instagram is a very popular app. It is used for sharing stories and notes that disappear after 24 hours. Create short videos of your life and watch other videos with very limited privacy controls. Users are vulnerable to explicit material.

TIKTOK

TikTok is a very popular app. Used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls. Users are vulnerable to explicit material.



SKOUT

WhatsApp is a messaging app where users can send texts, photos, voicemail, make calls, and video chat worldwide. Uses an internet connection and can track location if enabled.



Skout is a location-based dating app and website. Users under 17 are unable to share private photos, however kids can easily falsify their age.

WHISPER

Y/



BUMBLE



Bumble is a popular dating app similar to Tinder, however, traditionally women were required to make the first contact. Men can now initiate with prompts. Kids have been known to create fake accounts and falsify their age.

DISCORD



Discord is a messaging platform for kids to hang out and talk about gaming. Features chat rooms, direct messaging, voice chat, and video calls. Can expose kids to inappropriate or explicit content.

CALCULATOR#



Calculator# can hide photos, videos, files, and browser history. Only one of several secret apps used for this purpose.

KIK



Kik Messenger allows anyone to contact and direct message a child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. Kik gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime and doesn't track phone numbers of users.

LIVEME



LiveMe is a live-streaming video app for users to share videos. Uses geolocation so a broadcaster's exact location can be seen by users. Users can earn "coins" to "pay" minors for photos.



YIK YAK

Yik Yak is an anonymous chatting app that lets users within a five-mile radius read publicly posted messages. Known to be a breeding ground for bullying and promotion of sexual assault and violence.

REDDIT



Reddit is one of the largest online communities in the world. Because of the lack of moderation inappropriate and explicit content make it hard to browse the site safely.

ROBLOX



Roblox is an online gaming platform that has a chat function. Underage users have reported solicitation from sexual predators.

BADOO



Badoo is a dating and social networking app to chat, share photos and videos, and connect based on location. Intended for adults, teens have been known to create profiles.

YARN



Yarn is a reading app that tells stories via fake text messages. Topics can be scary or sexual in nature. Can also watch short videos or listen to audio.

HOOP



Hoop is an app that connects with Snapchat to allow users to "make new connections". Known as "Tinder meets Snapchat" Hoop allows kids as young as 12 to form connections with total strangers. Hoop claims users over 18 won't be shown kids' profiles.

MEETME



MeetMe is a dating social media app. Allows users to connect with others based on geographic proximity. Users are encouraged to meet in person.

This list is not exhaustive. Many apps have alternative apps that are similar with different looking icons. These and other apps can be used as grooming tools by Online predators. (Updated 07/2024)











