





















































DANGEROUS APPS EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW

 <p>9Gag</p>	<p>What it is: app that distributes memes and pictures online. Why it's bad: all kinds of pictures are shared on 9Gag. The pictures are not moderated. Many swatters come from 9Gag and cyberbullying is rampant. Swatting is getting the police to raid an innocent person's house.</p>
	<p>What it is: Crush app and daily polls with friends at school or a message board for students to join by scanning their school ID or Facebook profile. While it only allows users from the same school, once in the app, the user is anonymous. Why it's bad: it's anonymous so kids are posting topless photos, targeting kids, there is a 17 and up section where you can scan your driver's license and the posts seem to become more vulgar.</p>
	<p>What it is: a popular Q&A social networking site used almost exclusively by kids. Why it's bad: it's anonymous question-asking leads to relentless consequence and cyber bullying. There are nine documented suicide cases linked to Ask.fm</p>
 <p>Amino App</p>	<p>What it is: a collection of groups Asian girls, LGBT, Pansexual, Sexy RP, Super Hero Boys, Basketball Fans, and anything else you might like. Collections of people who identify a certain way. They can discover, chat, watch videos, read blogs, Post, get news Why it's bad: there are a lot of gambling, sexual content, alcohol/drug talk, identity confusion at young age, as the minimum age is 13. However, if a teen is struggling with identity issues this could be a good app because they could get a sense of belonging, parents just need to be mindful of the content. There are sister apps to this: Equestria Amino, Smash Amino, Crafty Amino. It all just brings you back to the Amino App, which is sneaky. This is a new app.</p>
	<p>What it is: a "flirting" app allowing users to send photos/videos to anyone on their "friends" list and rate their "hotness." Why it's bad: this app uses GPS and is not authenticated, so predators can find minors or anyone they are looking for. It's also popular for sexting, and the "hotness" rating allows for bullying.</p>
 <p>Bumble</p>	<p>What it is: dubbed "The Feminist Tinder" it is similar to Tinder. It is a dating app but requires women to make the first contact. Why it's bad: you can create a fake account and falsify age. This is also a location-based app. There is a "shake back" feature if you swipe left, but you meant to swipe right, but this also works in reverse. You can also "ghost" people if you want, but you could also get "ghosted".</p>
 <p>Deviant Art</p>	<p>What it is: the world's largest art gallery in your hands. Online artwork, videography, and photography community. Why it's bad: parents rated this highly inappropriate and kids didn't think it was inappropriate at all. There is inappropriate content, sexual content, suicide and self-harm, and violent content. You can search any type of "art" or "art form" opening the doors to inappropriate content.</p>
 <p>Down Dating</p>	<p>What it is: a dating app connected to Facebook. Why it's bad: it allows you to classify your friends into people you would be "down" with "hooking up" with, creating normalcy for a sexual hook-up culture for your child.</p>
 <p>F My Life</p>	<p>What it is: "Laugh life off by sharing your daily mishaps and embarrassments, because it's good to share" is the apps tag line. The designers call its users "brave" and asks for mishaps/embarrassing moments and "serve it to others on a plate" so that others can laugh at it as well (assuming that you are able to laugh at yourself). Why it's bad: the makers take your embarrassing moments/mishaps and share them with the rest of the FML community. Inappropriate content that is sexual on site, violence, offensive language. If you aren't able to laugh at yourself (your mishaps) then you should not be on this app.</p>
 <p>FriendO</p>	<p>What it is: quiz app that is not anonymous that let's users discover who their "real" friends are by having them answer questions or quizzes about each other. There are 4 top spots to fill. The more correct answers achieved the higher up the freind0 ranking. Why it's bad: you can search for friends that aren't really friends or people you know. There is a category of MSFK (marry, sex, friend, kill) where the quiz asks what would you do to what celeb. Another is labeled "dirty" that talks about sexual behavior in bed. There is no parental control within the app. This app monitors hidden Google searches.</p>
 <p>Habbo Hotel</p>	<p>What it is: social networking service and online community aimed at teens. MMORP game. Why it's bad: sexual content, general inappropriate bad behavior, access to strangers. Habbo Hotel states it does have word filters which removes offensive words from view.</p>
 <p>Hidden Apps</p>	<p>What they are: these are all apps designed to hide other apps on your phone. Not all are available anymore, but if your child already has them, they can still use them. Why they're bad: these allow your child to conceal apps from their phone screen, so you will have to be diligent about searching for them. Private Photo (Calculator%), Gallery Lock Lite, Best Secret Folder, Keep Safe, Hide it Pro, App Lock, Poof, Secret Folder. Check your kids calculator app and make sure it's a calculator!</p> <div style="text-align: right;">    </div>

 <p>Video Chatting Apps</p>	<p>What it is: video chatting apps. Live video and texts in chat groups. Why it's bad: there is no screening and the video is live so there is nothing keeping kids from inappropriate content. You can also join groups where you may only know one person in the group. Random Video chats. Often when you open a video chat the first thing one sees is a penis. Houseparty, Group ME, WeChat, AntiLand, Chat for Strangers</p> 
 <p>Holla</p>	<p>What it is: it is a video chat app that allow users to meet people all over the world. Why it's bad: users have indicated that there are offensive video chats where users are racist, sexually explicit, and other inappropriate content.</p>
 <p>Hot or Not</p>	<p>What it is: it is a rating site that allows users to rate attractiveness of photos submitted voluntarily by others. Why it's bad: focuses on objectification. It also has a "meet me at hot or not" matchmaking service. Hot or Not has a Hot or Not gossip and Baresi rate box (a "hot meter"). Hot or Not is similar to Facebook's "FaceMash where you rate others.</p>
 <p>Jailbreaking App</p>	<p>What it is & Why it's bad: these are apps to hack into your own phone and disable your parental controls. Cydia is a popular one. This is a gateway to the hidden apps mentioned earlier too.</p>
	<p>What it is: an instant messaging app that allows sending of videos, pics, and GIFs. Why it's bad: it's very popular for sexting. There are no parental controls or authenticating, so it's really easy for predators to find your child on Kik.</p>
 <p>Live.Me</p>	<p>What it is: it is a live streaming video app that shares geolocation. Why it's bad: predators can easily find kids using the geolocations. EXACT LOCATION. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos. Kids want the "coins". Can go live and share stories. Can use parental controls and turn off locations otherwise don't use this app.</p>
	<p>What they are: similar live streaming video apps that stream video to Twitter. Why they're bad: although it's against the apps' terms of service, since it's live streamed it's difficult to keep users from producing images with nudity or pornographic content, which makes it a favorite for predators to watch.</p>
	<p>What it is: an app that uses GPS to allow users to meet new people who live nearby. Why it's bad: there's no age verification, and your account is linked to Facebook, so you and your location are easily identifiable to predators. The popularity rating makes seeking approval from strangers seem like a game.</p>
 <p>Addchat</p>	<p>What it is: allows kids to have chats with new people from all over the world. Users are randomly matched with other users for a brief introductory video call. Users can add more time or add the person to Snapchat to continue the conversation. Why it's bad: this is a 17+ app. Zero parental controls. Models Snapchat. No age verification. Random conversations with random people is a recipe for disaster and creates temptations for teens not ready to handle. Formerly known as the Monkey App</p>
 <p>Musical.ly Now Tik Tok</p>	<p>What it is: looks innocent. Create music videos, lip sync to videos, live stream Why it's bad: people are Live streaming porn, getting drunk, getting high, etc. There are no parental controls on this app. There is also "code language" with hashtags like "Thot (that ho over there) or Fgirl, sxy, whotty, or sin." The code language changes often so you may never really know what people are saying. Kids somehow figure it out. There are also hashtags of artistic themes of kill stalkings where boys are putting knives to girls throats, self-harm videos (#cutter, #triggerwarning, #selfhate, #proana). There are little kids commenting on older kids suicide statements.</p>
	<p>What it is: a video chatting app. Why it's bad: although you don't identify yourself, it's pretty easy for your child to make friends with a predator. It's known to be a predator favorite.</p>
 <p>Polly</p>	<p>What it is: polling app. It is aged 12+ Why it's bad: anonymity = increased ability to bully. Hidden Google searching. Sexualized content and/or crude humor. Their tag line: "Let's be honest." Honesty is great, but let's be honest: would most say to a persons face that they say in text?</p>
	<p>What it is: people without a profile visit your page, leaving messages anonymously, but users can choose to tag their identity. On the receiver's end, incoming messages show up in your inbox. You can flag, delete, reply, or favorite them. Sarahah means "honesty" in Arabic. YOLO, Lipsi – Anonymous questions/Answers apps Why it's bad: it is easy to set up a fake profile and repeatedly and anonymously send bullying messages if that is what a bully wishes to do.</p>

 <p>Secret</p>	<p>What it is: say anything. Stay Anonymous is their “tag” line. “See what friends and people are saying nearby”</p> <p>Why it’s bad: aside from being able to bully anonymously, there is general inappropriate behavior, sexual content, and other inappropriate content.</p>
  <p>Seeking Arrangement or Flirting Apps</p>	<p>What it is: seekingArrangement.com “It is a sugar daddy dating app”. Several Flirting Apps/Websites</p> <p>Why it’s bad: the creator also created the now defunct “carrotdating app” which was an app that was a prostitution app the same way backpage.com ads are. This app is basically “bribes for dates”. This can be in the form of dinner and a movie; however it doesn’t always seem to be used that way.</p> <div data-bbox="284 346 576 451">    </div> <p>Kiki dating App</p> <p>Wahadventures.com: Need paypal, must be 25 no real age verification, the pay is .20 per text, typically it is only chat/text</p> <p>Chat Recruit: uses TV or webcam and is international, direct deposits into a bank account, pays 2.00/min</p> <p>Freelancer: it’s an escrow system, you won’t repeat the same customer as the company sets you up, you are paid through paypal/skrill or Freelancer Debit Card</p> <p>Firtbucks: you are known as a chat hostess, paid to paypal, 18+ no real age verification, you get .15/min.</p> <p>DreamLover: sharing photos through texts only SMS, must be model look, 18+, paid through paypal, pay is based on how “hot” you are, how many men like you</p> <p>Fiverr: you label yourself i.e. flirt, hottie, etc. and the guy texts you. You offer price \$5/5min or \$25/25min</p> <p>Upwork: this is more secretive. You have to find the chats and you bid on them. Escrow system -funds the account before work starts then releases money after work complete. You can transfer money to paypal</p> <p>Mygirlfund: 40k/yr “online dating” go fund me. Skies the limit with this app. If you need emergency cash, college tuition, outfit for the weekend...just jump on this app and ask your chat buddy, but likely you will be asked for a picture (SMS) or a video. No personal information is asked so no real age verification.</p> <p>Lipservice: 18+ and the only app that requires a pre-application and potentially screens for 18+. So, likely teens aren’t using this one.</p> <p>Prendly: someone messages you. You instantly earn cash. They send you a virtual drink for \$5 and that is \$5 real cash. They send you virtual gifts as cash, but they expect photos and videos back.</p> <p>Textkings: 18+ this is strictly on a computer and you must type 25wpm and some phone use.</p> <p>Text121chat: if you are bilingual you could make a lot of money or if you are not it’s .07/per text to flirt.</p>
 <p>Shots of Me Frontback</p>	<p>What it is: photo sharing and direct messaging where users can send private messages to one another. Justin Bieber supported to prevent anti-trolling. So it has an anti-trolling feature, which is supposed to ward off bullying.</p> <p>Why it’s bad: bullies can private message victims and it’s location sharing, however this can be turned off. Frontback can easily determine location and it’s a public forum.</p>
 <p>Sickipedia</p>	<p>What it is: a joke app. Best collection of jokes</p> <p>Why it’s bad: inappropriate content for kids, sexual content, hatred towards others (racism & religion), offensive and rude content.</p>
 <p>Skout</p>	<p>What it is: a flirting app used to meet new people.</p> <p>Why it’s bad: ages aren’t verified, and although there is a teen version with slightly more safety features, all you have to do to bypass it is put in a fake birthday. This leaves children open to the adult sector of Skout, which includes plenty of profanity, suggestive pictures and private messaging with strangers who can see their location.</p>
 <p>Snapchat</p>	<p>What it is: a photo---sharing app that allows users to send photos to specific people, assigning the photos an allotted time—after which they will “disappear.”</p> <p>Why it’s bad: it’s very popular for sexting. Users have figured out how to save or screenshot the images, so they aren’t really gone and can be used against the sender later for “revenge porn” or any other nefarious purpose.</p>
 <p>Spoof Apps</p>	<p>What it is: apps that allow you to fake or “spoof” your caller ID to call or text someone.</p> <p>Why it’s bad: Well for starters; it’s illegal. Spoof apps are used for “neighbor spoofing” and other spoofing scams. It has also been used in domestic violence situations. People have also reported that their number has been used in spoofing scams that have led to harassment inquiries though the person with the actual phone number is completely innocent. Some spoofing apps are:</p> <div data-bbox="901 1669 1193 1774">    </div>
	<p>What it is: an app used to find dates and hook---ups using GPS tracking.</p> <p>Why it’s bad: it is easy for adults and minors to find each other, and the “rating” system can be used for bullying.</p>

 Tumblr	What it is: photo sharing app. It can also be used for sharing videos and chatting. Why it's bad: kids can access porn, violent, and other inappropriate content. Privacy settings are difficult to navigate. Pictures hold EXIF (Exchangeable Image File Format) Metadata which shows hidden data information. Tumblr glorifies self-harm and eating disorders.
 Twitch	What it is: Twitch is a live game streaming app and sets to “strengthen the connections between you, your friends, and your entire community” Why it's bad: kids/teens can live stream gaming videos and live chat. This opens the door to swatting calls (*see 9Gag re: swatting), Inappropriate content, sexual & violent content.
 Vora	What it is: it's a dieting app to track fasts. It's not supposed to harm, but those with eating disorders. There is a social media site attached to this app. Why it's bad: through the social media app “pro-ana” users turn it into negative feedback for others. Teens/tweens do not need to fast.
 Voxer	What it is: it's a walkie talkie app allows users to quickly exchange short voice messages. Chats with multiple people. Tap the play button and hear messages they received. Why it's bad: hurtful messages from cyberbullies can be even more hurtful when spoken and played over and over. It's rated 4+ in the app store.
 VSCO	What it is: it's a photo creation app that gives users tools to shoot, edit, and post images to a profile, like Instagram. However, you do have to turn on privacy settings and can limit location sharing. Why it's bad: this is not one of the worst ones if privacy settings and location sharing are off, however if pictures are being posted much like on Instagram, pictures hold EXIF (Exchangeable Image File Format) Metadata which shows hidden data information.
 Whisper	What it is: an anonymous confession app. Why it's bad: since it's “anonymous,” you can post pics and confessions of someone who isn't you (bullying). It also uses GPS, so people—a.k.a. predators—can find you pretty easily.
 Wishbone	What it is: it allows users to compare two images and vote on their favorite. Users can create polls and get feedback from the community and friends. Topics range from fashion, movies, celebs, animals, music, travel, etc. Why it's bad: no parental controls and though they say the app strictly forbids sexualized material, there is a lot of this on this app. However, this app is meant to be a comical survey unfortunately people have polluted it with sexualized pictures.
 YUBO	What it is: is like if snapchat and tinder could have a baby. The point of Yubo? For people to have long distance digital-only relationships. It's 17+, but of course that's just a “guideline”. You are paired to other Yellow users in the area that match similar interests. Why it's bad: so, now you get to right or left swipe on all the people that the yellow algorithm thinks you should be friends with. If you swipe right and the other person swipes right, now you are snapchat/tinder buddies. There are no user settings and no parental controls.
 Ghost	What it is: An anonymous social feed. You create posts and get “boos” or votes and comments completely anonymous. Your social feed is viewed by the people closest to them as determined by GPS. Formerly known as Yik Yak and really no different. Why it's bad: users were putting lots of sexually explicit content on Yik Yak, and although it's anonymous, it can reveal personal details that make users easy to find, especially with GPS.

*This list continues to grow and change. If you have a Dangerous App that you are aware of please contact us at 763-324-1809 or 763-324-1698 to get it added/changed. Thank you for your time in helping us protect our children.

*We are also aware that App Developers are constantly trying to improve their apps and this document is for educational purposes only. At the time of listing said dangerous app; changes could have been made to “why it is bad”. We recommend that if any user is interested in using one of these apps; research the most current information to make a sound decision on how best to protect oneself.