



Guidelines for parents and guardians in Iceland on public discussion about children on social media

These guidelines are meant to serve as good advice to parents, guardians and other kinsmen of children about how to publicly talk about children online and on social media. They cover viewpoints which can be helpful when photographs or other personal information about children is shared online.

Parents and guardians of children are encouraged to think carefully before sharing posts about their children on social media and be mindful of the right of the child to respect for both private and family life.

RESPECT FOR PRIVATE LIFE

All children have a right to respect for their private life both within and outside their home, just as adults do. This is in accordance to the convention of the rights of the child and the Icelandic constitution. Children have a right to respect for their way of life and their private circumstances. The same goes for their emotional life, their emotional relationships and relationships to those they confide in.

APPROVAL

It is important to get children's approval before speaking about them or posting photographs of them on social media, in accordance with their age and maturity. Everyone should be mindful that children may have opinions about public discussion about them and whether or not they want their photograph posted online, even if they are very young. Everyone has the duty to take their opinion into consideration before acting.

RESPONSIBILITY

Parents, guardians and other caretakers of children are responsible for their welfare and should recognize their human rights. Everything that is posted online can be found in later times and can influence the children's lives in various ways. It is therefore important to put oneself in children's shoes and consider the possible effects on them, before sharing personal information about them on social media, such as photographs or personal stories.

SECURITY

It is important to know that photographs are never fully secured online. There is always the possibility that photographs or other posts on social media will be shared, even from private and secret groups or pages. It is also very important that information about the location of the child, such as GPS, is not being shared as this could inform unknown persons of their whereabouts.



FJÖLMÍÐLANEFND

