

# Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center

## Tips on Protecting Youth from Sextortion

### Things to Remember

- Anything done online can be seen by and shared with others.
- Video chat sessions can be recorded without one's knowledge.
- Perpetrators can misrepresent themselves online to appear as a fellow student or a caring adult.
- Perpetrators can show a recorded video of a child and make it appear as though it is a live video feed.
- Don't be afraid to talk to a trusted adult.

### Youth are more likely to become a victim of sextortion if they:

- Do anything online they do not want to be shared publicly
- Willingly share explicit photos with anyone online or via text message
- Engage in "sexting" - even with a boy/girl friend or trusted individual
- Communicate online or via text with anyone they do not know personally
- Befriend strangers on social media, gaming, or other forums/apps/sites
- Share/post content with strangers (even if it isn't explicit/sexual)
- Share or make available personal details/identifiers online

### Tips for students to help prevent sextortion perpetrated by hackers:

- Cover webcams when not in use to avoid surreptitious recording.
- Use updated anti-virus software on all mobile and Internet-connected devices.
- Don't open attachments from anyone you don't personally know.
- Set app and social networking site privacy settings to the strictest level possible.