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High-Tech Talking: Decoding your kids' language

May 21, 2011 - OMG and LOL were two acronyms that are so widely used they were actually added to the dictionary this year. But there are thousands of other shortcuts that kids are using that parents need to be aware of.

We asked our KATV Facebook fans about acronyms that their kids use and came up with a list of shortcuts that many of us were unfamiliar with.



Some of the common ones included...

IMHO - "in my humble opinion" and
TTYL - "talk to you later"

but none of us had ever heard of

BTWITAILWY - which translates into "by the way I think I am in love with you"
(not sure how much of a shortcut that is).

But some of the more concerning and popular ones included

PRW - "parents are watching" and

LMIRL - "let's meet in real life."

While it's important for parents to be informed Rachel Ellis, with the Attorney General's office says it's not possible to learn them all.

"Keep in mind that kids in their own circles create their own acronyms as well. So just be aware of your child's habits and what they're doing. And if they're concerned pick up the phone and look at what they're putting out there," said Ellis.

And if the child does not want to share their communications with their parents then the device, whether it be a phone or a computer, should be taken away.

Ellis says like many kid-related issues the bottom line is keeping an open line of communication. And educating your child on the good and bad of high tech talking.

"Everything they put out there can their reputation. What they put online can have real-life consequences. Thinking through the fact that colleges look at pages, and employers look at pages. You know, people have lost their jobs just because of information they're posting online. Thinking through everything from photographs to what they're saying to each other to texting. They just need to take that time to think before they post," said Ellis.

[Click here for more information from the Attorney General's office.](#)

[Click here for NetLingo.com's list of text and chat acronyms.](#)

As seen here: <http://www.katv.com/video?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=5857014>