

MSN India

Parent Trap: Decoding teen's secret sex-messages



21/10/2009 - Do you see red if your teenage kid is texting "8"? If not, then it's time you should know that this humble numerical message actually means that your child is suggesting oral sex, according to a new list by NetLingo.com.

Titled "Top 50 Text Acronyms Parents Should Know", the list compiled by contains terms that are completely unknown to most people, teenaged or otherwise.

"I swear, I've used the Internet for 13 years, and still insist half of this stuff is either made up or never used," Fox News quoted a commenter on online aggregator site Digg as saying. And a cell-phone expert- Sascha Segan of PC Magazine-agrees: "I honestly have to say I have never seen most of these terms. It looks like a lot of them come from online sex chat rooms, and not just any chat rooms, but sadomasochistic ones."

Some of the very specific terms on the list, even include terms like "NIFOC" that means "Nude In Front Of The Computer", and "ILF/MD" that apparently means "I Love Female/Male Dominance".

NetLingo.com is a Web site devoted to collating and explaining online jargon, and had compiled the list only a couple of years back, and each term listed there clicks through to a page indicating its origin.

"This is stuff that's being used all across the Internet, in instant messaging, in chat rooms, in text messaging. There are spikes in the amount of usage for each acronym, and regional variations," said Erin Jansen, founder of NetLingo.com.

While Jansen's not claiming that every teenager is using each acronym, but she insists that all of them are things that parents should be aware of.

"It's a good overview of what parents ought to be aware of, even if their kids aren't going to these weird chat rooms, because kids pick them up anyway. It's like when I was young and my friends and I looked up dirty words in the dictionary," Jansen says.

Segan, however, isn't convinced that a middle-school-aged teen would soon be fluent in bondage terminology. However, some of the terms are accurate, chiefly the ones having to do with the presence of parents in the room, or "parent or mom over shoulder".

NetLingo.com does have a longer list of commonly used text terms, which is more useful. "That's the one parents should be looking at. If parents don't know those, it doesn't mean they're old -- it just means they're not tuned into Internet culture," said Segan.

Source: ANI

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