



## Online lingo risks putting kids in dangerous situations

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More and more kids are now talking a language that could lead them into dangerous situations—especially on the Internet.

It's no secret that young people 12 to 15 years old talk on-line, and Jupiter Research reports that 70 percent of teenagers say instant messaging is their favorite online activity. But it's also a popular pastime for predators, according to [www.Netlingo.com](http://www.Netlingo.com)

That Web site recently reported that one in five children ages 10 to 17 years old, have received unwanted sexual solicitations.

Kaitlynn Fleming, a local 12-year-old, often chats online with friends.

"If I'm bored, I'll just get on my computer and get on AIM (Instant Messenger) and see who's on and talk to them," she said.

However, the Fleming family has put the computer in a spot where they can keep an eye on any online activity. They said filters and other program help, but instant messaging and text messaging "is sort of the wild, wild west."

So parents, would you like to know the "code" your teens write in. If so, visit [www.Netlingo.com](http://www.Netlingo.com) or [www.teenangels.org](http://www.teenangels.org)