



Protecting America's Children From Sexual Predators

Tell Google to **Stop** "Forced Friending"

On Google+, the social network run by Google, a user does not need to consent in order for someone to add them to their "circles." This allows anyone to add another person to their circles, forcing the second person to be associated with the user. This is a serious privacy violation with dangerous possibilities for children. Make sure your family is safe on Google+ with the following steps.

1. Determine your family's vulnerability

- a. Determine if you or your child use Google+
- b. Regularly review your child's profile for new activity
- c. Confirm that you know everyone who is in your child's circles
- d. Identify people connected with your child that should not be

2. Take steps to protect your family

- a. Go into your child's Google+ profile and find the "settings" tab in the top left of the screen
- b. Maximize the privacy settings to minimize the chances of a predator interacting with your child
- c. If necessary, switch to a new email or social media service

3. Alert your community

- a. Contact Google directly at 650-253-0000, and tell them to change Google+'s policy so that individuals control access to their circles.
- b. Post the video to your Facebook page and Tweet out the flyer to inform your family and friends about how to stay safe on Google+.
- c. For more information on the best ways to keep your children safe, visit www.stopchildpredators.org.