



ConnectSafely releases Parent & Educator Guide to Media Literacy & Fake News

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, May 10, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- ConnectSafely.org, a leading nonprofit internet safety organization, is releasing the [Parent & Educator Guide to Media Literacy & Fake News](#), now available for free online. The guide helps parents and educators understand not how to address the topic of “fake news,” but the larger issue of media literacy. With the proliferation of media, it’s become difficult to sort through the noise, to know which sources to trust and why.

The Parent and Educator Guide, written by ConnectSafely CEO and tech journalist Larry Magid and ConnectSafely K-12 Education Director Kerry Gallagher, will help children and students become more conscious consumers of information, explaining among other things:

- The difference between fact and opinion in the news
- The difference between mistakes and lies
- How to deal with conflicting reports
- How to teach kids what to do when they see falsehoods shared online

The guide also includes “expert tips” from the National Association for Media Literacy Education and the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence.

“Teaching and modeling media literacy, critical thinking and emotional intelligence gets to the root causes of why fake news is so easily believed and spread,” said co-author Larry Magid, CEO of ConnectSafely. “While we’ll never rid the world of false information, we can help parents and educators immunize young people so that they can become better consumers and creators of accurate information.”

“As a parent and educator I know my friends and colleagues often talk amongst themselves about how much they are struggling to explain all the different types of media and information we encounter every day to the children in their lives.” said Kerry Gallagher, Director of K-12 Education for ConnectSafely, “I’m proud that this guide includes truly practical tips and strategies that readers can bring to the dinner table or the classroom right away.”

The guide, which joins ConnectSafely’s guides to social media, student data privacy, cyberbullying, cybersecurity, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, ASKfm, and other topics, is available at connectsafely.org/fakenews.

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ConnectSafely.org is a Silicon Valley, Calif.-based nonprofit organization dedicated to educating users of connected technology about safety, privacy and security with research-based safety tips, parents’ guidebooks, advice, news and commentary on all aspects of tech use and policy.

Kerry Gallagher is the Director of K-12 Education for ConnectSafely.org, in addition to her full-time role as Digital Learning Specialist at St. John’s Prep in Danvers, Massachusetts. For 13 years she taught middle school and high-school history where her classes collaborated, created and published

their ideas in a paperless environment. Kerry is also a columnist for Edsurge, and has a Juris Doctor from Massachusetts School of Law.

Larry Magid is CEO and co-founder of ConnectSafely.org and a technology journalist with CBS News, San Jose Mercury News and other outlets. He was a syndicated columnist for the Los Angeles Times for 20 years and has written for the New York Times, Washington Post and numerous other publications. He has a Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.) from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Hani Khan
ConnectSafely.org
6503467045
email us here

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