TURN UP RESPECT FACTSHEET

**Let’s help our kids tune out online voices that disrespect women and girls**

**With our young people spending so much time online, especially when they’re teens, what they see and hear can affect what they do and believe.**

Often, kids see and share social posts, videos and texts that make them happy. But there's also stuff that's mean, aggressive, and disrespectful towards women and girls. Not all disrespect toward women leads to violence, but violence against women always begins with disrespect.

Online disrespect is one way that harmful attitudes toward violence can start. Sadly, some popular online influencers target young men and boys, encouraging them to disrespect women and even be violent. When this behaviour is not pulled up, it can start to seem normal over time and shape the kind of person and partner they become.

We can't always control what our kids and teens see online, but we can try to understand it better. Because the more we know about what they’re seeing and hearing, the more we can help muffle and tune out those voices. This shows our kids that disrespect towards women has never been our way, our culture.

Learn how you can help our kids drown out the bad influences online at respect.gov.au. And let’s stop the disrespect that can lead to violence at the start.

Let’s turn up respect.

**RESPECT.GOV.AU**

**What our kids are seeing online**

Social media sites use things called ‘algorithms’ to show us stuff they think we'll like. But if our kids and teens spend time looking, liking, commenting on, or sharing bad stuff, these algorithms show them even more of it. The more they share, the more it spreads and without realising it, wrong info and extreme ideas could become more popular than they really are.

**Sexist attitudes….**

*Male influencer 1: ‘Women should obey their partner. Plain and simple.’*

**Men hating on women….**

*Male influencer 2: ‘Girls lie! We need to teach them a lesson.’*

**Nasty, hateful language and slang….**

*Friend 2: ‘Bro, stop being such a simp. If you’re a simp, you’re not a real man, you’re submissive to women…’*

**Treating women like objects…**

*Male influencer 4: ‘Look at the way she dresses, you know she wants it.’*

**What you can do**

1. Tell your young people they don't have to watch, like or share everything they see online, especially if it makes them upset or uncomfortable.
2. Remind them that what they see online is based on what we search for and watch. If they like positive stuff, they’ll see less of the nasty stuff.
3. Try to get your kids to question who is behind what they’re seeing and hearing online.
4. Learn how to block or report accounts or posts that are mean or disrespectful. This can help your kids see less of that stuff and might even get it taken down.

**LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR KIDS TUNE OUT THE BAD INFLUENCES ONLINE AT RESPECT.GOV.AU**