As one boy said: "I have pictures on my Facebook profile, they are visible for everyone. I don't post anything wrong, so I don't really care."(15-year-old boy, Belgium)

The researchers also found that teenagers do not consider limiting their online activities when unpleasant situations around sexual issues occur. Instead they tend to click away from the unpleasant webpage, or stated that those upset should not have gotten involved in the first place.

The research also reveals that most of problematic situations experienced by children and teenagers occur on social networking sites.

The majority of interviewed children expressed a range of concerns and online issues that sometimes bother them. Clearly, the worst risks in children's eyes are online bullying and harassment, misuse of personal information, unwelcome or sexualized contact from strangers, but also commercial content. Looking at the media platforms where these incidents occur, about half of unpleasant online experiences happen on social networking sites such as Facebook. This shows that children acknowledge the potential risks of social networking sites, which does not necessarily mean they will do something to avoid the risk. Even if they are aware, some children simply do not care much about potential risks.

Ends

For more information:

For the full report,   Preventive measures – how youngsters avoid online   risks by Sofie Vandoninck, Leen d'Haenens & David Smahel see: http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@l   se/research/EUKidsOnline/EU%20Kids%20III/Reports/Pre ventivemeasures.pdf

Notes for editors:

Selected quotes from the children interviewed

Boy (16-year-old, Greece): "My news feed was full of posts about this sexting incident, I could

where we live. If we take pictures in fron