

**Berkman Center Internet Safety Technical Task Force**  
Minutes of the Second Full Membership Meeting

Cambridge, Massachusetts  
June 20, 2008

**Introduction**

Task Force Chairman **John Palfrey** opened the meeting with welcoming and administrative remarks

**Research Advisory Board Presentations**

The Research Advisory Board (RAB) presentations by Michele Ybarra and danah boyd were video recorded and will be made available to the public.

Task Force Co-Director **danah boyd** introduced this session. She informed the Task Force that the RAB is preparing a literature survey of non-policy documents on Internet child safety, and solicited input from Task Force members. She also indicated that unlike the April 30 meeting, which focused on harmful contact between adults and children, the RAB presentations of this meeting would address harmful content. There has been relatively little research on the mechanisms and effects of harmful content.

**Michele Ybarra**, President and Research Director, Internet Solutions for Kids, Inc., presented “Youth Exposure to Pornography and Violent Web Sites.” Michele drew from the Growing Up with Media survey and the Youth Internet Safety surveys. She compared intentional to unintentional exposure to X-rated material.

Next, **danah boyd**, Berkman Center Fellow, presented qualitative results on problematic youth-generated content. The vast majority of youth do not participate online in this manner, but there is no available quantitative data on the topic. danah offered to match researchers with companies or institutions who wish to fund further work in this area.

**Break**

Task Force Chairman **John Palfrey** thanked the Research Advisory Board for pointing out not only what we do know, but also what we do not. He emphasized that the all of the day’s remaining presentations would be recorded for Task Force use only and would not be made public.

These research presentations and the question-and-answer period may be found online at: <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/research/isttf/documents>.

**Law Enforcement Perspective**

Task Force Co-Director **Dena Sacco** then introduced **Ms. Dana Gershengorn**, Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. Ms. Gershengorn spoke from a law enforcement perspective about trends in youth online safety and responded to Task Force questions. She focused on child enticement and presented observations from both proactive and reactive law enforcement activities.

### **Technical Advisory Board Presentations**

**Laura DeBonis**, Chair of the Technical Advisory Board (TAB), introduced the TAB members present and announced that the TAB would publish its call for technology submissions on June 23, 2008. Submissions are due on July 21, 2008 and must follow the template provided on the Task Force website. Task Force members presenting technology at today's meeting are required to formally submit a proposal according to the TAB template in order for their technology to be evaluated and included in the Task Force report.

**John Clippinger**, Berkman Center Fellow, introduced the concept of an identification metasystem for the Internet as a means to overcome its lack of an identity layer.

**Mike Jones and Jules Cohen** of Microsoft Corporation presented a conceptual approach for using digital Information Card technology as the infrastructure to support the creation of digital identity cards that could present verified age claims online when backed by offline in-person-proofing events at schools or other appropriate institutions.

**Andrew Wharton**, Chief Technology Officer and Chief Architect of Sentinel Technology, (together with **John Cardillo** via telephone) presented one existing Sentinel product, the Sentinel Safe database of registered sex offenders, and one proposed product, Sentinel Kid Safe.

**John Dancu** of IDology, Inc., presented "Examining Identity and Age Verification" and recommended that the Task Force arrange for an overview presentation of authentication technology by a consultant from either the Burton Group or Gartner, Inc.

**John Phillips**, CEO of Aristotle, discussed proposed approaches to age and identity verification.

**David Lee** of Symantec presented Norton Family Safety, a pilot technology that attempts to narrow the gap between parents with little or no familiarity with the Internet and their cyber-savvy children and which encourages discussion between parents and children.

**Drew Weaver** of America Online presented the evolution of online safety products at AOL.

Technologies and their applicability to the safety issues facing young people online will be evaluated over the coming months and presented in the Task Force's report by the end of 2008.

### **Wrap-up**

**John Palfrey** made the following points in conclusion.

1. The Task Force's Intellectual Property policy applies to all presentations to the Task Force. No presenters may contravene this policy by merely asserting that information is subject to other rules.
2. The next Task Force meeting is planned for September 23-24, 2008. The first day will be open to a public audience and to presentations by non-Task Force members. The second day will be the third full membership meeting of the Task Force.
3. Over the course of the next month, the Technical Advisory Board will receive technology submissions. The TAB will report to the Task Force on:
  - a) a typology of the submitted technologies;
  - b) a corresponding typology of the problems that the submissions are intended to solve; and
  - c) an assessment of whether the submissions will be effective.
4. Task Force Scope— The Attorneys General with whom we have spoken appear to be comfortable with the Task Force scope, namely a focus on online identity and authentication technologies to reduce contact and content harmful to children on social network sites in the United States, but with the flexibility to place this problem in a broader context (as described in the scope section of the work plan document, above).
5. The Task Force has submitted one quarterly report to the Attorneys General and will submit the second one shortly after June 30, 2008.
6. Status of Subgroups—No Task Force member has yet opted-in to a subgroup, but the Berkman Center will continue to support the subgroups as required.
7. One Task Force member requested that a social network site operator address the Task Force on the topic of lessons learned—what works and what does not in protecting children.