

Safer Internet Centers in the Nordic Countries – A workshop - Enhancing online security for children

Póra Jónsdóttir

Introduction

Safer Internet Centers (SIC) in Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Iceland offer a workshop on the usefulness of their resources for online child safety.

Co-funded by the European Union, Safer Internet Centres across Europe strive to keep children and young people safe online through a range of actions and initiatives.

Comprising an awareness centre, helpline, hotline and youth participation services, SICs provide a wealth of content and services to support children and young people, and those that care for them: parents, educators, etc.

Methods

The workshop will evolve around 4 main topics; 1) What are your main concerns about online child safety?, 2) How have children in your service experienced online security challenges, are there any new ones developing?, 3) Where have you sought assistance and resources to support children facing online security challenges and how did it come of use?, 4) Are you familiar with the SIC in your country and have you made use of their resources? How?

The workshop will be led by representatives from the SICs, which will give short introductions about their services, the awareness centre, the hotline and the helpline. After the introductions the workshop participants will discuss the 4 topics separately. On each table a secretary will be appointed to gather information to share with the SICs.

Results

The aim is that the workshop will result in the collection of information about participant's experiences on online challenges to child safety and on ideas on how to improve children's online security. Ideas will be used for further development of educational materials and resources. Participants have more knowledge about online safety and where to seek information and support.

Conclusions

It is the hope of the Nordic Safer Internet Centres that the workshop will raise awareness about their resources and support they can offer children online.