Smart Thinking Conversation Guide

Online Fraud and Sextortion

From The Smart Thinking Podcast: Gen Z and Gen Alpha are amazing and yet they are facing threats online that others generations could not have even imagined. Sextortion being one and this episode explores how to talk to young people about the threats they face in the 2020's. All of it by learning how to **LEAN** (**L**earn together - **E**ngage the topic - **A**nnounce expectations - **N**ext steps) into difficult conversations with young people.

About Online Fraud

Inquire	Guide
Have you ever received any messages, emails, or calls from someone asking for your personal information, like passwords, credit card numbers, or addresses?	This will help you gauge their experience with phishing or scam attempts.
What do you think are some signs that an online offer, game, or deal might be a scam?	This can encourage them to think critically about what seems too good to be true.
Have you ever been offered something in exchange for your personal details, like a free gift or money? How did you respond?	This opens the door for them to share any experiences they've had?
Do you know how to recognize and avoid fake websites or apps?	Help them develop skills to spot fraud online.
If someone ever asked you for money online, even if they claimed to be a friend, what would you do?	This can lead to discussions on how to handle potential scams that involve emotional manipulation.

About Sextortion

Inquire	Guide
Have you ever encountered someone online who made you feel uncomfortable or pressured to share private photos or information?	This can help open a conversation about boundaries and how to protect themselves
What do you know about sextortion? Have you heard about it from your friends, school, or online?	This checks their awareness and gives you a chance to explain what it is if they don't know.
How would you react if someone online tried to blackmail you with a photo or something personal?	This question can help prepare them for how to respond if they ever find themselves in that situation.
Do you know how to report someone who is making you feel unsafe or asking you to share something private online?	Ensuring they know how to take action is critical for their safety.
Who would you talk to if something bad happened online - like if someone tried to threaten or manipulate you?	This can help them identify trusted people to turn to, whether it's you or someone else.
Are you aware of the privacy settings on your social media and online accounts? Do you know how to adjust them?	This helps them take control of their online presence and reduce vulnerability.