Avoid guesswork for URLs: Many users have a habit of taking a guess about a site's URL. An incorrect guess can take a user to a pornographic site.

* Use proper and appropriate keywords during research: Using inappropriate keywords while doing research can lead users to sites containing child pornography or other inappropriate content.

* Avoid clicking on questionable URLs or banners: These may take a user to an unwelcome site.

Guidelines for Parents to Reduce the Risk of Their Children Being Exposed to Child Pornography

Parental guidance is the best way to keep children away from child pornography. The following are some guidelines for parents to reduce the risk to their children:

* Form a friendly, trusting relationship with the child: If the child is afraid of his or her parents, it is unlikely that he or she will ask for or accept help. The child may also be hesitant about reporting any pornographic sites he or she finds to his or her parents.

* Guide the child while he or she is browsing: Parents should teach children how to safely browse the Internet. This includes teaching them about sites to avoid and about how to perform safe searches.

* Install filtering software that blocks pornographic sites: There are various Internet filters available that parents can use to block children from accessing the Web sites that parents wish to block.

* Promote the use of search engines with safe search: Parents should promote the use of search engines with safe search (such as Google) to keep children away from potentially dangerous sites.

* Make the child aware of the prevalence of child pornography on the Internet: Parents should explain to their children in detail about how easy it is to be exposed to child pornography on the Internet, even accidentally. Parents may even want to familiarize their children with the laws concerning child pornography.

* Assist the child with various anti-child-pornography organizations: It is the duty of parents to inform their children about whom to approach and how to report illegal sites that children might come across.

* Use monitoring software: Parents should use software that monitors and records all Web sites visited by the child, captures and logs the chat conversations of the child, monitors their e-mails, and so on.

Tool: Reveal

Reveal allows parents to quickly evaluate the files on a system for the presence of child pornography. It works by comparing each word inside text files against special dictionaries of words commonly used by pedophiles, child pornographers, and other types of criminals. It also searches for image, video, and audio files on a system so parents can review those files for objectionable content.

Tool: iProtectYou

iProtectYou is an Internet filtering and monitoring program that enables users to control when the Internet can be used and which Web sites can be accessed through the computer. iProtectYou is designed for parents who are concerned about the possible detrimental effects of the Internet on the development of their children. iProtectYou is also designed for schools and libraries, so that they can control what is being viewed in public spaces.

iProtectYou gives parents several methods for blocking their children's access to child pornography over the Internet, including the following:

* Porn block by word filtering: Parents can prevent access to Web sites that contain certain words or phrases. Parents can either create a list of words or use the list included with the program.