



"Empowering the Digital Generation: Digital Literacy, E-Safety, Creativity and Rights"

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Screenagers International Seminar

Dublin, 31 March 2014

Outline

- *A context*
- *Do digital natives need digital literacy?*
- *What is internet safety?*
- *Why creativity?*
- *A case for digital rights*



Net Children Go Mobile

The survey in short

Project duration:
2 years (2013-2014)

Children's age:
9-16
Internet users

Number of questionnaires:
2.500

Face to face in home
questionnaires, self-completed
for sensitive issues.

Sampling Method:



Random walk sampling

Countries involved:



Denmark
IT University
of Copenhagen



Ireland
Dublin Institute
of Technology



Italy
Università Cattolica
del Sacro Cuore



Romania
Institute of Sociology
Romanian Academy



UK
London School
of Economics
and Political Science



The Shift to Mobile

Children are going mobile

Among all the devices asked about, smartphones are the devices that children are more likely to own (40%) or use to go online at least once a day.

Devices used to Go Online Daily

	Own bedroom	At home but not own room	At school	Other places	When out and about
A desktop computer (PC)	5	14	3	1	N/A
A laptop computer	13	22	2	2	N/A
A mobile phone	9	10	1	2	1
A smartphone	28	31	4	13	9
A tablet	20	24	3	3	0
E-book reader	3	3	0	0	0
Other handheld devices	9	11	1	3	1
Home games consoles ¹	10	12	1	5	0
Access at least once a day	46	63	7	11	8

Q2 a-h When you use the internet these days at ..., how often do you use the following devices to go online?

Base: All children who use the internet (Ireland).



Most smartphone use is domestic

Despite the fact that smartphones are the devices most likely to be used on the move, smartphone use is mainly *at home*.

Moreover, smartphones are often used in the privacy of child's own bedroom.

Daily internet use by location

	Own bedroom	At home but not own room	At school	Other places	When out and about
Boys	48	60	9	9	7
Girls	45	66	6	14	9
9-10 yrs	11	50	1	11	
11-12 yrs	31	57	5	3	2
13-14 yrs	77	75	9	17	15
15-16 yrs	77	73	16	14	20
Denmark	77	76	61	38	26
Italy	58	52	8	18	30
Romania	60	40	11	9	8
UK	64	63	29	22	33
IE	46	63	7	11	8

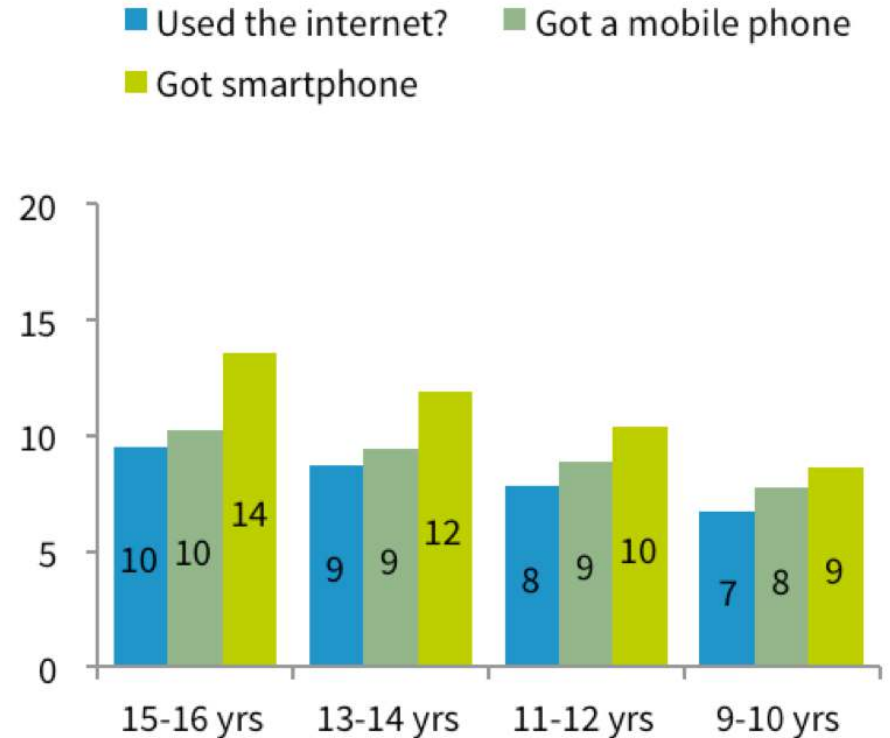
Q1a-e: Looking at this card, please tell me how often you go online or use the internet (from a computer, a mobile phone, a smartphone, or any other device you may use to go online) at the following locations
Base: All children who use the internet (Ireland)



Lowering age of first use

The age of first internet use is dropping

..So is the age children are given their first smartphone



Q5 How old were you when you first used the internet?
Q6 How old were you when you got your first mobile phone (a phone which is not a smartphone)?
Q7 How old were you when you got your first smartphone?
Base: All children who use the internet

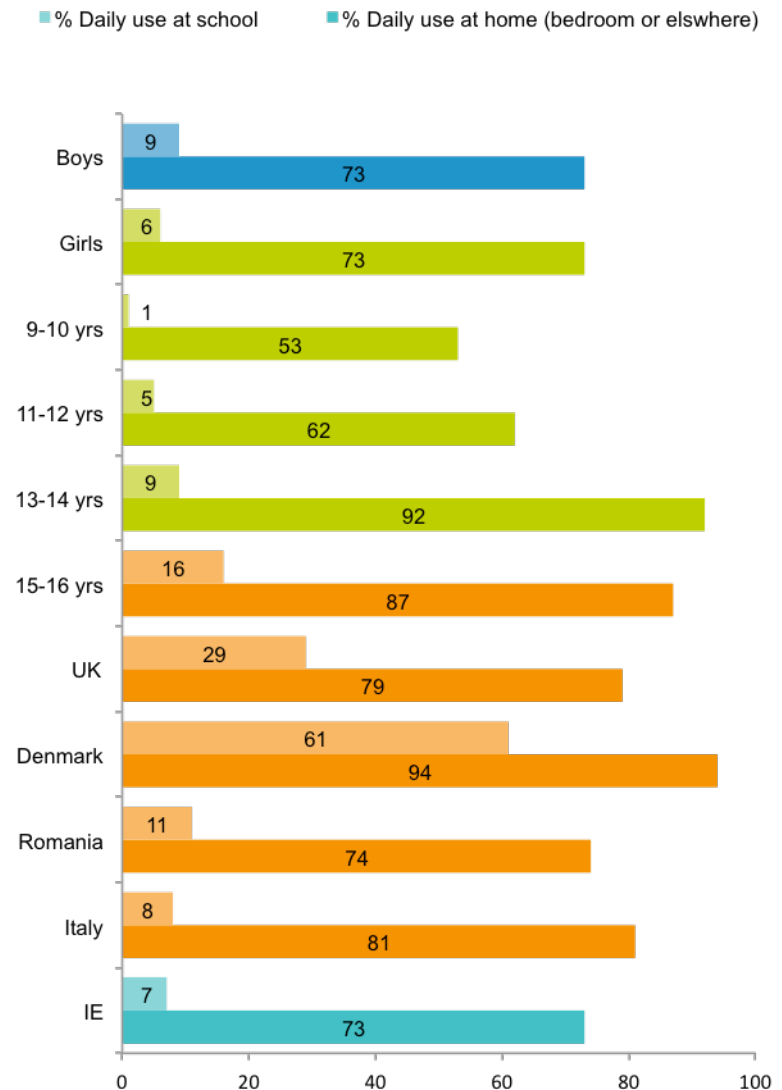


Comparing home and school use

Use in school is low

Just 7% of Irish 9-16 year olds children report using the internet in school on a daily basis.

Rises to 16% for 15-16 year olds



Activities

- **Entertainment uses** (listening to music and watching video clips online) continue to be the most popular online activities for all age groups.
- The next most popular use is **social networking**

Top 10 Online activities done at least once in past month

% Children who...	9-12 years		13-16 years		All
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Listened to music	31	32	65	78	50
Watched video clips (e.g. on YouTube, iTunes, Vimeo, etc.)	40	27	56	75	49
Visited a social networking profile	14	11	68	76	40
Checked information or satisfied your curiosity when something interested you	19	14	28	45	26
Played games on your own or against the computer	24	20	36	12	23
Used instant messaging	10	10	35	38	22
Used the internet for schoolwork	11	6	28	39	20
Downloaded free Apps	11	16	15	21	16
Downloaded music or films	5	6	19	31	15
Used file sharing sites	4	11	8	24	12

Q9a-d, 10a-e, 11a-e, 12a-k For each of the things I read out, please tell me how often you have done it in the past month.
 Base: All children who use the internet (Ireland)



How many children use social networking sites?



Use of social networking sites strongly increases with age, with notable national differences amongst younger children:



Digital Literacy



The skills we measured:

- Instrumental and critical skills (eg. comparing websites to assess reliability, etc.)
- Safety Skills (eg. change privacy settings, block unwanted contacts, etc).
- Communicative abilities (create a blog, upload content, etc.)

How many online skills do children believe they have?



DK



IE



IT



RO



UK



Smartphone users



Tablet users



Non mobile users

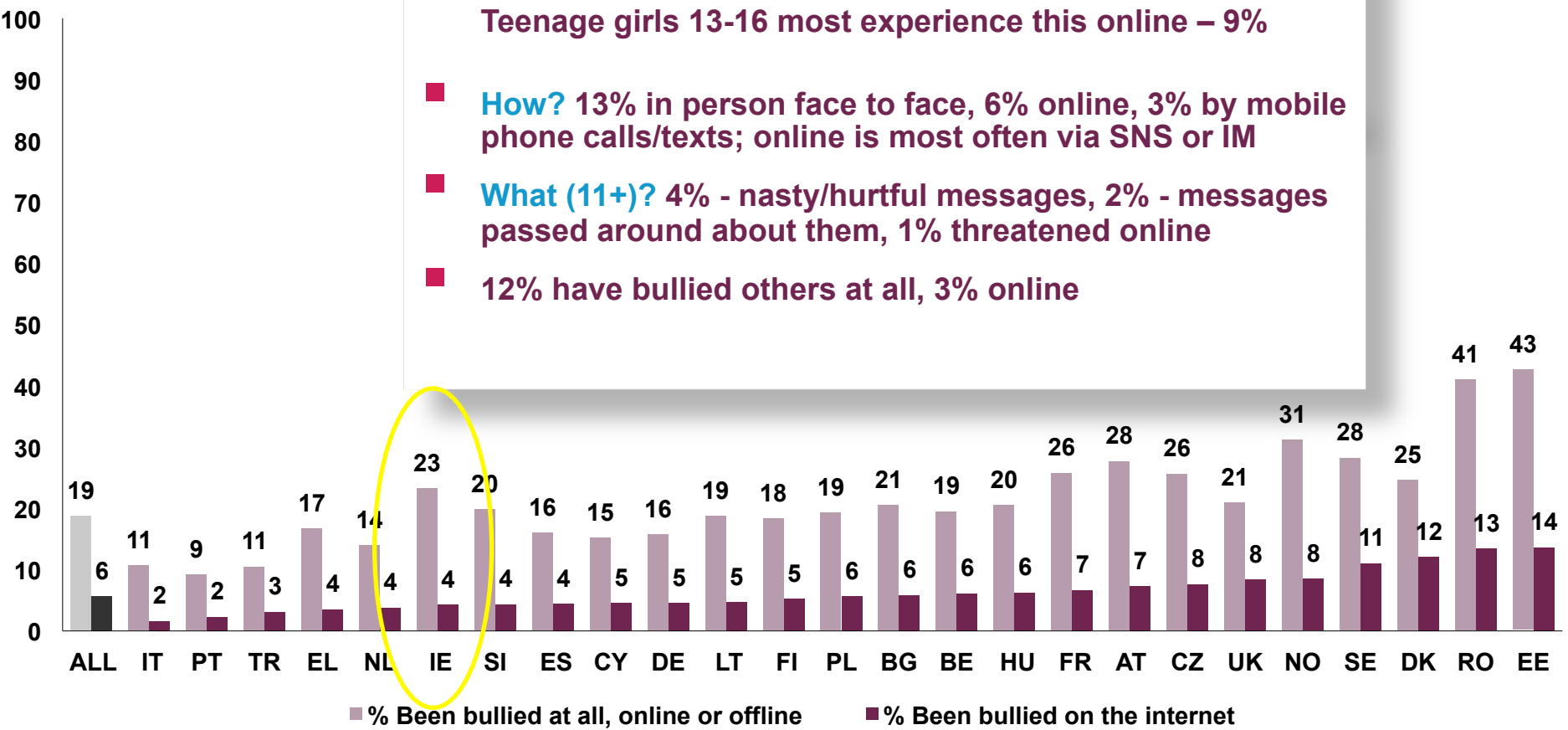


All

Risks of Cyberbullying

Bullied online or offline in past 12 months, by country

- 19% have had someone act in this way, online or offline
- Who?** Few differences by age, gender or social class
Teenage girls 13-16 most experience this online – 9%
- How?** 13% in person face to face, 6% online, 3% by mobile phone calls/texts; online is most often via SNS or IM
- What (11+)?** 4% - nasty/hurtful messages, 2% - messages passed around about them, 1% threatened online
- 12% have bullied others at all, 3% online



Base: All children who use the Internet

Coping strategies

Just those who encountered online bullying and were upset by it

Who did they tell?

77% talked to somebody

52% friend

42% parent

14% sibling

9% another trusted adult

7% teacher

2% someone who works with children

What did they do?

24% hoped it would go away

36% tried to fix it

16% felt guilty

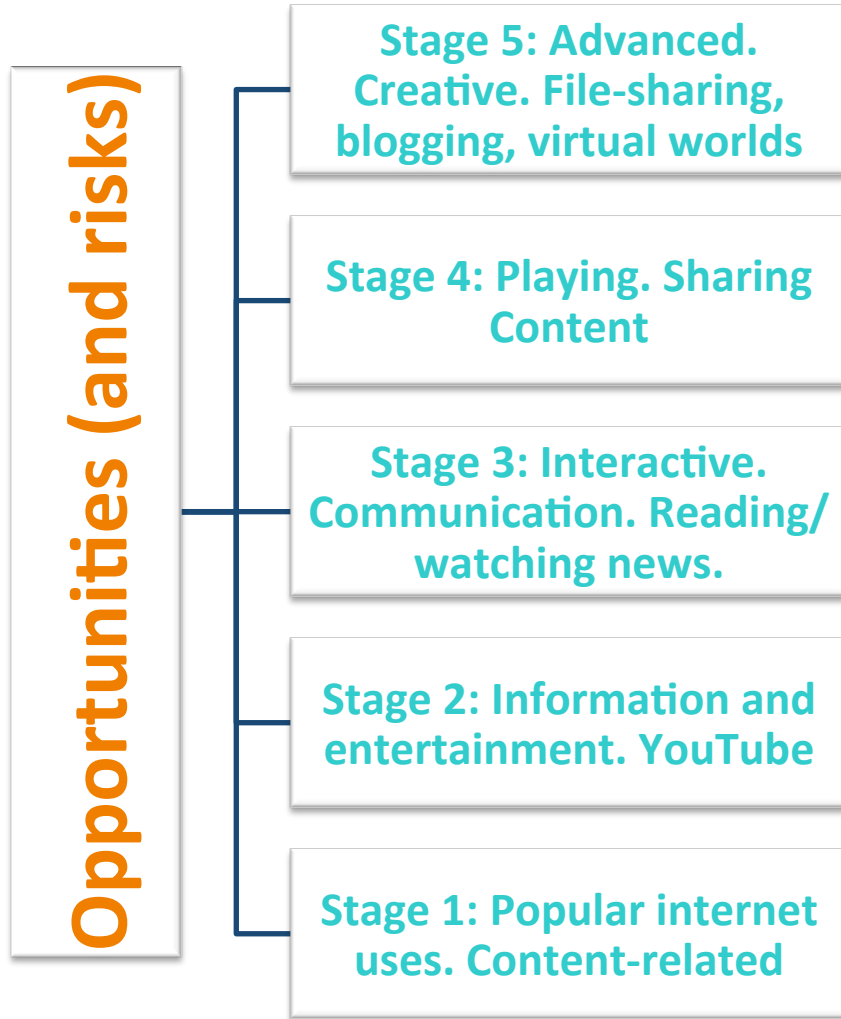
Online help?

46% blocked person

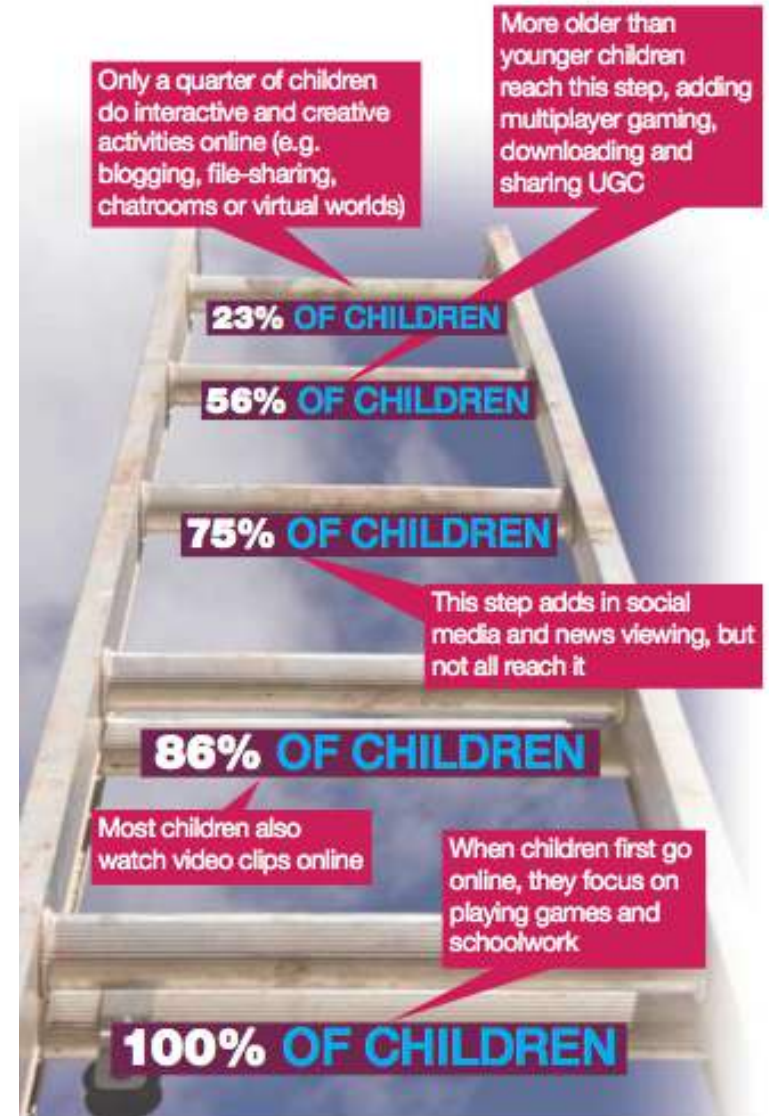
41% deleted messages

20% stopped using Internet for a while

Ladder of Opportunities



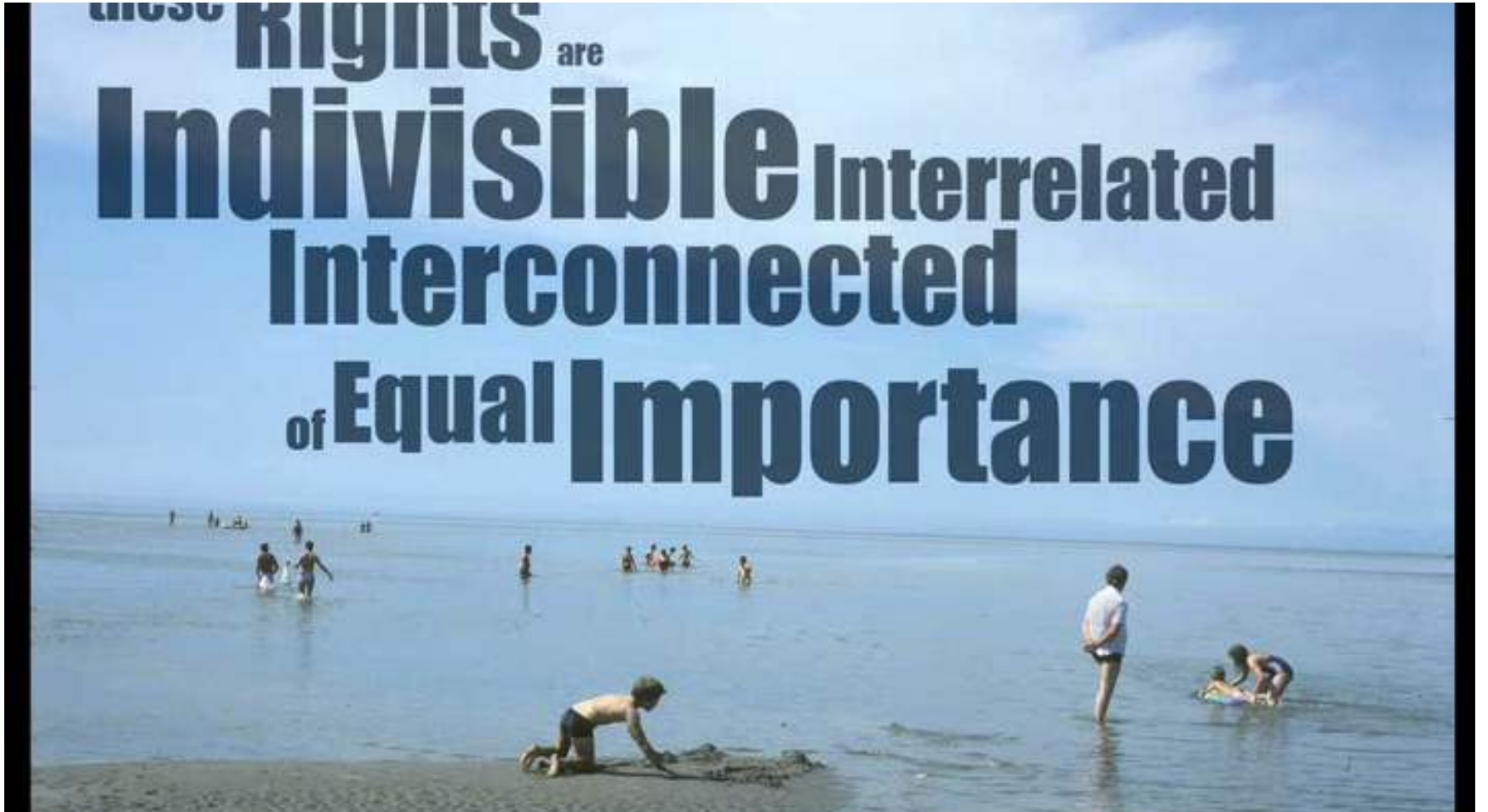
WHAT CHILDREN DO ONLINE



Digital Rights – 25 years on



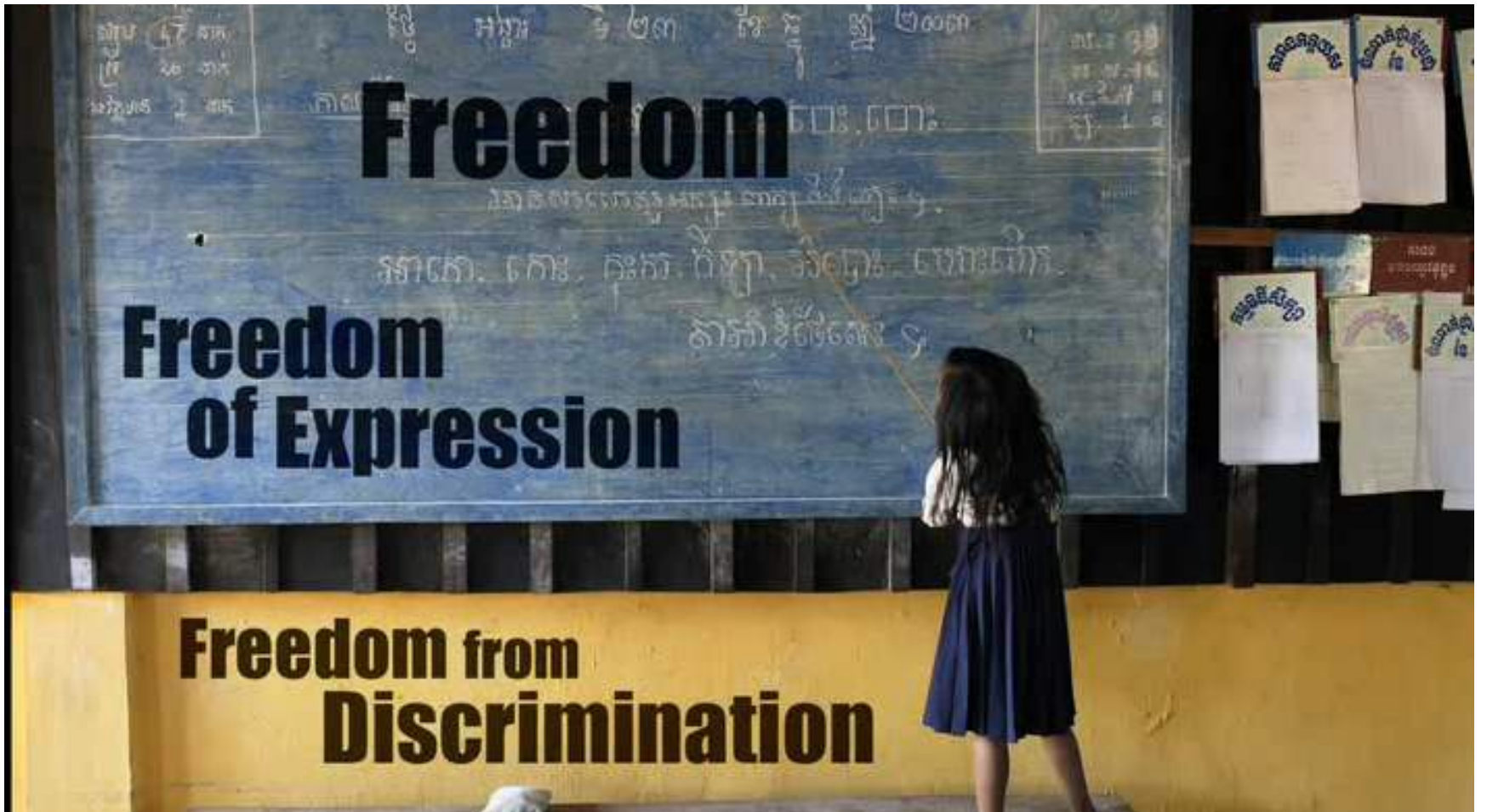
These **Rights** are
Indivisible Interrelated
Interconnected
of **Equal Importance**



Freedom

**Freedom
Of Expression**

**Freedom from
Discrimination**





a Healthy and Safe Environment

For Survival and Development

An agenda for children's rights in the digital age

- How are children gaining access to and using internet and mobile technologies within their daily lives?
- In what ways does the use of internet and mobile technologies enable children to have greater access to information, education, participation and other valued resources?
- How does their use of internet and mobile technologies compound existing vulnerability or add new risks of harm to their well-being?
- Who are the key people or organisations that could mediate children's use of internet and mobile technologies so as to maximise opportunities and minimise harm?

Thank You!

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