

# TIPS: ASK.FM SAFETY

Ask.fm is a question and answer type forum where users can anonymously (or not) ask questions to other users. You can typically find questions like “who is your favorite celebrity” or “What is your favorite song?” but the fact that users can stay anonymous when asking questions and commenting on it makes it ripe for cyber bullying.

Here is what parents should [know](#) to keep their teens safe:

Unlike other social media platforms, Ask.fm does very little to ensure that the offensive comments or hate language posted on the site are deleted.

Questions that are inappropriate should never be answered and teens that are targeted by abusive comments should block and report the user immediately.

The ability to be asked questions anonymously is the default feature of ask.fm. Teens should disable this feature in order to avoid receiving questions from users wishing to remain anonymous.

If a teenager is feeling uncomfortable with any of the questions or comments, parents should strongly encourage them to disable their accounts.

Parents should talk regularly with their teens about cyber bullying and monitor which sites their kids are socializing on. You wouldn't feel like you are invading your child's privacy by asking them who they are hanging out with on the weekends so parents should be asking these same questions about who their kids are talking to online.

The greatest deterrent to cyber bullying is active and engaged parents. Keeping up on the newest social media platforms is never easy but it's critical to keeping your teens safe and growing up happy.