

# HOT TOPICS

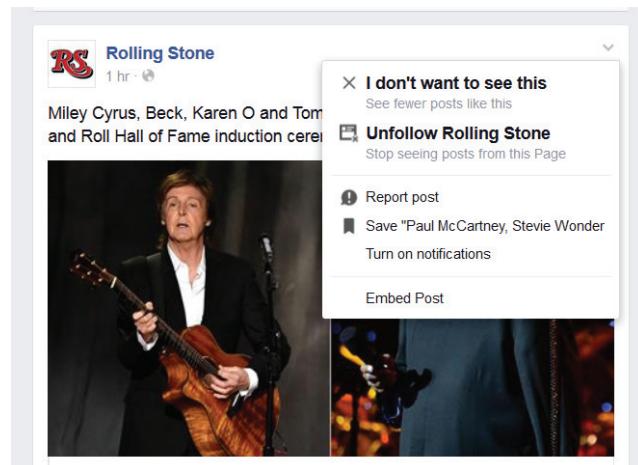
## ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PRIVACY

Presented by Parent Network of WNY - April 2015

With sites like Facebook, Twitter and chat rooms, there are countless like-minded people out there that would like to meet you or your child. It is fun to meet people from your area or all over the world, share pictures or thoughts with friends and plan fun events but it is also important to keep your privacy and to take action if being cyber bullied.

**Facebook privacy** – Your wall/timeline posts can be seen by strangers unless you keep your settings private. It is important to control who sees your personal information and photos. Keeping your settings private keeps nosy people who may not be your friend from seeing your profile info, photos and personal posts.

**Bullying** - If someone is posting something you do not want to see click on the "downward arrow" in right corner of the post and select "I don't want to see this" or "unfollow" that person. For offensive comments, click the X beside the comment and Hide, Report or Block. If somebody is harassing you, go to their profile, on the right side of their top photo, click on the three dots ... and select "Report" or "Block."



**Be respectful to others** - A discussion or posts on your wall/timeline or someone else's may be funny or important. You may be hurting someone else's feelings or seen as inappropriate. Your credibility could be weakened. Although your settings might be private others may not. Whatever you post on your friends' wall/timeline, can be seen by people you aren't intending to view your post, including employers.

### PRIVATE MESSAGES

Think about sending a private message instead of posting on a wall/timeline. Click on their profile page and select the message button in the top photo.



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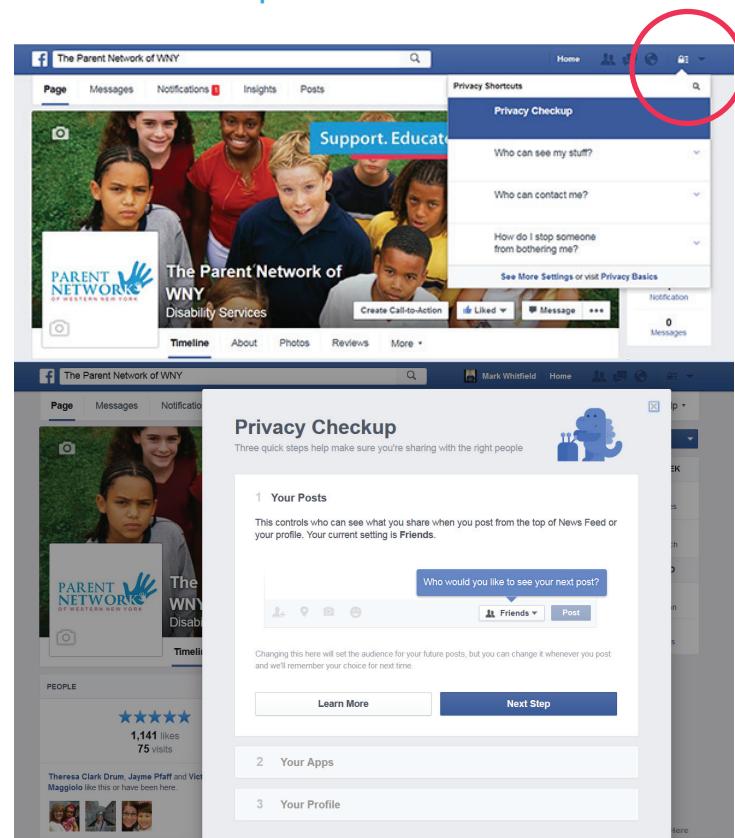
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## HOW TO UPDATE YOUR FACEBOOK PRIVACY SETTINGS

- Click in the upper-right corner of any Facebook page.
- Select Privacy Check up.
- Who would you like to see your next post? Select your choice (Public, Friends, more options).
- Click next steps and select specific parts of your profile you may want private (phone number, birthday, etc).

For more options, again Click in the upper-right corner of any Facebook page and select:

- Who can see my stuff?
- Who can contact me?
- How do I stop someone from bothering me? Simply add name or email to block someone from your account.
- And see more setting.



## HOT TOPIC TIPS

**Transition** – If there are skills that your child will need, like riding public transportation or using money, start working on the skills when they are young, long before adulthood.

**Behavior** – Recognize good behavior and give attention to it. Anything that you want to happen more often, let your child know you like it. Say, "You guys are doing so well playing together today, great job!"

**Developmental Disabilities** – Consider purchasing an ID bracelet for your child, include your name and telephone number. If your child has specific healthcare needs you may want to purchase one with a medical alert service.

**Autism** – Teach your child to swim early as children with Autism are often attracted to water, this will help keep them safe around pools, ponds, oceans and lakes.

**Advocacy** – When you talk with a professional about your child, take the time to ask "Is there any question that I did not ask (in this meeting), that you think would be helpful to know?" This demonstrates your ability to collaborate and overall open-mindedness and often you learn something new.

**Special Education** – Keep paperwork organized. Start a binder or electronic folder to keep your child's special education documentation, including IEPs (Individualized Education Program), evaluations and meetings notices.

**Apps** – Dragon Dictation is an easy-to-use voice recognition app that allows you to easily speak and instantly see your text, email messages, Facebook posts and Twitter updates and much more – all hands-free. You can find this online at [www.dragonmobileapps.com](http://www.dragonmobileapps.com).





**“PEOPLE WON’T REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID OR DID,  
THEY WILL REMEMBER HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL.”**

-MAYA ANGELOU

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