



## Part IV: Glossary of Common Terms

**Chat acronym** – An acronym used to communicate, usually through instant and text messaging. Some popular acronyms include:

- **ASL** - Age/sex/location
- **BRB** - Be right back
- **CD9** - Code 9, parents around
- **F2T** - Free to talk
- **IDK** - I don't know
- **LGH** - Let's get high
- **LMIRL** - Let's meet in real life
- **LOL** - Laugh out loud
- **MorF** - Male or female
- **POS** - Parents over shoulder
- **PRON** - Porn
- **TMI** - Too much information

**Blog** – A Web log, or blog, is an online journal or diary where writers, known as bloggers, may chronicle their daily lives or comment on news and popular culture. Blogs can be set up on social networking sites or on separate blogging websites, such as Xanga® and Blogger®.

**Chat room** – An interactive forum where you can talk in real-time. The chat room is the place or location online where the chat is taking place. Many chat rooms are established so that people can discuss a common interest like music or movies.

**File-sharing program** – Any program that allows many different users to share files, such as movie, music, and image files, directly with each other. There may be a risk of illegally downloading materials or downloading a computer virus.

**Instant messaging** – Through instant messaging (IM), users can quickly exchange messages with other online users, simulating a real-time conversation or “chat.” Messages appear almost instantly on the recipient’s monitor, and anyone designated as a “buddy” can participate.

**Sexting** – The use of cell phones to send sexual messages, pictures, and videos.

**Social media** – Internet applications which are used to facilitate communication between users. These applications include:

- Blogs and microblogs such as LiveJournal® and Twitter®
- E-mail programs such as Gmail™, Yahoo!Mail®, and Hotmail®
- Picture and video sharing sites such as Flickr®, Photobucket®, and YouTube®
- Social networking sites such as Facebook®, MySpace®, and MyYearbook®
- Virtual worlds such as Club Penguin®, Habbo®, and Nicktropolis®

**Social networking site** – An online community where people from all over the world may meet and share common interests. These sites allow members to set up a profile, which may include information such as name, location, phone number, age, and gender. Often users will post pictures and videos.

**Web 2.0** – The evolution of the Internet which allows users to create their own content and put it on the Web, in addition to downloading content. Social networking sites, like Bebo®, and video-sharing sites, like YouTube, are both part of Web 2.0.

**Webcam** – Webcams, also known as “cams,” are video cameras set up on home computers or laptops that can be accessed via the World Wide Web.