

# Re: Cybersitter – Excellent Example of a Delphi App

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Delphi/borland.public.delphi.non-technical/2005-01/1506.html>

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Thomas Miller wrote:

> *My daughters still don't have email, just IM capability because  
> of SPAM. Once I figure out a good way to white list their  
> friends so they can only get email from them, I will let them get  
> email.*

Frankly, this just stuns me. IM is far worse for internet predators than email.

I don't have a copy of the article any more, but here in Fresno, we did just have an incident.

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Internet chat led to sex act, teen says

Matt Leedy THE FRESNO BEE, Published on December 15, 2004, Page A1, Article 1 of 3 found, 1236 words.

A Fresno teenager's frightening encounter with an alleged sexual predator began with an online instant message, she said Tuesday in Fresno County court. An anonymous writer found her on the Internet, the 17-year-old girl testified, and threatened gang violence if she did not pose for nude pictures. After following the orders, she said, a photographer forced her to perform a sex act. Her allegations -- against a local substitute teacher -- prompted warnings from police and school

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The girl got a pop-up IM from another girl. This girl was also forbidden by her family from IM'ing, but she was doing it anyway. As they chatted about school, she gave out her home address. The other person tried to interest her in posing for pictures. At this point she closed the chat window.

Immediately a man popped up, saying her family would be attacked by a local gang unless she chatted with the first girl. Since she had

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already given out her address, she did.

The first girl told her to meet a guy in the bushes at a local hospital. She posed for the pictures, then was forced to perform. Only a hospital security guard stumbling on them prevented something even worse from happening.

IM is just plain scary.

–Brion