

KOKS Final Thought 4 2day! By, Chris Hadnagy

Bill Wardell: Yeah, well you know before we wrap up one of the things we like to do before we wrap up is having a thought for today and I know just coming from your DEFCON that you do every year and you just were recently doing another stint and you are probably on your way to go home and do another one-I know that you are extremely busy. So if you just stop for a second and think about, words are power – you understand that – which is what you do when you said you want something and you put into a goal and you visual it every day and you start to move towards that. So if you could share one thing with our audience parents, especially parents with kids, what would that be?

Chris Hadnagy: I am glad you ask that – there is this little thing I do when I give a speech somewhere – I am in a room where I feel there maybe parents and I talk about this one thing that I do not believe is talk about enough. Most kids now, especially teenagers, have cell phones and most of them have smart phones-either iPhones or Android based phones. There is this phenomenon, and I am not trying to be perverse at all, but it is just something parents really need to know. Teenage girls have been coerced by their boyfriends in schools to take pictures of their bare chests and then they are texting these pictures to their boyfriends.

Being normal teenager's relationships they don't last and these pictures end up on the internet. The problem with Smartphone technology is that if your GPS is left on it embeds your GPS location in what's called the meta data of the picture; which means the background information that tells you the date, the time, what kind of camera the picture was taken with and if the GPS is turned on it also embeds the GPS longitude and latitude coordinates into that picture. So now you have this young teenage girl half naked with a picture on the internet that anyone can download and with free software finds out the location base on GPS coordinates of where that picture was taken – which is generally her bedroom or bathroom or something to that effect. The danger here for these kids is extreme, because you have sick people on the internet who may find these pictures and then is able to geolocate your daughters based on the information.

Forgetting even the aspect of girls taking pictures of themselves even parents who do this with their babies and take pictures and upload them at their GPS coordinates it can really lead to lot of trouble when you have people with wrong intentions that may find the pictures. So I tell parents check your kids' cell phone, first of all talk to them. Hopefully they are not doing these kind of things, hopefully they are not the kind of kids involve in these type of activities and if they are turn off the GPS, show them how to do this before they take pictures – turn off the GPS settings so that they are not embedding the GPS locations in the pictures. That way these kids can have some semblance of safety if they have to partake in these kinds of activities which of course we hope they don't. One word of caution, if I had to say one thing to parents, probably the biggest thing that is not talked about in the news or not talked about in parenting magazine and it really should be –because parents need to know that it is out there and happens.

Bill Wardell:

Well I guarantee you they will be finding that on my Website and on my information. I have known a little bit about that and I appreciate you bringing it to the point because it is important and it is more so even to the fact that you do not know what happens with that information long term. With all the way they store data nowadays, you know that follow you through high school and into college and then you are out in the work force and now there are even things that they are doing-like data research.

Please take Chris' advice...