acronyms to Know
Partial list obtained from Webopedia.com and Net_smartz.org
Highlighted acronyms are those identified by Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigators as most commonly used

BGWM = Be gentle with me
BICBW = But I could be wrong
BL = Belly laughing
BM&Y = Between me and you
BMG = By my guest
BMTIPG = Brilliant minds think in parallel gutters
BRB = Be Right Back
BRT = Be right there
BTA = But then again
BTDT = Been there, done that
BTW = By the way
BWL = Bursting with laughter
BWHID = But what the heck do I know

C
C&G = Chuckle and grin
CFN or C4N = Ciao for now
CID = Consider it done; or Crying in disgrace
CMIWW = Correct me if I'm wrong
CNP = Continued (in my) next post
CP = Chat post
CRB = Come right back
CRBT = Crying really big tears
CRS = Can't remember sh**
CSG = Chuckle, snicker, grin
CSWAGS = Call someone who gives a sh**
CU or CUA = See you (around)
CUL or CUL8R = See you later
CUZ = because
CWYL = Chat with you later
CYA = See ya
CYO = See you online

D
DEGT = Don't even go there
DIKU = Do I know you?
DITYID = Did I tell you I'm distressed?
DL = Dead link
DLTBBD = Don't let the bed bugs bite
DQMOT = Don't quote me on this
DTA = Don't think so
DYOH = Do your own homework

E
EG = Evil grin
EMA = E-mail address
EMFBI = Excuse me for butting in
EOD = End of discussion/End of day
EOM = End of message
EOT = End of thread

F
F2F = Face to face
F2T = Free to talk
FAQ = Frequently asked question(s)
FBM = Fine by me
FC = Fingers crossed
FICL = Frankly I couldn't care less
FISH = First in, still here
FITB = Fill in the blank
FMYWT = Far more than you ever wanted to know
FO = Fu** Off
FOMCL = Falling off my chair laughing
FRT = For real though
FTBOMH = From the bottom of my heart
FU = Fu** You
FUD = Fear, uncertainty and doubt
FWIW = For what it's worth
FYEO = For your eyes only
FYI = For your information

G
G = Grin
G2G or GG = Gotta go
G2R = Gotta run
G2CU = Good to see you
G9 = Genius
GA = Go Ahead
GAL = Get a life
GB = Goodbye
GDR, GD&R or GD/R = Grinning, ducking and running
G/F = Girlfriend
GFTE = Grinning from ear to ear
GFn = Gone for now
GIAR = Give it a rest
GIWIST = Gee, I wish I'd said that
GL = Good luck
GMBO = Giggling my butt off
GMTA = Great minds think alike
GOI = Get over it
GOLO = Giggling out loud
GRA = Go right ahead
GT = Good try
GTGR = Got to go to the bathroom
GTRM = Going to read mail
GTSY = Glad to see you

H
H & K = Hug(s) and kiss(es)
H2CUS = Hope to see you soon
H8 = Hate
HAGN or HAGO = Have a good night
HND = Have a nice day
HHIS = Hanging head in shame
HOK = Ha Ha, only kidding
HRU = How are you?
HT = Hi there
HTH = Hope this helps

I
IAC = In any case
IAE = In any event
IANAL = I am not a lawyer (but)
IANARS = I am not a rocket scientist
IB = I'm back
IC = I see
ICBW = It could be worse
IDK or 411 = I don’t know
IDTS = I don’t think so
IHA = I hate acronyms
IIRC = If I remember correctly
II = I’ll be late
ILY or ILY = I love you
IM = Instant message
IMIng = Chatting with someone online
IMHO = In my humble opinion
IMNSHO = In my not so humble opinion
IMO = In my opinion
IMPOV = In my point of view
IMS = I am sorry
IOW = In other words
IPN = I'm posting naked
IRL = In real life
IRM = I rest my case
ISP = Internet Service Provider
IUS = If you say so
IWAL = I will always love you
IYWIM = If you know what I mean
IYO = In your opinion
IYSS = If you say so
IYWIM = If you see what I mean

J
J00r = Your
JAC = Just a sec
JBD = Just a bunch of disks
JC = Just case
JJA = Just joking around
JK = Just kidding
JMO = Just my opinion
JP = Just playing
JTLTK = Just to let you know
JW = Just wondering

K
K or KK = Okay
KIS = Keep it simple
KISS = Keep it simple stupid
KIT = Keep in touch
KMA = Kiss My A**
KNIM = Know what I mean?
KOL = Kiss on lips
KOC or KOTC = Kiss on (the) cheek
KOL or KOTL = Kiss on (the) lips
KWIM = Know what I mean?

L
L2M = Listening to music
LBR = Later
LD = Later dude
LDR = Long distance relationship
LHM = Lord help me
LHU = Lord help us
LLTA = Lots and lots of thunderous applause
LMAO = Laughing my a** off
LMIRL = Let's meet in real life
LMFAO = Laughing my f**king a** off
LMSO = Laughing my socks off
LOL = Laughing out loud
LRF = Little rubber feet
LSHM = Laughing so hard my belly is bouncing
LSMB = Laughing so hard my belly hurts
LSHTARDML = Laughing so hard the tears are running down my leg
LTM = Laughing to myself
LTR = Long term relationship
LTNS = Long time no see
LTS = Laughing to self
LULAB = Love you like a brother
LULAS = Love you like a sister
LUMAMH = Love you with all my heart
LY = Love you

M
M8 = mate
M/F = Male or female
MFI = Mad for it
MFR = Male or Female?
MoS = Mother over shoulder
MOSS = Member of same sex
MOTOS = Member of the opposite sex
MSG = message
MTF = More to follow
MTFWU = May the force be with you
MUSM = Miss you so much
MYOB = Mind your own business

N
NADT = Not a damn thing
NBD = No big deal
NE1 = anyone
NIFOC = Naked in front of computer
NM = Never mind/Not much
NMH = Not much here
N00b = Newbie
NO1 = no one
NOYB = none of your business
NRN = Not right now; or No response necessary
NP = No problem; or nosy parents
NVM = nevermind
NW = No way
NW) = No way out

O
OIC = Oh I see

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OL = Old lady
OLL = Online love
OM = Old man
OMG = Oh my God
OMW = On my way
ONNA = Oh no, not again!
OO = Over and out
OHH = Out of here
OOTD = One of these days
OTB = Off to bed
OTF = Off the floor
OTTOMH = Off the top of my head
OTOH = On the other hand
OP or OTP = On the phone
P
P2P = Peer to peer
P911 or PA = Parent alert!
PAL = Parents are listening
PANB = Parents are nearby
PANS = Pretty awesome new stuff
PAW = Parents are watching
PCM = Please call me
PDA = Public display of affection
PDS = Please don’t shoot
PLS or PLZ = Please
PM = Private message
PMP = Peek my pants
PMFI or PMFI = Pardon me for interrupting (jumping in)
POAHF = Put on a happy face
POS = Parents over shoulder
POTS = Plain old telephone service
POV = Point of view
PPL = People
PROLLY = Probably
PRT = Party
PRW = People/parents are watching
PTMM = Please tell me more
PXT = Please explain that
PU = That stinks!
Q
QL = Reply
QSO = Conversation
QT = Cutie
R
REHI = Hello Again (re-hi!)
ROL = Raffing out loud
RL = Real life
RME = Rolling my eyes
ROTFL or ROFL = Rolling on the floor
laughing
ROTFLUTS = Rolling on the floor
laughing, unable to speak
RPG = Role playing games
RTFM = Read the fu**ing manual
RUOK? = Are you okay?
RSN = Real soon now
RYO = Roll your own
S
S4L = Spam for life
SAL = Such a laugh
SC = Stay cool
SETE = Smiling ear to ear
SF = Surfer friendly
SHCOON = Shoot hot coffee out of
nose
SHID = Slap head in disgust
SICR = Sorry I could not resist
SIG2R = Sorry I’ve got to run
SNERT = Snot nosed egotistical rude
teenager
SO = Significant other
SOMY = Sick of me yet?
SOT = Short of time
SOTMG = Short of time, must go
SPST = Same place, same time
SRY = Sorry
SSDD = Same stuff, different day
SSINF = So stupid it’s not funny
SS = So sorry
STR8 = Straight
STW = Search the web
SUITE = See you in the morning
SUL or SYL = See you later
SUP (or WU) = What’s up?
SWAK = Sealed with a kiss
SWL = Screaming with laughter
SYS = See you soon
T
TA = Thanks a lot (or again)
TAFN = That’s all for now
TAW = Teachers are watching
TBA = To be announced
TBH = To be honest
TCOB = Taking care of business
TCOY = Take care of yourself
TEOTWAWKI = The end of the world as
we know it
TFH = Thread from hell
TGIF = Thank God it’s Friday
THX or THNX or THNQ = Thanks or
thank you
TLK2UL8R = Talk to you later
TIA = Thanks in advance
TIAD = Tomorrow is another day
TILI = Tell it like it is
TLK2UL8R = Talk to you later
TM = Text me back
TMI = Too much information
TMOT = Trust me on this
TMWFI = Take my word for it
TNSTAAFL = There’s no such thing as a
free lunch
TNT = ‘Til next time
TOPCA = ‘Til our paths cross again
TOY = Thinking of you
TPM = Tomorrow P.M.
TPTB = The powers that be
TSTB = The sooner the better
TSWC = Tell someone who cares
TTT = Thought that too
TTTC = These things take
time
TTYL = Talk to you later
TTYS = Talk to you soon
TU or TY = Thank you
TYT = Take your time
TYVM = Thank you very much
U
UGTK = You’ve got to be kidding
UKTR = You know that’s right
UL = Upload
UR = Your or You’re
URL = Web page address
ICAC: Protecting Children Online
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r u?” And just before that, “Are you a brat?” What this person and others don’t know is that everything they say online is automatically being recorded and kept for evidence purposes should they take the conversation to that next level.

Sergeant Thompson says it’s important to “document everything from first sign-on with a log book... have programs set up to record all communication; build a case file. Take photographs on a search warrant.” He also says you’ll need to send the computer and media to an appropriate computer forensics lab – an often lengthy process due to high volume and backlogs.

A recent study shows that this type of evidence, when properly captured, is very solid in a court of law in these types of cases. The study, entitled “Police Posing as Juveniles Online to Catch Sex Offenders: Is It Working?”, focused on proactive investigations where UC officers posed as minors. Findings specifically indicated that the prosecution of these cases produced high rates of guilty pleas and low rates of dismissed or dropped cases, despite efforts of the defense in arguing that the situation was “entrapment”, “fantasy” or “role-playing”, or “factual impossibility.”

For investigators interested in getting more involved, Sergeant Thompson and Special Agent McClure both suggest starting by contacting the ICAC task force nearest you where you can get at least basic training and software and inquire about funding. For contact information, visit the general ICAC Training Web site at www.icactraining.org. In addition, NW3C offers an array of Cyber Crime courses at no cost to member agencies, as well as several DVD resources for parents, children, and investigators.

References