## **Dear Parents**,

Child safety on the Internet is a concern for the County of Los Angeles Public Library and the Board of Supervisors.

Parents can choose one of the following Internet privilege levels for their children under the age of 18:

- 1. **Children's Limited Access:** Filtered access will minimize the chance of your child accessing offensive or objectionable material on the Internet. The Library's filtering service actively reviews Internet sites. Since no filtering software can block 100% of potentially objectionable content, it is the responsibility of parents and guardians to monitor their child's Internet use.
- 2. **General Access:** Allows access to the Internet, with the exception of the most visually sexually explicit material for all users.
- 3. **No Access:** Children will be blocked from accessing the Internet, but will be able to use word processing and other programs on the public access computers.

All computers in the children's area of the library are set to Children's Limited Access and cannot be changed. Children with General Access must use the computers in the adult area if the site they wish to view is blocked by the Children's Limited Access filter.

Parents can visit the library to change their child's access level at any time.

The Library does not monitor and has no control over the information or websites accessed through the Internet by its patrons. The Library cannot guarantee that the Internet use of other patrons will not be offensive or inappropriate to you or your child.

## Things you can do to protect your children online:

- Make Internet use a family activity. Sit with your child as they use the Internet at the Library.
- Encourage your children to use computers in the Library's children's area, if available. All computers in the children's area provide Children's Limited access.
- Teach your children to never give out identifying information online.
- Learn more about the services and websites your children enjoy visiting.
- Never allow a child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with anyone they meet online without your permission.
- Visit <u>staysafe.org</u> or the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Protecting Our Kids site (<u>http://da.co.la.ca.us/pok/</u>) for more tips and ideas on keeping your child safe online.

The County of Los Angeles Public Library is committed to providing all of our customers with a satisfying and positive online experience. If you have any questions, please contact your Community Library Manager.

County of Los Angeles Public Library www.colapublib.org

