



جمعية الإمارات للإنترنت الآمن  
EMIRATES SAFER INTERNET SOCIETY

# newsletter

editorial@esafety.news | www.esafety.news

DEC 2019 / 1st Issue

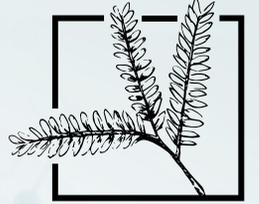


Safer Internet Day 2019  
Together for a better internet



Khafra Empowerment Program - U.A.E.  
Nourishing Minds, Flourishing Nations  
Capabilities • Partnerships • Prevention

برنامج خليفة للتعليم - الإمارات  
لتربية العقول لازدهار الأوطان  
فكرات • شراكات • وقاية

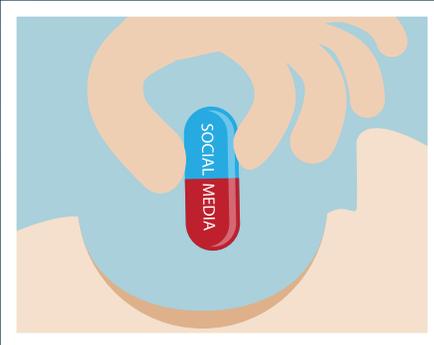
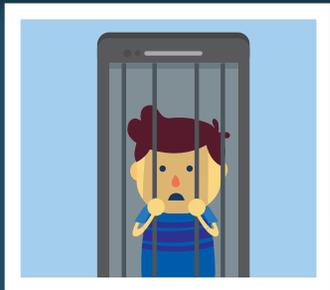
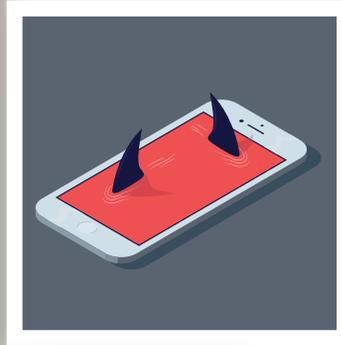


عام التسامح  
YEAR OF TOLERANCE



eSafe - Vision

To be a Sustainable and Globally Recognized Hub for Child Online Protection by 2021



**Send Your Creative Works About the Topic "Online Threads" to Our Editorial and Become Our Next Hero.**

[editorial@esafety.news](mailto:editorial@esafety.news) | [editorial@esafetynewsletter.com](mailto:editorial@esafetynewsletter.com)

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The UAE is a centrally located regional hub with world class infrastructure. More than 206 nationalities reside here, which means the influx of digital information into the country can come from anywhere around the world. According to recent statistics the UAE has world's second highest internet penetration at 92% with over 8.8 million residents now online. The country also tops the region in smartphone user penetration at 64.6%.

The UAE has always been a frontrunner in championing the issues related to child protection and online abuse. The Ministry of Interior's Child Protection Center launched an awareness campaign this April, with the slogan "Together to Prevent Child Abuse". This November, they also joined forces with the Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT) which is an international alliance of law enforcement agencies and private sector partners dedicated to combating online child sexual abuse.

Some of the long-terms goals and initiatives of the government of UAE, like the Vision 2021, reflect their visionary approach to develop and advance human society. It provides platforms that are aligned with the project strategy and goals that are embedded in the proposed program.

# E-Safe Birth to Protect the Digital Generation Online

Message

*"Building a Better Internet for Children... from the Emirates to the World"*

We are pleased to share the first issue of our e-Safe newsletter to echo the spirit of "Year for Tolerance". We learn from the country's Founding Father, the deeply rooted values, principles and traditions that have become part of our Emirati identity.

Nearly all children now have access to the Internet (9.376.171 users – internet penetration in UAE Ranked #2 globally). Internet technology affords children access to vast amounts of valuable information and endless sources of entertainment. However, it also exposes children to certain dangers. For, example children may come into contact with demeaning, racist, sexist, violent, hateful or false information. Most worrisome, children may encounter actual predators that use the Internet to identify and lure victims through chat rooms, instant messaging facilities and social networking sites.

As a result, some parents may understand-prohibiting their children from using would deprive them of access to an information and communication. it impractical to enforce such Many schools require training classes or use classroom. In addition, teens could circumvent going online in public Internet access, or by devices. For these for parents to strike a benefits and risks that the children.

We at e-safe were inspired our Father of the Nation: living in a world that is very are accustomed. It is essential that children for that new world". From Nationals joined hands in 2015 to establish a Community back in 2015, to find solutions for all parents who play a role in assessing potential risks on the internet and communicating those risks to their children.

Our vision at E-Safe is to lend our expert support to the Leaders in building national capacity among all stakeholders including Children, Parents, Teachers and Authorities. We at E-Safe feel proud and lucky to have the distinguished leadership and illustrious vision of H.H. Sh. Mohamed bin Rashed Al Maktoum, H.H. Sh. Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, H.H. Sh. Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the UAE leaders who paved the way for global Child Online Protection, inspired by the principles laid forth by our great Father of the Nation.

Our ambitious plan is all about building UAE as self-sustainable, globally recognized hub for Child Online Protection by 2021, in line with the UAE National Vision 2021 and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, we need the urgent support of individuals, public and private entities, to stand with us and take immediate action to keep our children safe online.

I look forward to hearing your views on our first issue and I welcome your comments on how our readers can support this strategic UAE Initiative in achieving its vision ([adel.alkaff@esafesociety.org](mailto:adel.alkaff@esafesociety.org)).

ably feel the urge to eliminate these risks by the Internet. However this decision amazing resource for legitimate Furthermore, parents might find strict prohibition. For example students to take Internet online databases in the motivated children and their parents' rules by establishments with using mobile or wireless reasons, it is important balance between the Internet poses to their

by the visionary words of "Future generations will be different from that to which we we prepare ourselves and our here, a group of 35 prominent UAE Non-Profit Society under the Ministry of



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Is a section where children's imagination and creativity has no boundaries.



### Editor Chief

Dr. Abdullah Al Mehyas

### Co-Editor-in Chief

Melwyn Williams Chirayath

### Sub Editor

Jayesh Sebastian

### Content Editor

Kheder Mahmoud

### Creative Director

Sajin N Vasudevan



Melwyn Williams Chirayath

Co-Editor-in Chief



A Sultan decided to create a Garden Kingdom full of beautiful and fragrant flowers. He called his most trusted subjects and entrusted them with seeds. He named those seeds 'blessings'. He told them to go and sow the seeds, nurture and protect them so that they may grow in to beautiful plants.

He sent them saying, **"Let my garden bloom with beautiful flowers"**.

His subjects set out to various parts of the kingdom. They sowed the seeds the king gave them. Plants started growing. Some of the subjects were busy doing other things and did not give much attention and protection to the plants. They did not water or irrigate, prune or manure them. Some seeds were lost to birds and some to animals and still others to the weather. Their land was filled with weeds and wild plants.

At the same time, some of the subjects sowed the seeds after preparing the soil properly. They watered them and put barricades up for their protection. They thought of their Sultan everyday and his blessings. They worked hard to protect their plants. They were always alert, so that their plants may not be taken away by thieves, destroyed by weeds, animals or weather. They fed them with manure and watered them daily.

Their plants grew and blossomed with beautiful flowers. Their land became so fragrant that it was named 'Paradise'. They realized that these were truly blessings, as their Sultan had once told them.

The fragrance of the flowers reached the palace and the Sultan set out to see his Garden Kingdom. Now you can very well imagine what would have happened to the both groups of subjects.

Our children are our blessings. We have a responsibility to protect and nurture them to be fragrant and blooming flowers. They in turn will make our lives and society rich with blessings.

Today global boundaries are diminishing; distances seem to be a thing of the past. Virtual and digital worlds have grown exponentially. Coming generations need to be prepared to face the challenge of these new worlds and to grow and bloom in all kinds of environments. We as parents, or guardians, should be able to give them proper direction so that they are equipped with the knowledge necessary to survive and flourish.

Children living in islands, or near the sea, are aware of the dangers through the wisdom passed on by their parents or elders. Similarly, we should be aware of the dangers of the online or virtual worlds and protect our children from danger. Children are like sponges, which absorb all kind of liquids instantly. It is our duty to teach them what to absorb and what to discard.

This newsletter is a small step towards collectively keeping pace with the ever-changing online world. Together, as a community, we can ensure that our younger generation is safer, so their lives can be more fruitful.

This newsletter is an extension and initiative of the e-Safe vision: 'To be a sustainable and globally recognized hub for child online protection by 2021'. Let's embark on to this journey for our children and for a better tomorrow.

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**" Education is like a lantern which lights your way in a dark alley "**

*-Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan*

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# Introducing eSafety Newsletter



Children, our future heroes, are our assets and our strength. The scope of child abuse during the pre-internet era was limited, but it has drastically widened with new deadlier methods being practised online, especially on the Dark-Net.

Online monsters are more present these days than devils. "Let them Bloom" - as told by our Co-Editor-in-Chief reminds us of our responsibility to identify and guide our little blessings to grow in the right direction.

"Education is like a lantern which lights your way in a dark alley", said the founder of UAE, His Highness Sheikh Zayed. It is important to carry forward the importance of Education & Awareness in Child Online Protection to students, parents and every stakeholder associated with children.

In a preview of this 'Need of the Hour', requirement, eSafe Society and Tachyon IT Consultancy is bringing a humble initiative -this eSafety Newsletter. ”



**Dr. Abdullah Al Mehyas**  
Founding Board Member & Chairman



"Real wealth is not material gain but is found in people who build the future of the nation," said His Highness Sheikh Zayed.

eSafe Society and Tachyon IT Consultancy have joined their efforts to create this eSafety Newsletter, which aims to become a resource for reference on policies and guidelines on Child Online Protection. It aims to bring various stakeholders and specialists to address the issues and requirements of this department.

We have experts to discuss and debate the available knowledge about areas like policies, best practices, technology and innovation etc. We are inviting schools, universities, policymakers and government authorities to join hands and support the success of this initiative.

**"Together we can make a difference". ”**



**Dr. Najlaa Alnaqbi**  
Emirates Safer Internet Society



**Monsters & demons are real !!** Don't laugh, the news around the world clearly indicates its presence.

From recent news -"8 month old baby raped by a 28 year old monster"!

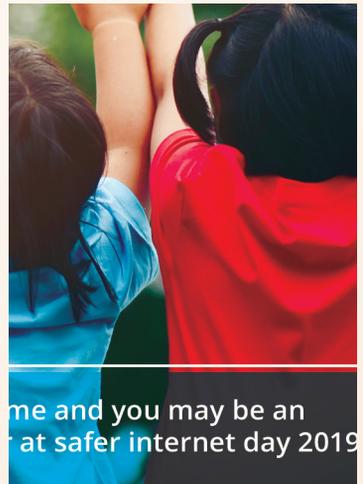
Every day and every hour 1000's of children fall into the trap of sexual abuse by these 'demons & monsters'. Information and data - whether it is Good or Bad - is circulated with lightning-fast penetration through various social media and other carriers across the Internet. People, especially children, are easy targets and are getting addicted to the glossy traps of these demons.

It is an alarming situation and we must take immediate steps before this cancer is spread to a stage of an incurable disease.

Tachyon IT Consultancy is happy to associate with eSafe's initiatives for child protection and we join hands with them in this prestigious initiative. We are also urging various other stakeholders to join this initiative to make it a huge success. ”



**Jayesh Sebastian**  
Founder and CMD Tachyon Group



Play this interactive game and you may be an award winner and be a star at safer internet day 2019

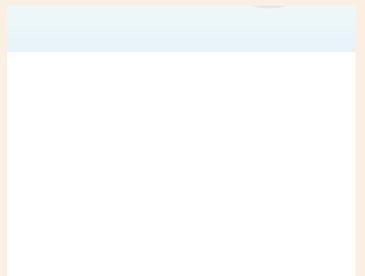
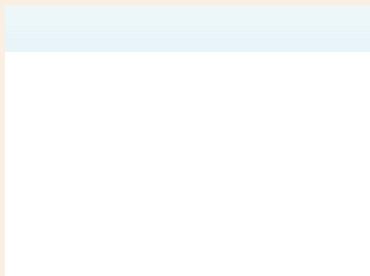


2019  
Safer Internet

Together for



Internet Day  
for a better in



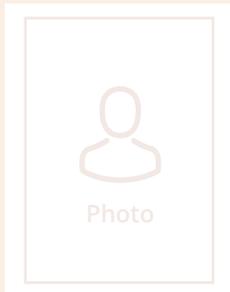
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 جمعية الإمارات للإنترنت الآمن | EMIRATES SAFER INTERNET SOCIETY

### #SID2019Challenge

Name : .....

Age : ..... Phone number : .....

School : .....





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Play this Interactive Game and you may be an Award Winner and a Star of Safer Internet Day 2019. #SIDChallenge

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### Terms and conditions

- 1: Scan this QR code below and access our #SID2019Challenge poster.
- 2: Arrange the scattered image to form a clean poster as displayed.
- 3: Take a picture of your poster and upload it in comment area using your parent's Facebook account.
- 4: Use hashtag **#SID2019Challenge** and share the message across your contacts.



**Safer Internet Day 2019**  
Together for a better internet



Every NGO is formed to address a social issue. eSafe (Emirates Safer Internet) Society has been formed to protect children online and to empower them to make informed decisions about their use of computers, online chat rooms and social media.

This initiative began when we learned about online child abuse and the absence of protective measures in the region. The team communicated with international agencies such as UNICEF, ITU and INTERPOL to find the best practices in this regard. The result was an invitation to Europe and USA for an Expert Exchange Program. During this trip, the team visited more than seven countries and 25 organizations working in the field of child online protection. Right after the trip, the process of establishing an NGO was initiated. A group of 35 highly inspired UAE nationals joined as founding members and put forward the registration request to the Ministry of Community development. In October-2015 the team received the approval to form this NGO.

## The Problem to Address.

The first thing eSafe has done is to conduct a situation analysis and mapping exercise to understand the on-the-ground reality of child abuse issues online. A world-class strategic consulting firm (The Palladium Consulting) voluntarily came forward to support eSafe for this exercise. During the program, the team have identified the following strategic threats online for children - Child Sex Predators, Cyber Bullying/ Black-mailing, Access to Inappropriate Content, Child Sexual Abuse Material, Terrorism, Cyber Scams/Phishing, Child Self-Generated Sexual Content, and Electronic Addictions.

## International Best Practices

eSafe has been blessed with the complete 'know-how' on this issue offered by the International organizations and developed nations with whom we have been consulting. Many best practices have already been suggested to the UAE government and to the educational institutions in terms of strategy, contents and modus operandi.

## All about Education

We strongly recommend awareness and education of Teachers, Parents and Children as essentials to tackle the issues related to children online. The key solution to all of these issues is building resilience through education, as blocks and restrictions are not the way forward. Various impact-based and measurable education programs are planned to deliver the message to a mass audience of students from a wide age range, parents, teachers and authorities.

## Our Vision

Our vision set in the Strategy Map is "To be a sustainable and globally recognized hub for child online protection by 2021". "Sustainability" is very challenging. We can't only depend on private or government funding.

Therefore, eSafe is establishing its own sustainability plan by providing professional services to schools, corporations and governments on a revenue model. The revenue will be used to fund the cause and the organization. The success of this model will become an international benchmark for sustainable "Social Entrepreneurship".

A Mass membership campaign, School & Corporate memberships, Training & Consulting services are the few revenue streams which eSafe is currently working on.

## Strategic Partnership

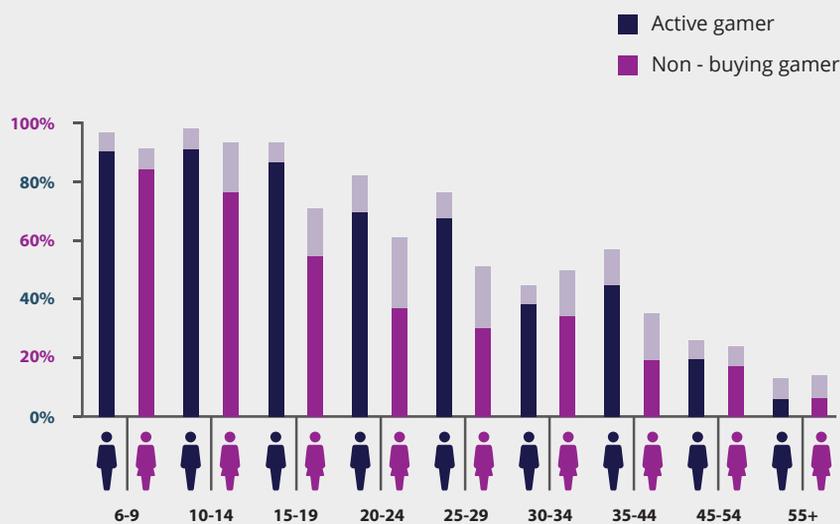
eSafe's philosophy is to establish partnerships with companies on a common ground. The society collaborated with Tachyon IT Consultancy company to establish networking within schools in the UAE. Tachyon is a service provider to 120 schools in UAE. The eSafety Newsletter and eSafety School membership is a result of this partnership.

# Gaming Addiction Classified as a Disorder

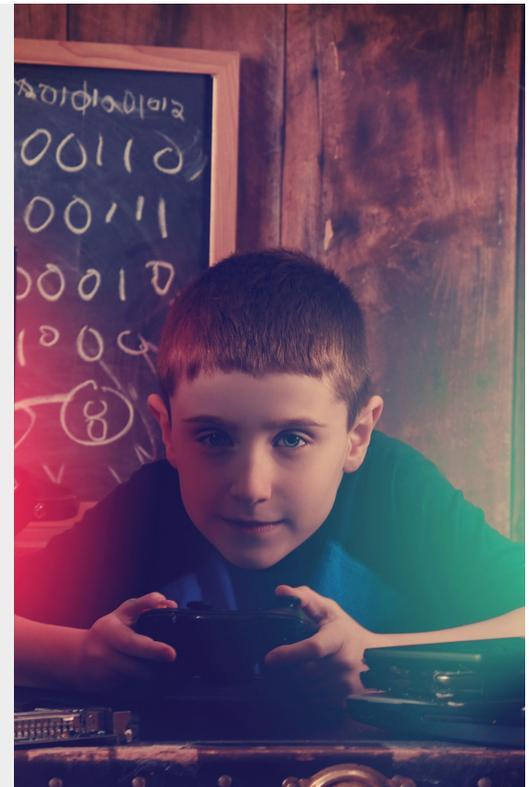
Expert Opinion

*A Recently Classified Disorder has been Identified that Threatens our Children's Development and it can be in Every Home.*

Figure 1. The proportion of the UK population who play games on one or more platforms, by age group and gender.



Platforms include: smart phones, portable devices, PCs, consoles, social networks and web browser games. The active gamer category includes games bought from a shop, or by digitally downloading its equivalent.



**Dr. Najlaa Alnaqbi**  
Emirates Safer Internet Society

The number of electronic devices that can be used for gaming is on the rise. Most houses these days have multiple mobile phones, tablets, laptops, gaming consoles, and computers, which all can be used for gaming.

Children are more interested in spending time behind a screen than doing any other activity and will happily spend hours and hours on gaming without stopping, or taking a break, if given the chance.

According to Han, S. (2012) "The advance in mobile technologies and the proliferation of Smartphones have increased the opportunity to game and thus made video game addiction one of the fastest growing types of addiction. Video game addiction has profound influence on our children's behavioral and psychological development"

In 2018, the World Health Organization classified gaming as a disorder, stating that: "Gaming disorder is defined in the 11th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) as a pattern of gaming behaviour ("digital-gaming" or "video-gaming") characterized by impaired control over gaming, increasing priority given to gaming over other activities to the extent that gaming takes precedence over other interests and daily activities, and continuation or escalation of gaming despite the occurrence of negative consequences".

However, people should be alert to the amount of time they spend on gaming, as well as to any changes in their physical or psychological health and social functioning that could be attributed to their pattern of gaming behavior, as not all gamers are classified as addicts.

# Top 10 Educational Software for Children's Cognitive Development

Tech Wizard

*You May have Easy and Accessible Methods that can aid your child's Cognitive Development and can be Accessed Easily.*



You may have easy and accessible methods that can aid your child's cognitive development and can be accessed easily.

Children's cognitive development has become a major concern for parents around the world. The increase in time children spend in front of a TV, or playing video games, is becoming alarming to the extent that experts have started to draw conclusions that it affects children's cognitive development.

With a lot of blame these days being pointed at the education system and how it has failed to bring out the best in our children, parents are encouraged to take matters into their own hands. After all, no one should know a child better than his or her parents. Therefore, parents should try to identify the areas of interest and strengths of their child and work on developing those skills. They should also, try to identify the areas of weakness, if any and work on addressing those. With the emergence of educational technology, parents from all around the world are able to connect to a variety of educational software products online in order to help their children's development. This software was developed by experts in the educational domain and aims to nurture children's analytical and creative abilities.

## Here is a List of the Top 10 Educational Software:

- 1 **Brain POP Featured Movie** : Provides information on a variety of topics like science, math, art, English and social sciences, through great movies
- 2 **News - O - Matic** : Kid-friendly news from around the world
- 3 **NASA app** : Helps your children learn about space.
- 4 **Focus on Plant** : provides information on plant biology.
- 5 **My Incredible Body** : Teaches important facts about the human body in a way that is fun and easy to understand for all age groups
- 6 **Book Creator** : kids can create books, add images and create covers for them.
- 7 **Free Books** : A vast collection of over 23,000 titles.
- 8 **Sketchbook Express** : allows both younger and older children to have hours of fun and creating great works of art.
- 9 **Fit Brain Trainer** : Provides 360 games that help train different cognitive skills like memory, problem solving and concentration
- 10 **Cut the rope 2** : Cut the rope 2 features cute, candy-eating aliens, logical puzzles that can get quite tricky while still being colorful, fun and forcing the child to think.

Team Tachyon



*Your Child's Safety might be in Jeopardy even in the Comfort of your own Home. Help us to Spread Awareness on the Potential Online Dangers.*



Child Online Protection (COP) is an initiative established by the International Telecommunication Union in November 2008, supported by the United Nations Secretary - General, states and several international organizations.

COP is a project to protect children worldwide against cyber threats by providing legal, technical and organizational measures.

United Arab Emirates - being the pioneers of change and development in the Middle East - have maximized their efforts on both national and international levels to create a safe online platform for children.

On the International level, UAE hosted many summits such as VGT and #weprotect global summit and was awarded a permanent seat on the #WePROTECT Global Alliance International Advisory Board (IAB), in recognition of its security and police work in the field of child protection.

In June 2017, the UAE was elected to lead the international committee for Child Online Protection (COP) during the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Conference in Geneva.

On the National level, the UAE government has issued several laws which guarantee the protection of children from all forms of exploitation and abuse under articles 29 and 37. In addition, a joint initiative was established between Aqdar Khalifa Empowerment Program for Students. This government program for students' empowerment and awareness works alongside the Emirates Safer Internet Society (E-safe), a foundation for a safer online experience in the UAE, with a key focus on children. The joint initiative organized the safer internet day 2017, which reached more than 10,000 students across the country, in a vast campaign to raise awareness about internet safety.

Further, The Regulatory Authority (TRA) has established a Computer Emergency Response Team, which aims to support a safe cyber environment for the residents of the UAE. They also created SALIM, an Emirati character acting as a cybersecurity adviser, who provides tips to internet users on how to protect themselves against cyber threats, and by doing so guides them towards a safe cyber culture.

# Interfaith Dialogue on Child Online Protection

World These Days

Are you Aware of the Impact of Interfaith Dialogue on the Community and Its Partnership to Prevent Online Exploitation?



Eng. Adel Alkaff Al Hashmi, Vice Chairman, AMID Conference Guests

During the opening ceremony, Lt. General HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior said: "We are gathered here today under the umbrella of peace, coexistence and tolerance, an approach that was inspired by the ideology, legacy and directives of the late Sheikh Zayed and the teachings of Islam. This approach is also supported by the UAE's wise leaders, along with nations and people from around the world, who join efforts to consolidate these morals and uphold the values of justice, tolerance and love."

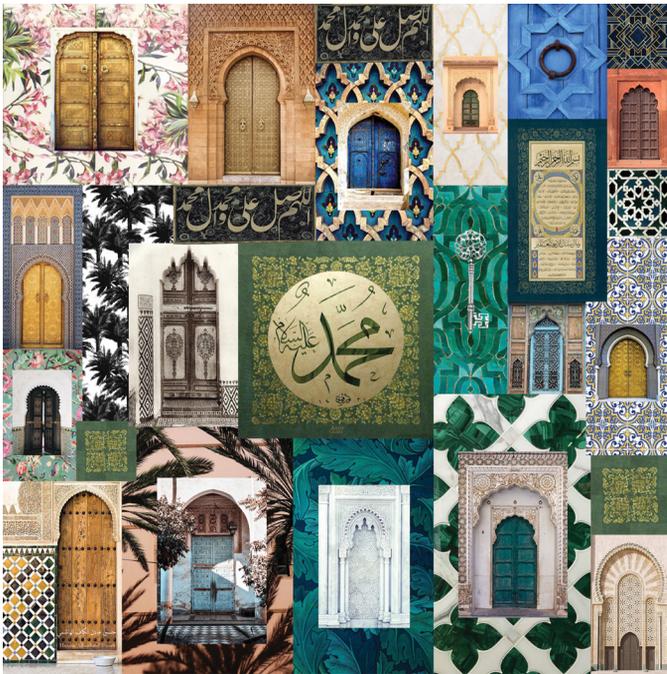
Interfaith dialogue is defined as an exchanges among religious practitioners and communities on matters of doctrine and issues of mutual concern in culture and politics. They explore the world's religious traditions in their efforts to collaborate on questions of peace, social development and how an interfaith dialogue can help the community to prevent Online Exploitation of children.

According to the Khaleej Times (2018) the authorities at the Ministry of Interior (MoI) stated: "The UAE will sign the Abu Dhabi Declaration to protect children from abuse and sexual assault online". In order to fight off crimes against children online, the UAE

Government stated in the Khaleej Times, that it will be hosting its first 'Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities: Child Dignity Online' forum, bringing together the world's religious leaders to tackle the world's most pressing social challenges. In addition, as stated by Gulf News (2018) it was reported that "Religious scholars and experts in cybercrimes against children and their sexual exploitation will gather in Abu Dhabi to find solutions for safer communities and protection of children".

Statistics show that millions of children and adolescents are exposed to criminal behavior online every year as the issue of child abuse and exploitation on the Internet is more than just a concern.

Experts in child protection believe that religious leaders impact the minds of people; therefore, they have an important role to play in the protections of families, adolescents and children. They are supposed to protect them from being exploited in all aspects of life - now including online - which is one of the biggest threats to children today.



## Recaling Heritage and Culture is a Pathway to Safety.



Hussain Adel Alkaff Al Hashmi

 [www.instagram.com/husain.alhashmi](https://www.instagram.com/husain.alhashmi)

## Happy to Announce Safer Internet Day Challenge 2018 Award Winners. School : Hunain School, Abu Dhabi

### List of Recipients

1. Mariyam Al Muhairy
2. Ohood Al Muharzi
3. Ayesha Al Junaibi
4. Reem Al Junaibi
5. Salam Al Muhairi

Cordinator  
Ms. Nema Hashikah



Eng. Adel Alkaff Al Hashmi & Mohamed Mustafa Saidalavi  
with the winners of 2018.

Send your creative works about the topic "online threads" to our editorial and become our next hero.

[editorial@esafety.news](mailto:editorial@esafety.news) | [editorial@esafetynewsletter.com](mailto:editorial@esafetynewsletter.com)



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**We welcome supporting our cause  
by joining Esafe Membership**

**Online Registration**

[www.esafesociety.org/membership](http://www.esafesociety.org/membership)

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