

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TINDER ALLOWING CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS 13 TO USE DATING APP RAISES SAFETY CONCERNS

It has been revealed that children as young as 13 are using the dating app 'Tinder', putting them at increased risk of being the victim of predatory behaviour. Surveys show the Tinder App, which has an age bracket category for children 13-17 year-olds, is being used by more school children than Australian singles over 35.

The Constable Care Child Safety Foundation (CCCSF) has serious concerns over the danger this places vulnerable children in. CEO David Gribble says, "The concern we have is that the age data you input is voluntary, meaning it is easy for sexual predators to create fake accounts and start connecting with these children. It's inappropriate and irresponsible of Tinder to allow children of this young age access to an adult dating app".

Mr Gribble is urging parents to talk to their children about their online activities and how they can stay safe online. "At CCCSF, we place the utmost importance on the safety education of children and believe this is the key to preventing and reducing harm of our kids."

The Constable Care Child Safety Foundation provides award-winning safety education to primary and high school students throughout WA. The organisation's performance "Screen Name" teaches young people about the more serious dangers of the cyber world and how to make safe decisions online, and has been seen by almost 50,000 WA children in the last three years.

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For images, interviews or for further information, please contact:

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Notes to editors

- Constable Care Child Safety Foundation is a registered harm prevention charity that delivers award winning safety education programs free of charge to school students throughout Western Australia.
- The Foundation continues to support the growing needs of children, youth and families by developing ongoing programs and products relevant to the challenges faced by our youth to ensure a safer, brighter future for those living in Western Australia.
- Constable Care Child Safety Foundation celebrated 25 years of service in 2014. It was established in 1989 by Sergeant Ross Pengilly and launched by WA Police.



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- Free services provided include; Constable Care Pre-school to Year 6 educational puppet and actor shows, Theatrical Response Group interactive performances and intensive workshops for Years 7 to 12 and Comfort Packs for children in distress or at-risk youth.
- The Constable Care Child Safety Foundation provides best practice, Lost Child Points – a meeting point service and a safe refuge for children, should they become separated from their parents or guardians at major events in WA.
- Constable Care Child Safety Foundation also hosts the Constable Care Child Safety Awards, an independent event created to celebrate the endeavours of individuals, communities, corporate organisations, emergency services professionals, local government or state government agencies and education programs, which protect children and young people from harm, and promote a safer Western Australia for our youngsters.



Constable Care
CHILD SAFETY AWARDS

