



# Cyberconsent: Let's Get Digital!

# What is Cyberconsent?

Cyberconsent is consent in the digital world (on our phones, computers, social media, zoom, dating apps, etc.).

Although we're interacting through our screens and not in-person when we're in the digital world, we still need consent and the same expectations for consent apply.

When we consent to something, it is for a specific behaviour and moment in time. For instance, consenting to receive a sexual photo once does not mean consenting to receiving sexual photos all the time.

# What are examples of online behaviours needing consent?

We need to be asking for consent any time we're sharing photos or videos of one another online, tagging one another in these photos or videos, sending sexual photos or videos, etc.

Posting photos or videos of friends, partners, or peers may seem harmless, but we need to consider their comfort! Our own boundaries with social media are not always the same as others', so we need to check in.

Sending a nude photo or video may seem fun when flirting or sexting with someone, but how do we really know they want to see that photo or video? We need to ask first!

# How can we engage safely in the digital world?

While we aren't immune to harm, some strategies we can use to engage safely include:

- Knowing how to block and report on apps and social media platforms
- Recognizing risks involved in online spaces (such as recording, screenshots)
- Checking someone's social media to verify they're who they say they are on a dating app
- Reverse image searching someone's photos from a dating app to check that their photos aren't fake

# Does my consent apply once I meet someone in person?

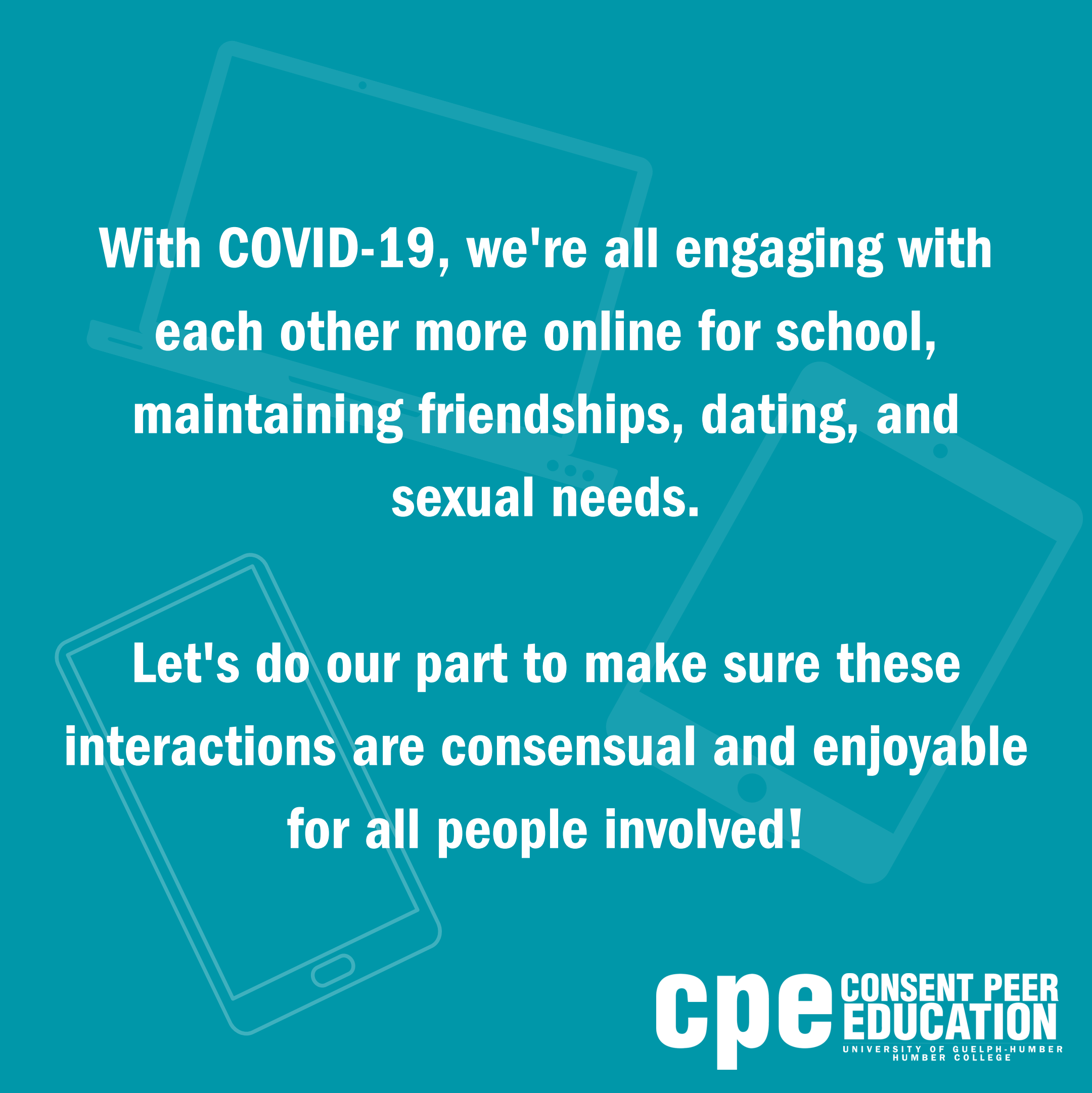
We might agree to certain sexual activities with people while chatting in the digital world, but once we meet up in person, we still need to ask for consent again.

Why? Because people change their minds! What someone consented to an hour ago, a day ago, a week ago over text or social media might not be something they want to do once we meet up. Consent is an ongoing process, and we need to check in with our partners.

# What are some safety tips for meeting someone from online?

While we aren't immune to harm, some strategies we can use to engage safely include:

- Telling a friend where and when we're meeting our potential date
- Meeting and staying in a public space
- Arranging a time for a friend to check in via text or phone call
- Discussing and clarifying consent throughout the experience



**With COVID-19, we're all engaging with each other more online for school, maintaining friendships, dating, and sexual needs.**

**Let's do our part to make sure these interactions are consensual and enjoyable for all people involved!**