



OGLE-METER

56 SECS

TIME
REMAINING

TOO SEXY FOR KIDS?

Beware free online
games that mask
sexual content

PHOTO: INTERNET

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THE games look like they are designed for children, with colourful animated characters and cheery music.

But the aim of one such game, called Under Cover, is for the player – who might well be a child – to snap photographs of women’s exposed underwear.

Players of another game called Lust for Bust are supposed to stare at women’s breasts for as long as possible

without being caught.

These free online flash games – electronic games played on Web browsers – are practically training players to be perverts.

And they are reaching a wide audience through multiple gaming websites on the Internet.

For example, statistics on just one website show that Under Cover has been played more than 6.5 million times since it was launched in February last year.

Experts here are warning against the potential risks, par-

ticularly for children, of such free online flash games, some of which contain sexual content.

Exposure to such materials may result in children being desensitised to sex, and eventually trivialising it, said Mr Poh Yeang Cherng, 41, manager of Touch Cyber Wellness & Sports, a cyber-wellness education programme for youth run by voluntary welfare group Touch Community Services.

“Children are in their formative years and their values can be influenced playing these

games,” he added.

A school counsellor, who declined to be named, said that when it comes to undesirable content in games, violence, and not sex, is the first concern that comes to mind.

Children who play these games may form degrading views of the opposite gender from young and this could affect their relationships with others in future, he warned.

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