Protecting Kids from Stealth Advertising in Digital Media

An FTC Event · October 19, 2022

Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:00 am

Lina M. Khan

Chair, Federal Trade Commission

9:15 am Presentation: Children's Advertising Show and Tell

This presentation will set the scene for the event by discussing the range of digital spaces children, including teens, frequent and the types of advertising and marketing techniques used to advertise to them. The presenter will provide visual examples of ads children encounter in digital media, such as kid influencer videos and in-game ads. The presenter also will discuss the current legal and self-regulatory landscape in this space. Afterward, the presenter will answer questions from the moderator.

Presenter:

Mamie Kresses

Vice President, Children's Advertising Review Unit, BBB National Programs

Moderator:

Tawana Davis

Assistant Director, Division of Advertising Practices, Federal Trade Commission

10:00 am

Panel 1: Children's Cognitive Abilities – What do they know and when?

This panel will discuss children's cognitive abilities at different ages and developmental stages to recognize and understand advertising content and to distinguish it from other content. Panelists will discuss relevant research, as well as any impacts or potential remedies.

Moderator:

Elizabeth Nach

Attorney, Division of Advertising Practices, Federal Trade Commission

Panelists:

Sun Joo (Grace) Ahn

Director, Games and Virtual Environments Lab Associate Professor, Grady College of Journalism & Mass Communication, University of Georgia

Liselot Hudders

Associate Professor, Ghent University

Sonia Livingstone

Professor of Social Psychology, London School of Economics

Jenny Radesky

Division Director, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Michigan Medical School

Eva A. van Reijmersdal

Associate Professor of Persuasive Communication, Amsterdam School of Communication Research ASCoR, University of Amsterdam

11:15 am Break

12:30 pm Panel 2: The Current Advertising Landscape and its Impact on Kids

This panel will discuss the impacts on children of the current advertising landscape, including any harms stemming from children's inability to distinguish advertising from other content. Panelists will discuss factors at different ages and developmental stages that could mitigate potential harms. The panel will set the stage for the following panel by exploring how best to address any harms.

Moderator:

Michelle Rosenthal

Attorney, Division of Advertising Practices, Federal Trade Commission

Panelists:

James C. Cooper

Professor of Law and Director, Program on Economics & Privacy, Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University

Josh Golin

Executive Director, Fairplay

Jennifer L. Harris

Senior Research Advisor, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Health

Girard Kelly

Senior Counsel & Director, Privacy Program, Common Sense Media

Sheila A. Millar

Partner, Keller and Heckman LLP

1:45 pm	Break
2:00 pm	Panel 3: Looking Forward and Considering Solutions
	This panel will discuss the current legal regime and challenges, and potential regulatory, self-regulatory, educational, and technological tools to protect children from blurred content in digital marketing and to mitigate any harmful effects of advertising on children.
	Moderator: Michael Ostheimer Attorney, Division of Advertising Practices, Federal Trade Commission
	Panelists:
	Josh Blumenfeld Manager, Government Affairs and Public Policy, YouTube
	Nellie Gregorian President, Fluent Research
	Genevieve Lakier Professor of Law and Harbert and Marioria Fried Teaching Scholar
	Professor of Law and Herbert and Marjorie Fried Teaching Scholar, University of Chicago Law School
	Bonnie Patten Executive Director, Truth in Advertising
	Sneha Revanur Founder & President, Encode Justice
	Lartease M. Tiffith Executive Vice President, Public Policy, Interactive Advertising Bureau
	Closing Remarks
3:45 pm	Serena Viswanathan Associate Director, Division of Advertising Practices, Federal Trade Commission