# 'INTERNET TROLLS', 'BOTS' AND 'BOTNETS'

First off, we need to know what we mean by the terms "troll", "bots" and "botnets". We hear these words all the time but often don't know what they *actually* mean!

So lets have a look at the definitions....
A "troll" is a person who intentionally initiates online conflict and offends other users.
A "bot" is an automated social media account run by an algorithm NOT a real person.
A "botnet" is a network of bot accounts managed by the same person/people (to make it look like lots of users are engaging with a post)

https://gijn.org/2018/11/05/how-to-identify-bots-trolls-and-botnets/

SHOUT OUT UK
THE VOICE OF THE NEXT GENERATION

# HOW TO SPOT THEM

## TROLL CHECKLIST:

**1)** posts content designed to be offensive to others

**2)** inflammatory comments (making other users angry)

**3)** aggressive (provoking others)

**4)** ignorant or simplistic

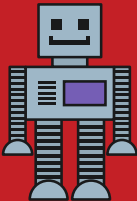**5)** irrelevant to the discussion (designed to derail it)

# HOW TO SPOT THEM

## BOT/BOTNET CHECKLIST

1) repetitive speech patterns

2) identical posts across accounts

3) handles with matching formats

4) identical activity (e.g. mass following of same accounts)

5) same date/time of creation

*NOTE: bots are harder to spot than trolls, if you see 3 or more of the things on this list then thats a good indicator*
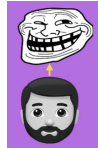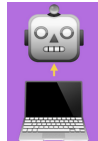
# Activity 1: Link it up

Bot

Botnet

Troll

Real person deliberately trying to cause offense

Automated social media account run by an algorithm

Network of bots run by one person/group







Based on what you have learnt match the terms to the explanations and pictures

# Activity 2: Poster Time!

Create an informative poster
to explain to your family about
"trolls", "bots" and "botnets"

*Be as creative as you like but make sure to include:*
*1) Explanations of what each term means*
*2) At least 3 signs you can use to identify them*

We'd love to see what you come up with - share
your poster online using #DefeatTheTrolls and we
will repost them