

Parents, this one may scare you. This is a trick people have used to communicate with someone over e-mail without anyone being able to find out about it. Email drafting is a technique some in the CIA and FBI have used because it's practically impossible to discover. It's also been used by cheating spouses and teachers who have had romantic affairs with a student. I'm explaining how it works and why there's only one way to catch it.

TEASE: People who cheat are using an old email trick that's nearly impossible to uncover. I'm Jamey Tucker, coming up, what is email drafting and why does it work?

trt 125

std outcue

super

0-8 Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR INTRO**

IF PARENTS DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT THESE DAYS, TEENAGERS ARE USING A SIMPLE TRICK TO HIDE THEIR TRACKS ONLINE...USING E-MAIL.

THE TECHNIQUE IS CALLED "E-MAIL DRAFTING", AND IT'S BEEN USED BY THE F.B.I, THE C.I.A, AND AL-QUIDA. OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER SHOWS US HOW IT WORKS AND WHY IT'S VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CATCH IT.

## **PACKAGE**

Email drafting is sneaky and before you say we're just telling people how to do it, I can tell you it's being used by cheating spouses, teenagers, and people breaking the law. It allows for two people to email each other with practically no chance of getting caught. Here's how it works:

Rather than sending someone an email to their address, the two share an email account such as Gmail. So both people have access to the same account. Instead of sending emails, they write it and save it as a draft.

The next time the other person logs on to check e-mail they'll look for new drafts where they can read the email message and delete it. They'll reply but again, rather than sending it, they'll save the new message as another draft.

Here's why this is impossible to trace. Draft messages don't leave a trail. When one is deleted, it doesn't show up in the trash or deleted folder. It's as if it never existed. 6 years ago, then CIA director David Petraeus used email drafts to secretly send messages to a woman he was having an affair with. The FBI discovered it while investigating Petraeus. They likely wouldn't have found the messages but some were familiar with the trick because members of al-Qaeda used it.

The only way to uncover the trick is to check the draft folder for new messages. It's an old trick that has left parents and some investigators scratching their heads.

That's What the Tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR TAG**

INVESTIGATORS IN TENNESSEE SAY EMAIL DRAFTING WAS USED BY A TEACHER AND A 15 YEAR OLD GIRL BEFORE SHE DISAPPEARED LAST YEAR. THE TWO LATER TURNED THEMSELVES IN TO POLICE.

## **WEB STORY**

Email drafting is sneaky and before you say we're just telling people how to do it, I can tell you it's being used by cheating spouses, teenagers, and people breaking the law. It allows for two people to email each other with practically no chance of getting caught. Here's how it works:

Rather than sending someone an email to their address, the two share an email account such as Gmail. So both people have access to the same account. Instead of sending emails, they write it and save it as a draft.

The next time the other person logs on to check e-mail they'll look for new drafts where they can read the email message and delete it. They'll reply but again, rather than sending it, they'll save the new message as another draft.

Here's why this is impossible to trace: Draft messages don't leave a trail. When one is deleted, it doesn't show up in the trash or deleted folder. It's as if it never existed. The trick can be used on a computer or smartphone. So it can be checked from anywhere in the world.

6 years ago, then CIA director David Petraeus used email drafts to secretly send messages to a woman he was having an affair with. The FBI discovered it while investigating Petraeus. They likely wouldn't have found the messages but some were familiar with the trick because members of al-Qaeda used it.

The only way to uncover the trick is to check the draft folder for new messages. It's an old trick that has left parents and some investigators scratching their heads.