CYBER BULLYING

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Cyber bullying - Definition

Definition of Cyber Bullying

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Cyber bullying is the use of the Internet and related technologies to harm other people, in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner.

Cyber bullying - Definition

- The term "cyber bullying" was first coined and defined by Canadian educator and anti-bullying activist Bill Belsey, as "the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others."

- Cyber bullying has subsequently been defined as "when the Internet, cell phones or other devices are used to send or post text or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person".

- Other researchers use similar language to describe the phenomenon.

Cyber bullying – What forms can it take?

The cyber bullies often:

- Pretend they are other people online to trick others
- Spread lies and rumors about victims
- Trick people into revealing personal information
- Send or forward mean text messages
- Post pictures of victims without their consent

BUT there are constantly new methods of cyber bullying being invented so if we want to know if something is or is not cyber bullying – we should refer to the general definition rather than to examples.

Cyber bullying – Basic terms

- **Cyber bully** – the person who commits cyber bullying (the offender)

- **Victim** – the person who is being offended by the bully

- **Blocking** – an action to be taken to avoid contact with the cyber bully

- **Reporting** – once you block a bully you should also report him/her to the administrator

- **Fighting back** – a very common reaction of victims and their friends

- **Hiding the problem** – another common reaction of a victim. And again – it does not solve the problem

- **Underestimating the danger** – common reaction of adults ("Oh! Just ignore it! It's nothing... You are over exaggerating...")

Cyber bullying vs "offline" bullying – Is there a difference between them?

Bullying is a form of aggressive behavior manifested by the use of force or coercion to affect others, particularly when the behavior is habitual and involves an imbalance of power.

So, as we can see the biggest difference is the settings – cyber bullying takes place in cyber space – and the second difference (resulting from the first one) is that the bully does not physically hurt the victim.

Cyber bullying – What can we do?

- Teach cyber safety
- Talk to children
- Implement rules

- Build trust
- Protect devices

Cyber bullying – Who can prevent or fight?

Everyone – teachers can raise awareness among students, parents can talk to their children, educate them and observe if there are any signs of them being bullies or victims, students can do their best to follow the rules, report cyber bullying if they witness it and educate others. All members of the family can talk to the child and teach him/her rules of behavior, all members of the community can learn about cyber bullying and try to educate children and other adults.

Cyber safety – What have we learned in this lecture?

- **What is cyber bullying?**

- **What can we do?**

- **Who can do something about cyber bullying?**

Thank you

**For more information,
please contact us at info@safespace.qa**