

# CYBERBULLYING

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# CYBERBULLYING

*"All cruelty springs from weakness."*

(Seneca, 4BC-AD65)

# Hours of Youth Internet Use



# Facebook & MySpace 160 Million Users



# Massachusetts Survey of 3rd Graders:

47 % have been bullied

52 % reported being called mean  
names, being made fun of or  
teased

51 % reported being left out of  
things on purpose

18 million this year (1 in 3)

# How common is Cyberbullying?

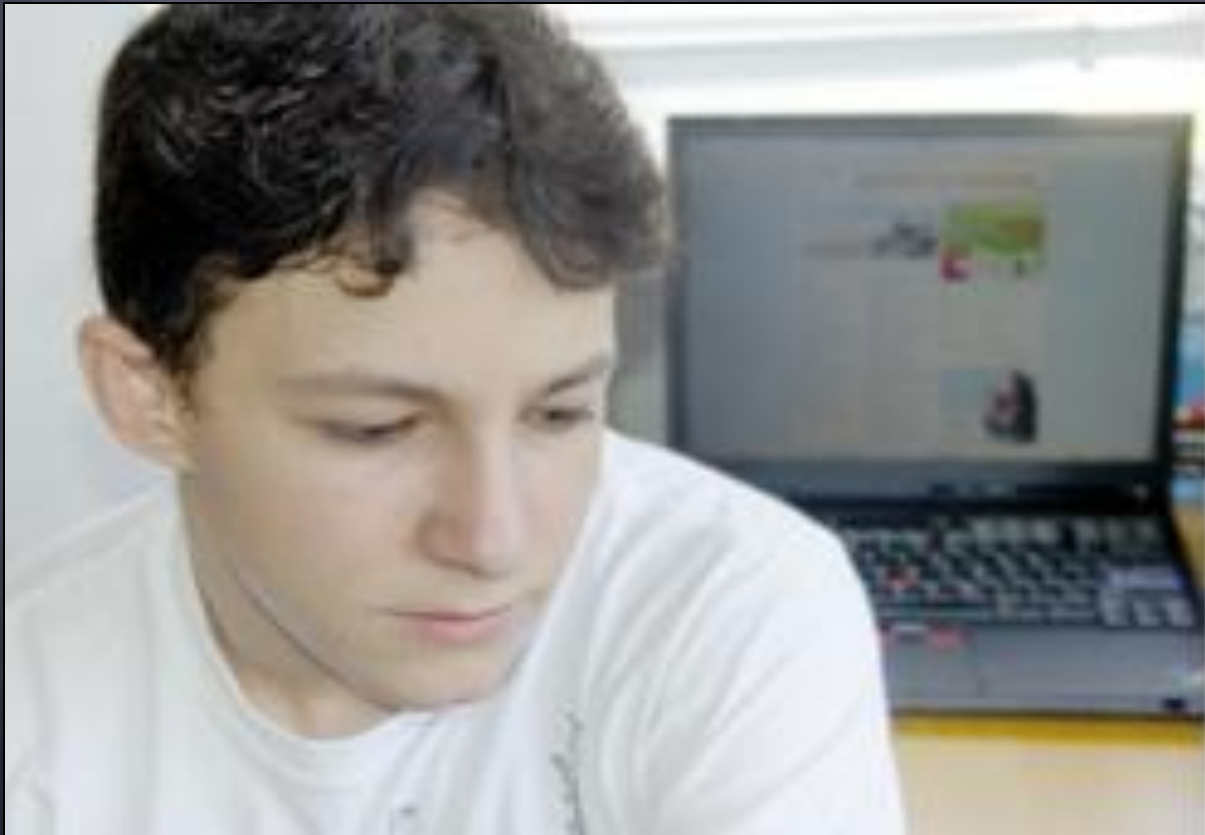
90% of middle school students have had their feelings hurt online.

75% have visited a Web site bashing another student.

40% have had their password(s) stolen and changed by a bully.

Only 15% of parents polled knew what cyberbullying was.

# The New Bullies



# CYBERBULLYING

"Cyberbullying" is when a child, preteen or teen is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted by another child, preteen or teen using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones. It has to have a minor on both sides, or at least have been instigated by a minor against another minor.

# CYBERBULLYING

*Direct attacks* (messages sent to your kids directly) and

*Proxy* (using others to help cyberbully the victim, either with or without the accomplice's knowledge).

# Motives

When it comes to Cyberbullying, teens are often motivated by anger, revenge or frustration, entertainment, boredom, laughs and ego.

Sometimes it can be accidental , and either send a message to the wrong recipient or didn't think before they did something.

# Vital Stats

More than 1/3 of teachers surveyed said social networking Web sites have **disrupted** their school's learning environment.

69% Posting of R-rated content

62% Too much personal information online

42% Cyberbullying

42% They're wasting time!

26% Creation of fake sites for principals & teachers

# 8 forms of Cyberbullying

- Flaming: Using inflammatory or vulgar words to provoke an online fight
- Harassment: Continually sending vicious, mean, or disturbing e-mails to an individual
- Denigration: Spreading rumors, lies or gossip to hurt a person's reputation
- Impersonation: Posting offensive or aggressive messages under another person's name

# 8 forms of Cyberbullying

- Outing: Posting or sharing confidential or compromising information or images
- Trickery: Fooling someone into sharing personal information which you then post online
- Exclusion: Purposefully excluding someone from an online group
- Cyberstalking: Ongoing harassment and denigration that causes a person considerable fear for his/her safety

**No Safe Havens**  
**Written Word**  
**Everyone Can See It**  
**Silence=Support**  
**Fewer Inhibitions**

# Education Code 32261

Establish policies to prevent

Cyberbullying

No Criminal Sanctions

# Possible Penal Consequences

653(m) Communication with the intent to Annoy

415(3) Offensive words in a public place to provoke immediate reaction

# Possible Penal Consequences

422(a) threats to commit a crime  
which will result in Death or GBI

Specific Intent that the statement is  
taken as a threat, even if no intent to  
carry it out

Person reasonably in fear

# CYBERBULLYING

Succeeds only if kept a  
Secret by Victim

Build **Trust** with Students

If you suspect Bullying go  
to SNS and Research

Look at Computers

**What are you doing?**

**What are the consequences if its  
broken?**

**How can students report being bullied?**

**Are there anonymous alternatives?**

**What education is currently being  
delivered in this area?**

**How early is it being done?**

# First Line of Defense

Stop, Block & Tell

Don't go it Alone

Change Passwords

Change Accounts

Don't Blame Yourself

# CYBERBULLYING

Report to Officials

Including the Police

Empower Children to Stand Up for  
Each Other

Educate Yourself

PBS Growing Up on Line

[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/  
frontline/kidsonline/view/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline/view/)

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