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# The Nature and Impact of Cyberbullying on the Middle School Student

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# Walden University

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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Jacqueline Pilkey

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Walden University
2011

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Doctoral Study Submitted in Partial Fulfillment

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Abstract

Cyberbullying is harassment through the Internet or other technologies. Forty-two percent of youth nationally have experienced cyberbullying and 53% admitted to being the cyberbully. A lack of understanding by adults of cyberbullying logistics and impact causes cyberbullying to remain a serious issue that has not yet been appropriately addressed within schools. A sequential, mixed methods study was implemented to investigate the prevalence of cyberbullying in one middle school and to determine the nature and impact of the experience in order to inform site-based interventions. Bandura's social learning theory, Bronfenbrenner's ecological framework, and Agnew's strain theory provided this investigation's theoretical foundation. Two separate web-based data collection tools were administered sequentially. Descriptive survey data showed that 37.8% of students had experienced cyberbullying, 56% observed cyberbullying, and that eighth grade students experienced a higher incident rate of cyberbullying (42.1%). Inductive coding of qualitative data from the questionnaire conducted with eighth graders contributed to the identification of emergent themes related to the psychological and educational impact. Specifically, these themes included symptoms of anger, depression, thoughts of violence, and interference with learning. Overall key findings from this study showed that cyberbullying is prevalent at this site and cyberbullying experiences have had a debilitating impact on psychological functioning, environmental comfort, and educational engagement. This study informs social change by providing information to tailor school-based solutions that can effectively decrease incidence of cyberbullying among students within this educational community.

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Section 1: Introduction to the Study

**Introduction**

The growth, availability, and ever changing role of the Internet, the increased availability and use of mobile electronic devices, and the lack of policies to regulate and protect the public from those who would abuse technology have created a venue for a new type of bully to emerge in the schools (David-Ferndon & Hertz, 2007). This new type of bully, the *cyberbully*, is technologically savvy and is able to strike at any time (Campbell, 2005).

The availability and use of technology by the young people within schools is on the rise and so is the ability to become cyberbullies (Patchin & Hinduja, 2006). Cyberbullying is "the sending or posting harmful material or engaging in other forms of social aggression using the Internet or other digital technologies" (Willard, 2007a, p. 1). Cyberbullying can take place anytime an electronic device is in use, regardless of time or location, and can have devastating effects (Strom & Strom, 2005a; Willard, 2006, 2007). Harris and Petrie (2003) asserted that "The effects of bullying are far-reaching and include lowered self-esteem, increased absenteeism, depression, inhibited academic performance, and impaired social relationships" (p. x). While school administrations are trying to keep up with the growth in available technology and the negative behaviors produced by the technology, the cyberbullying problem continues to grow and to spread (Juvonen & Gross, 2008). This, in turn, is increasing several problems including disciplinary and behavioral problems within the schools and increasing the level of violence in and around the schools (Smith et al., 2008).

In order to examine ways to reduce the violence brought forward by increasing levels of disciplinary and behavioral problems within the school, I attempted to increase the level of understanding of the stakeholders regarding cyberbullying and the issues surrounding cyberbullying. It is through the increased levels of understanding that could lead to the development and implementation of both an effective anticyberbullying policy and reporting system within the local school district and school based programs that will protect children from the physical or psychological impact from cyberbullying. It is through the implementation of the anticyberbullying policy and reporting system and the school based programs that society will take the ever important first step toward maintaining the protection of children in schools as well as in the local community.

**Problem Statement**

The psychological damage caused by the words of a bully can stay with people for a lifetime (Garbarino & deLara, 2002). With the Internet, bullies can transmit their harmful words and deeds electronically at any time and at any place they have access to the Internet. Bullying without borders has created the cyberbullies (Blair, 2003; Brady & Conn, 2006). This cyberbully could be the child that is normally described as sweet, meek, shy, male or female, and can have any type of background and is not limited to the bully stereotypes (Willard, 2007a). Cyberbullies have the capability of reaching out to an unlimited amount of victims (Kowalski, Limber, & Agatston, 2008). In order to address the issues related to cyberbullying, the research problem addressed in this study is the need for additional empirical data that will lead to an understanding of the multifaceted nature of this phenomenon which include three major areas:

1. Lack of awareness of the nature and impact of cyberbullying by those charged to teach, guide, and protect the children.

2. The availability of increasingly sophisticated technology to children of all ages without adequate supervision and guidance.

3. Reactive and emotional responses to cyberbullying cases versus proactive, data driven approaches to stop or limit cyberbullying

**Background of the Problem**

I focused on the nature and impact of cyberbullying in a Central Texas middle school. While many people may believe that cyberbullying is just another form of bullying, the two types of bullying are different from each other and must be treated as two separate problems (Brown, Jackson, & Cassidy, 2006). To compound this problem, many adults in the schools and the surrounding communities do not understand what cyberbullying is or the possible ramifications if it is not addressed properly (Shariff, 2009).

In addition to this lack of understanding of the problem, there is a lack of understanding of how the Internet is an integral part of the lives of students across the nation. While the Internet has changed the lives of adults in the U.S., this is not the case for the children of today (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). The Internet did not change their lives; they have never experienced life without it (Kowalski et al., 2008). Children born after 1980 are considered to be digital natives (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). The digital native has had access to networked digital technologies from the very beginning, and they know how to use them (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). The rest of the population is considered

to be the digital immigrants (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). The digital immigrant, according to Palfrey and Gasser, is "a person who adopted the Internet and other digital tools effectively" (p. 346). It is this distinction that creates additional difficulties for the older generations that are charged with producing laws and guidelines to protect society (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008)

The need to address cyberbullying must be done at various levels. The problem is a new phenomenon to society, and actual data regarding cyberbullying is lacking (Willard, 2007a). After high profile cyberbullying cases involving Megan Meier and the social networking site MySpace, the local citizenry demanded laws to be passed and implemented to ensure another tragedy is avoided (McQuade III, Colt, & Meyer, 2009). The local outrage from this case stemmed from the fact that a local mom created a fictitious boy on MySpace with the intention of gathering information from Megan regarding her own daughter. However, the situation also involved messages sent to Megan that triggered her decision to end her life through suicide. While legislation is needed to address the changing online behaviors of adults and children, local school districts and the surrounding communities need to specifically address cyberbullying within their student code of conduct guidelines (Shariff, 2009). Due to the common feeling that the authorities should not step in to determine what could or could not happen in the home, cyberbullying guidelines often do not exist (Shariff, 2009).

For example, one of the local student codes of conduct in Central Texas does not address cyberbullying, and the reporting process for cyberbullying is nonexistent. When a cyberbullying event takes place within the district, the situation, if addressed, is

documented as a disruption, a fight, or possibly an assault. These actions are addressed and dealt with according to the student code of conduct, but the cyberbullying event that was responsible for the disciplinary problems is not documented within the system. This means the system is paying attention to the results of cyberbullying without taking care of the actual problem.

The cyberbullying problem must be specifically addressed and documented in order to draw attention to the issue. Once awareness of this issue is more commonplace, anticyberbullying policies and programs should be implemented and disciplinary problems associated with cyberbullying will decrease (Chibbaro, 2007). It is through the lack of an anticyberbullying policy in the student code of conduct, the lack of awareness of the adults regarding cyberbullying, and the issues surrounding cyberbullying, that has created a situation where cyberbullies are able to continue bullying their targets without detection and thus avoid consequences of their behavior.

Despite concerns expressed by children, staff, and parents, many school districts are unwilling to develop the anticyberbullying guidelines without legal support from the courts (Agatston, Kowalski, & Limber, 2007). For example, although there are 45 states that have included laws against electronic bullying in various forms within their state laws, many local school districts are waiting on the 5th Circuit of Appeals Court to rule on cases involving cyberbullying before they develop and implement an anticyberbullying policy (Beale & Hall, 2007). Yet while the administrations are waiting for the courts to decide, a system to record cyberbullying events is nonexistent. Further, without proper documentation, the extent of the problem is largely unknown to various levels of

stakeholders including school board, parents, community members, and campus-based personnel.

The lack of attention to proper documentation has another side effect. When events are not documented properly, the children start to believe that no action will be taken and that no one will listen to them or believe their stories. This can lead them to feelings of anxiety and depression and possibly to devastating tragedies (Kaltiala-Heino, Rimpela, Marttunen, Rimpela, & Rantanen, 1999). These incidents have contributed to tragic endings of suicide or murder (High et al., 2007). Because of these tragedies, over the last several years, cyberbullying and traditional bullying incidents have gained worldwide attention. While the majority of traditional bullying or cyberbullying events do not lead up to the loss of life, it does happen. These events create major difficulties for the students that have had to endure the torment. It is this torment and the reactions from the torment that have created a society-wide problem with wide-reaching impacts. Action is required, or the impact on society will have lasting negative effects on everyone within the community.

### *Research Questions*

The following research questions were addressed in this study:

1. How prevalent is cyberbullying within a middle school setting?

2. For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school setting, what has been the nature and impact of the experience?

*Nature of the Study*

I employed a mixed method, sequential transformative strategy (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 1998) and focused on answering the question of what is the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. This strategy was chosen so that the "researcher may be able to give voice to diverse perspectives, to better advocate for participants, or to better understand a phenomenon or process" (Creswell, 2003, p. 216). The first phase of this study was completed through a web-based survey containing thirty-three closed ended questions. The survey was administered to all the participants within the school with the intent of answering the first research question regarding the prevalence of cyberbullying in the middle school setting. The data from this survey were statistically analyzed using SPSS to determine which specific grade level within the school has the highest incident rate of cyberbullying. Through these data, the eighth grade level was identified as the participants for the second survey. The second phase of the data collection was completed through a web-based survey containing seven open ended questions with the focus of answering the second research question relating to the nature and impact of the cyberbullying experience on the middle school child. Combined, the web-based surveys provided quantitative data showing the extent cyberbullying takes place the data and qualitative data illustrating the nature and impact cyberbullying has had on the middle school child.

**Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the phenomenon of cyberbullying in the middle school setting in order to educate the entire stakeholder community (students,

parents, campus level personnel, and district level personnel) regarding the nature and impact cyberbullying has on the middle school child. Specifically, this study answered the research questions regarding the prevalence of cyberbullying and the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. Results of this study will help in raising the awareness and understanding of the issues surrounding cyberbullying and thereby increasing the likelihood of the development and implementation of an effective anticyberbullying policy and reporting system and school based programs within the local school district that will protect our children from the physical and/or psychological impact from bullying. Findings will also provide a voice for the children that have been victims of cyberbullying and will provide information on the impact of cyberbullying on them and their families.

## Theoretical Framework

I investigated the problem of cyberbullying and the issues surrounding it within a particular middle school setting. While cyberbullying may be viewed as just another type of bullying, I explored how cyberbullying is different in a variety of ways, and the study focused on the issues that complicate the issue of cyberbullying and the possible approaches to minimizing the effects of cyberbullying. This study was guided by three theories: Bandura's (1977) social learning theory, Bronfenbrenner's (1979) ecological-contextual model, and Agnew's (1992) general strain theory.

Bandura's (1977) theory of social learning which was later renamed theory of cognitive learning (Bandura,1989), stated that much of human behavior is learned through observations and modeling. He also stated "Because of the bidirectionality of

influence between behavior and environmental circumstances, people are both products and producers of their environment" (Bandura, 1989, p. 4). Evidence of this is seen when children observe bullying types of behavior and then carry out bullying events. It is also seen when children observe other acts of varying degrees of civility and then demonstrate their mastery by carrying out the same type of behavior against others.

While Bandura (1977) and Bronfenbrenner's (1979) theories are related, Bronfenbrenner's (1979) ecological-contextual model theorized that individuals develop and interact within different levels of their environment and each of those levels has a direct impact on their individual development. Those levels include the microsystem, the mesosystem, the exosystem, and the macrosystem. The microsystem "includes the immediate environments with which children and you interact regularly" (p.6) for a child includes environment the child lives in or attends school. The mesosystem describes how the different microsystems work to help the child. The exosystem includes people or places that have an impact on the child even if the child does not interact directly with them. The last level is the macrosystem. The macrosystem includes things granted to the child by virtue of the government. The macrosystem has a great deal of influence on the child even though the child does not interact directly with the contributors to the system. When the ecological perspective is applied to the act of bullying, a child bullies not only because of their personal characteristics but because of their actions and interactions with others such as their peers, teachers, other adults, and community factors (Geffner, Loring, & Young, 2001). This model is demonstrated on a daily basis within the schools when outside factors influence children and they react aggressively towards others.

Agnew's (1992) stated that social and other stressors affect children, therefore provoking anger and possibly delinquent activity. Agnew further stated that social and personal resources will mitigate the impact of the stressors on the child. This theory is evidenced if and when children are pushed to the brink by bullies and cyberbullies and lash out at them. Some children have been taught to turn the other cheek and others will find different ways to retaliate against the bully/cyberbully. It is this type of behavior that can lead to high levels of school violence.

These theories provided the framework for this study which is that that children are influenced by every level of stakeholders within society. The influence starts at home, spreads to the neighborhoods and the schools, and out into society. Through observation, stress, reinforcement, and mitigating circumstances, the children of today have learned behaviors that are detrimental to themselves and to others.

**Definition of Terms**

*Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)*: An AUP is a written agreement between the students, parents, and schools regarding the appropriate or acceptable use of the Internet and the possible consequences for violating the agreement (Willard, 2007a). Contracts signed by only the student can be voided (Ford, 2009).

*Bully*: To "intentionally harmful, aggressive behavior of a more powerful person or group of people directed repeatedly toward a less powerful person, usually without provocation" (Harris & Petrie, 2003, p. 2). Bullies feel a need to dominate others and show little or no empathy towards their victims.

*Bullycide*: A term used to describe or label a suicide committed by people who had been bullied (High, et al., 2007).

*Bully victim*: An individual that has been victimized by a bully and has bullied others (Bolton & Graeve, 2005).

*Bullying*: "Repeated acts of aggression or harm by individuals who have more power than their victims" (Bolton & Graeve, 2005, p. 9). Power can be any advantage in strength, confidence, status, or aggressiveness.

*Chat:* "An online conversation typically carried out by people who use nicknames instead of their real names. A person can continually read messages from others in the chat room and then type and send a message reply" (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009, p. 185).

*Cyberbullicide.* Suicide related to a cyberbullying experience (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009).

*Cyberbullying*: "The sending or posting harmful material or engaging in other forms of social aggression using the Internet or other digital technologies" (Willard, 2007a, p. 1). Cyberbullying is also considered to be "harassment involving the use of digital media such as e-mail, text messaging, websites, chat rooms, instant messaging, or pages to intentionally harm others (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008, p. 345)

*Cyberspace:* "the electronic 'universe' created by computer networks in which individuals interact" (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009, p. 185).

*Denigration:* Messages posted online or sent to others that are harmful, false, or cruel (Willard, 2007a).

*Digital Immigrant:* A person who has not grown up with digital technology, such as computer, cell phones, and the Internet, but has adopted it later (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009, p. 186; Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

*Digital Native*: "A person who has grown up with digital technology, such as computers, cell phones, and the Internet" (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009, p. 186). The digital native was born after 1980 (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

*Electronic communication*: Any communication completed electronically. Electronic communication can be identified as either synchronous (real time) or asynchronous and as public or private (Willard, 2007a).

*Exclusion:* Not allowed to be a part of the in group (Willard, 2007a).

*Flaming:* Short, but heated online arguments that take place between two or more people (Willard, 2007a).

*Harassment:* Repeated, ongoing sending of offensive messages to an individual person (Willard, 2007a).

*Impersonation:* When someone pretends to be someone else and posts material that makes that person look bad (Willard, 2007a).

*Instant messaging (IM)*: An IM is a synchronous communication method that is used to allow users to communicate instantaneously with other users (Willard, 2007a).

*Mobile technology*: Cell phones, laptops, and Internet communication devices that allow unlimited access to information from anywhere (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

*MySpace*: "A popular social network site that as of July 2007 boasted more than 200 million users" (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

*Offender*: "The one who instigates online social cruelty. Also known as the aggressor" (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009, p. 187).

*Outing and Trickery:* The posting, sending, or forwarding personal information or images on public sites without permission (Willard, 2007a).

*Stakeholders:* Stakeholders include parents, children, school staff, district personnel, community members, and everyone else with a connection to the issue at hand (Bolton & Graeve, 2005).

*Victim:* A victim is someone who is chronically and repeatedly bullied (Willard, 2007a).

## Assumptions and Delimitations

This study was conducted with the assumption that students would provide honest answers to each of the surveys. It was also assumed that the participants were a true representative sample of the target population of middle school students.

Multiple delimitations are present in this study. First of all, the study is limited to middle school age students in grades six through eight. An additional delimitation for this study is that the study will be conducted in only one middle school within a district that has 10 other middle schools.

## Scope and Limitations

This study explored the issue of cyberbullying and the issues surrounding it within a particular middle school setting with the participants ranging from 11 years old to 15 years of age. The issues included the different perceptions of the use of the Internet

in everyday lives, the different roles played by the victim and the bully, and how many people believe that cyberbullying is just another form of bullying.

The limitations of the study could include the lack of participation of the students within the school and lack of honesty in the responses from the participants.

## Significance of the Study

### Application to the Local Problem

Part of the underlying problem with cyberbullying is the lack of data. The lack of its inclusion in the student code of conduct has led to cyberbullying events not being recorded as cyberbullying but as disruption, insubordination, or other serious offenses. Without proper documentation, the different levels of governing bodies have been left to react to publicized cyberbullying events instead of creating guidelines based on actual research and data collection. While several studies are available, the local districts do not view the populations studied as comparable to their own. While many school districts see the need for a policy against cyberbullying, they are reluctant to act due to the threat of lawsuits. This is one reason why the districts are waiting for the appeal courts to rule on cases of cyberbullying before implementing their own policies against it.

### Professional Application

The review of literature conducted to date has failed to demonstrate the need to provide children with protection against those that would use technology to inflict harm. Researchers have also failed to show how to break the cycle of violence. Based on these failures, further studies must be conducted regarding the effects of cyberbullying with an emphasis on how to break the cycle and decrease the amount of violence within the

schools. The cycle of bullying must be stopped in order to decrease the amount of school violence and the number of innocent children that are dying.

In an effort to achieve these goals, this area must be researched and presented to the stakeholders within the communities so they can come together and take action to protect children from cyberbullies. It is through this awareness of cyberbullying and how it is increasing the level of psychological and physical harm felt by the children at the middle school level, that stakeholders can come together and implement a plan to achieve these goals (Olweus, 1993).

**Contribution to Positive Social Change**

This study could directly impact social change at national, local, and individual levels. On the national level, this study has provided needed qualitative and quantitative data on cyberbullying in order to inform further research and improve practice. Findings and recommendations from this study will be submitted to peer reviewed journals, presented at national conferences, and shared with appropriate local and national government agencies.

Within the local school district, findings were shared and presented to administrators, teachers, and parents and will be used to inform specific practices and policies within the district. If these policies are effective, there will be less disciplinary issues and disruptions within the school, providing a better class environment for all students at that setting.

On the individual level, if increased awareness and improved practice leads to one child saved from the humiliation, anxiety, depression, and fear associated with cyberbullying that will be a profound impact. .

**Summary**

Cyberbullying is a devastating type of bullying that haunts children relentlessly. Until the level of awareness is raised and the stakeholders truly understand what is going on in the privacy of their homes, within the walls of the schools, and in the community, the war against the children will only intensify. This research study was designed to raise the level of awareness of all the stakeholders involved. The stakeholders in communities around the country must be willing to come together and learn how to make cyberbullying stop. The war within the schools and homes must be addressed by all stakeholders. Upon the completion of the study, cyberbullying was addressed in all areas: the home, the school, and the community. It is through the shared responsibility of addressing cyberbullying that will decrease the torment felt by the children throughout the community and nation.

Sections one and two of this study introduced the cyberbullying problem and reviewed the literature related to the cyberbullying problem. In the next section I will examine the nature and impact cyberbullying as well as the specific issues that surround cyberbullying. In addition, the strain theory will be considered as a potential explanation for particular behaviors found when examining the cyberbullying phenomenon. Specific cyberbullying cases will be presented for review to emphasis the need for shared responsibility in addressing cyberbullying within communities. Sections four and five

will provide the data analysis, interpretation of the data, recommendations for future

research, and the actions recommended based on the data collected during the study.

Section 2: Literature Review

**Introduction**

I searched three databases for the literature: EBSCO, ProQuest, and SAGE databases along with Google Scholar, online bookstores, and online searches. Key words used successfully during the review included *bully, electronic bully, cyberbully, online bully, Internet harassment, school violence, relational aggression, cyber-harassment, overt aggression, peer harassment* and *cyberspace bully.* The information found during these searches was reviewed and the documents that were relevant to the study were cataloged and filed both electronically and through the use of a traditional filing system.

Two hundred and fifty-two references were reviewed and analyzed to determine relevance to the topic. The references included journal articles, books, websites, conference papers, doctoral dissertations, government reports, and personal communication with researchers and authors. During the course of researching and reviewing current literature on cyberbullying, common themes emerged. The first theme that surfaced throughout this literature review was the need to look at cyberbullying within the school setting. Many of the conclusions from previous researchers showed the need to study cyberbullying and the effects of it on the children. It is from these conclusions that this study found life (Hinduja & Patchin, 2007; Kowalski & Limber, 2007, Wade & Beran, 2011). The second theme was that many of the articles, books, and websites were grounded in the work conducted by a first few researchers and authors on cyberbullying and then expanded to include particular studies conducted by the author. This fact impacted the number of sources used within this study. However, the sources

used provided the background and focus for this study. The focus of this study is to raise

the awareness regarding the issues surrounding cyberbullying, the importance of viewing

and addressing these issues with a digitalized mindset, and focus on the impact

cyberbullying has had on the middle school child.

Cyberbullying is viewed by many as just a variation of bullying and some respond

to it using the phrase "kids will be kids" (Arnette & Walsleben, 1998, p. 3). Through this

literature review, it will be shown that while there are similarities between bullying and

cyberbullying, there are many more differences to be found (Smith, 2009). It will also be

shown that while the Internet and cell phones are two of the mediums of cyberbullying,

they plays a vital part of the lives of the children and cannot be turned off in order to

avoid cyberbullying (Bond, 2010).

Children are veterans of the traditional bullying cycle that takes place within

schools around the world. Bullying is defined as "intentionally harmful, aggressive

behavior of a more powerful person or group of people directed repeatedly toward a less

powerful person, usually without provocation" (Harris & Petrie, 2003, p. 2). While

different laws have been passed and antibullying programs have been implemented,

bullying is still a problem within the schools (Shariff, 2008).

Bullying can be physical, verbal, relational, or indirect (Slonje & Smith, 2008).

According to Harris and Petrie (Harris & Petrie, 2003), direct bullying can include

taunting and teasing, calling names, criticizing others unfairly, threatening or obscene

gestures, hitting, stealing or hiding someone's belongings, or staring at them in a mean

way. Indirect bullying can be when someone influences others to perform the direct form

of bullying or when they spread rumors about others, make anonymous phone calls, ignore others, or excluding others on purpose. However, the type of bullying seen on a regular basis is the name calling and teasing (Harris & Petrie, 2003).

As increased levels of usage of technology become readily available, new problems have entered into the school environment. Not only are the traditional bullies found on school campuses, a new type of bully has emerged that has threatened the social and emotional development of children (Raskauskas & Stoltz, 2007). This new bully is called the cyberbully. Cyberbullying, or electronic bullying, is defined as "bullying through e-mail, IM, in a chat room, on a web site, or through digital messages or images sent to a cellular phone" (Kowalski et al., 2008, p. 1). It is this new type of bullying that has moved bullying from a local problem to a world-wide problem (Li, 2007).

**The Nature of Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullying uses contemporary technology. This type of bullying "involves 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" (Belsey, 2004). The availability and use of technology by the young people within schools is on the rise, and so is their ability to become a cyberbully (Patchin & Hinduja, 2007). Cyberbullying can take place around the clock and anywhere technology is available and can have devastating effects (Strom & Strom, 2005a). Cyberbullies are able to extend these effects to the school day since the comments will be discussed among their peers at school the next day (Auerbach, 2009). Cyberbullying can occur more often than traditional methods of bullying with effects felt for days, weeks, or further.

**Similarities and Differences Between Traditional Bullying and Cyberbullying**

Bullying, in any form, is widespread and poses serious safety issues within schools (McGuinness, 2007). Research has been conducted extensively on traditional bullying, but is in its preliminary stages for cyberbullying (Beran & Li, 2005, Dooley, Pyzalski, & Cross, 2009, Hinduja & Patchin, 2008). It was through this research that the similarities and differences came to light.

**Similarities**

The traditional bully and the cyberbully are similar in several ways. First of all, both have a bully, a victim, and bystanders (Vandebosch & Cleemput, 2009). Secondly, both have the intent to hurt or agitate someone else (Ybarra & Mitchell, 2004). The type of hurt or pain may be different; however, the intent is the same. Another similarity is that there is an imbalance of power (Dooley, Pyzalski, & Cross, 2009, Ybarra & Mitchell, 2004). At least one of the participants in the event has less power than the other. The occurrences of bullying are usually repeated over time. While this is not always the case, it is more the case than the exception (Visionaries-Net, 2006). In both bullying and in cyberbullying, the victim is less able to defend themselves from the attack (Visionaries-Net, 2006). The similarities between traditional bullying and cyberbullying may seem limited; however, it is these similarities that are often cited by others when they attempt to justify the lack of inclusion of cyberbullying into antibullying legislation or policy (Wolak, Mitchell, & Finkelhor, 2007).

**Differences**

Traditional bullying and cyberbullying share several basic elements; however, it is the differences between them that make cyberbullying an increasingly dangerous phenomenon. The cyberbully, unlike the traditional bully, can remain unknown to the victim while committing the act of cyberbullying (Erb, 2006). The cyberbully could be acting on behalf of someone else or give a false name to the victim (Strom & Strom, 2004). Either way, the true identity of the cyberbully may never be known to the victim unless the cyberbully chooses to give that information. Unlike the traditional bully, the cyberbully can be physically weaker than their victim (Strom & Strom, 2005b). Another difference between the two is that messages intended to harm an individual can be spread to a large audience with great speed (Erb, 2006). And, traditional bullies are known for having difficulties in school with behavior and relationships with others while a cyberbully may excel at school and in relationships (Li, 2008). Since most cyberbullying takes place outside of school and the method used is not via school owned property, there is not a clear legal issue other than the effects of cyberbullying can disrupt the learning environment and decrease a students' performance in school (Erb, 2006). Most adults are oblivious to cyberbullying (Erb, 2006). It is the lack of awareness of cyberbullying that has created the need to both recognize and address cyberbullying.

**Issues Specific to Cyberbullying**

The traditional school yard bully was limited in many different ways. First of all, everyone knew who the bully was and where they would target the intended victim (Willard, 2007a). Secondly, the victim was relatively safe when they went home (Slonje

& Smith, 2008). The cyberbully does not have the same limitations. Cyberbullying can take place at any time an individual has access to technology, has identified a target, and has the desire to inflict harm (Willard, 2007a).

**Cyberbullying logistics**

The first issue that is specific to cyberbullying is the actual logistics of cyberbullying. The location and time of the event is no longer confined to the schoolyard, it can happen 24/7 without any opportunity to end the victimization (Willard, 2007a). The cell phone or computer can be turned off; however, once it is turned back on the victimization starts all over again (Kowalski et al., 2008). This is the one feature of cyberbullying that intensifies the impact of the harm inflicted, especially since it is not a onetime incident but one that is replayed over and over again (Huesmann, 2007).

**Anonymity and Pseudonymity**

Anonymity is not exclusive to cyberbullying (Heirman & Walrave, 2008). However, cyberbullies have the ability to stay, to some degree, completely anonymous to their audiences and victim(s) (Slonje & Smith, 2008). According to a study of Spanish adolescents, in approximately 20-30% of cyberbullying incidents, the victim is unaware of the aggressor's identity (Ortega, Elipe, Mora-Merchán, Calmaestra, & Vega, 2009). Their identities are left intact through the use of pseudonyms or screen names (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009). It is through this anonymity that the maliciousness of some individuals is aimed at unsuspecting victim. While the cyberbully is not completely anonymous and can be identified, the victims of cyberbullying are often reluctant to come forward with the information so the bully can be identified and stopped (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009). The

cyberbully uses the perceived anonymity of the Internet to commit the deed and the

reluctance of the victim to come forward further advances the ability of the cyberbully to

continue the havoc on their victims (Willard, 2004).

**Mediums Used to Cyberbully**

Cyberbullies have a different set of tools that can be used to target their victims.

All that is needed is an electronic device that has the capability of sending data

(McQuade III et al., 2009). If the cyberbully has access to the Internet, then they have

unlimited sources and methods that can be used to pursue the next victim of

cyberbullying. Cyberbullies that are intent to cause harm and that are armed with all three

tools can and will cause harm to their victims (McQuade III et al., 2009). Technology, or

the abuse of technology, makes bullying so much easier to do and to inflict harm

(Hinduja & Patchin, 2009).

Common mediums used by cyberbullies to torment their victims include a variety

of electronic communication. The mobile phone is a powerful computer that fits in the

palm of the hand with the capability of sending electronic text messages, taking and

sending photos, recording events, and connecting to social networking sites (Hinduja &

Patchin, 2009). A cyberbully does not need to be stationary to inflict harm on another; all

is needed is a few minutes and the intent to do harm either intentionally or

unintentionally (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009). Offenses such as fights and assaults are

recorded on mobile phones and sent around the world. These recording are referred to as

"happy-slapping" (Katzer, Fetchenhauer, & Belschak, 2009). The cyberbully can use e-

mail, online chat rooms, discussion boards, blogs, social networking site, instant

messaging, text messaging, online games, peer-to-peer networking, and online

matchmaking sites (Willard, 2007a). The number and variety of methods that can be used

for cyberbullying is growing day by day. Different types of cyberbullies use different

methods. However, the results, no matter the method used, can be devastating to the

victim and cause long-term harm (Willard, 2007a).

**Common Types of Cyberbullies**

Cyberbullying is a different type of bullying. Another difference between

traditional bullying and cyberbullying is found in the different types of cyberbullies.

There are four types of cyberbullies (Aftab, 2009, Ringrose, 2006):

- The vengeful angel. This cyberbully believes that they are protecting
  themselves or others. This type of cyberbully does not often believe that they
  are a cyberbully.

- The power-hungry or revenge of the nerds. This type of cyberbully is often the
  victim of a traditional bully. They use their technological skills to gain power
  over others and act tough online. The power-hungry cyberbully wants to show
  that they have the power to make others do what they want.

- The mean girl. This cyberbully is usually done as a group. They cyberbully as
  a form of entertainment with no regard to the feelings of the victim or the
  consequences of their actions. This type of cyberbully can start out as a friend
  of the victim or it could be someone that has never met the victim. The mean
  girl phenomenon is not new, yet it does represent the complexity of the
  different types of relationships between girls.

- The inadvertent cyberbully. These cyberbullies respond to others online
  without thinking. They respond in anger or frustration. Some of them do it
  because they can do it.

Each type of cyberbully has a different motive and form of cyberbullying. However, no matter what type of cyberbully is at work, the victim is tormented and must be stopped.

**Common Forms of Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullies use a variety of methods to attack their victims. The use of any of the types or methods of cyberbullying can lead students to feeling angry, hurt, embarrassed, or even scared (National Crime Prevention Council, 2006). According to the research conducted by Willard (2006), the director of the Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use, the most common forms of cyberbullying include:

- Flaming or arguments between two or more people.

- Harassment, to include offensive messages sent repeatedly to an individual.

- Denigration or cruel speech about a person that is designed to break up
  friendships or ruin the reputation of the victim.

- Impersonation, or the intentional act of pretending to be someone and posts
  material that causes harm to the victim in any way.

- Outing and tricking, which is "publicly posting, sending, or forwarding
  personal communications or images, especially communications or images
  that contain intimate personal information or are potentially embarrassing"
  (Willard, 2007a, p. 9) or when a target is "tricked into thinking that a
  communication or sending of images is private, when the cyberbully intends

to trick the target into communicating or disclosing something embarrassing that will then be disseminated to others or used as a threat" (p.9).

- Exclusion of a person from certain groups.

- Cyberstalking, or online stalking of an individual.

Regardless of the type of cyberbullying it is important to note that people that have been cyberbullied are likely to become a cyberbully (Beran & Li, 2007, Williams & Guerra, 2007).

## Prevalence of Cyberbullying

Bullying has evolved along with technology. "With the advancement of technology-based communications, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, chat rooms, conventional Web sites, and social networking Web sites, bullying is moving beyond the confines of the classrooms and cafeterias" (Brady & Conn, 2006, p. 8). Researchers around the world have been collecting data in an effort to shed light on the problem of cyberbullying and to illustrate the extent it takes place (Willard, 2007a). Specific cyberbullying data have not been collected at the local and state level (Personal communication, 2009). The lack of data is part of the problem in the area; it has contributed to a lack of understanding of the problem and of the repercussions of not addressing the problem of cyberbullying.

The first Youth Internet Safety Survey (YISS-1) was conducted by the Crimes Against Children Research Center in the Fall of 1999 and Spring of 2000 in order to determine the extent the youth of the U.S. were being victimized via the Internet (Wolak et al., 2006). This survey included participants between the ages of 10 and 17 years and

included participants from various ethnic backgrounds. This survey found that 6% of

young Americans were harassed while surfing the Internet (p. 1). In 2005, the second

Youth Internet Safety Survey (YISS-2) was conducted to "reassess the extent to which

youth Internet users were encountering problems" (Wolak et al., 2006, p. xi) as well as to

"explore new areas of interest, review emerging technologies and ascertain the effect

those technologies have on the issue" (p. xi). This survey also included participants

between the ages of 10 and 17 years with various ethnic backgrounds. The YISS-2 found

that 9% of the youth surveyed were being harassed while surfing the Internet. This

growth, over a 5 year period represented a 50% growth in Internet harassment by the

youth of America.

In a 2004 study, 42% of 1500 students reported being bullied while online and

53% admitted to saying something mean or hurtful to someone else online (iSAFE-

America, 2005). The home is no longer a safe haven for the children. Cyberbullying

allows the bully access to their victims both at home and at school with cyberbullying

disrupting the safe learning environment (Brady & Conn, 2006).

The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC, 2006) commissioned a study

with Harris Interactive Inc. to "explore the issue of cyberbullying among middle school

and high school-aged students in the United States" (p. 2). The survey found that 43% of

the 824 youths ages 13–17 years have experienced cyberbullying in one form or another.

Eleven percent of the teens reported the incident to their parents or authority figures

(National Crime Prevention Council, 2006, p. 5). The survey stated, "Data were weighted

to reflect a nationally representative online sample based on the following known

demographic parameters:  gender, age, race/ethnicity, parents' education, region, Internet use, and urbanicity of school" (National Crime Prevention Council, 2006,  p. 4). However, the survey did not provide a breakdown on the ethnicities of its participants.

Patchin and Hinduja (2006) conducted an Internet based survey of cyberbullying with a total of 571 participants with 384 younger than 18 years of age. The survey found that 11% of the under 18 participants committed cyberbullying, 29% were the targets of cyberbullying and 47% had observed cyberbullying while online (p.160). Patchin and Hinduja  concluded that approximately 30% of the participants had been victims of cyberbullying.

In 2007, 148 middle and high school students participated in a study that found that students view cyberbullying "as a problem, but one rarely discussed at school, and that students do not see the school district personnel as helpful resources when dealing with cyberbullying" (Agatston et al., 2007, p. 59). The study also found that while students were experiencing cyberbullying outside the school day, there was some impact at school (p. 59). The authors concluded that cyberbullying should be addressed through a combination of policies geared towards students and their parents.

The sparse data regarding cyberbullying that are available at the local level are anecdotal and not recorded in the system as cyberbullying. The data typically only become known when an administrator is investigating an issue at school and determines that the source of the problem originated online. While the cyberbullying was viewed as a problem, the problem documented could be a traditional bullying problem, a campus disruption, a fight, or even an assault. The true nature of the problem is not recorded, and

the lack of awareness in the schools and in the communities is perpetuated (Bolton & Graeve, 2005).

While data are lacking, communication between children is not. Communication between children used to be confined to word of mouth or with the writing and passing of notes (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009). The advancements in technology-based communications have changed the mode of communication from word of mouth to keystrokes that can reach around the world and beyond the classrooms and cafeterias (Brady & Conn, 2006). Children that are targets of cyberbullies have no safe haven from the torment and the effects of this can be tragic (High et al., 2007).

The surveys demonstrated that cyberbullying is taking place in the U.S. The next step was to document how the problem was being viewed by the children involved. In 2007, 148 middle and high school students participated in a study that found that students view cyberbullying as a problem and school officials were not considered helpful when dealing with cyberbullying (Agatston et al., 2007, p. 59). Agatston's study stated that while students were experiencing cyberbullying outside the school day, there was some negative impact at school (p. 59). The authors concluded that cyberbullying should be addressed through a combination of policies geared towards students and their parents.

This and other such calls for comprehensive policies including cyberbullying are not found in the majority of the schools in the U.S. The policies regarding bullying have been limited to traditional bullying. Historically, traditional bullying has been viewed as a sort of child's play with adults responding to it using the phrase "kids will be kids" (Arnette & Walsleben, 1998, p. 3). The web site for U.S. Department of Education (2007)

contained the assertion that all stakeholders, included staff, parents, students and the community must work together to reduce and prevent bullying of any type.

Research has indicated schools, parents, and community must come together to help control the issue of bullying within schools. Bullying is a serious matter that that until it is addressed by the schools will but the safe school environment at risk and reduce student learning (Mayer, Ybarra, & Fogliatti, 2001). Bullying in any form will only continue if the stakeholders do not come together and answer the question of what they can do to make it stop.

**Understanding the Differing Perspectives towards Technology and the Internet**

In the schools and around the world there are people with different perspectives towards technology and the Internet. It is these differing perspectives that can explain why certain people react the way they do to technology based problems. Based on age and experience, people are identified as one of the following: digital natives, digital settlers, or the digital immigrants (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). These perspectives were formed based on a person's age and experience with technology and the Internet and must be understood before meaningful conversations can be held regarding technology and the Internet (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

The digital natives are the young ones that have lived with advanced technology and the Internet from birth. They were born after 1990 and everything they do is somehow linked to technology (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). The Internet is not an add-on to their lives; it is an integral part of their lives (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

The digital settlers are the people that embraced advanced technology from the very beginning. Another phrase to describe this group is the Atari generation (Bennahum, 1998). They grew up in an analog world and then started using technology as soon as it was available (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). They started with the Atari and the Commodore computer and moved to bigger and better computers as they became available. They have difficulty remembering what life was without the technology and, for many, have become sophisticated and savvy with their ability to maneuver in and around technology (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

The digital immigrants are the people that use technology just to get by or to meet a requirement from work. They took their time to learn e-mail and to use social networking sites (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008). Many of them long for the good old days of hand written letters but realize that society has become digitalized and they will have to learn how to function in order to survive (Palfrey & Gasser, 2008).

To complicate things for the digital setters and natives, many of the digital immigrants believe that if technology is causing a problem then the solution is to turn it off (McQuade III et al., 2009). They do not understand that technology has been fully integrated into the lives of others. They went through most of their lives without advanced technology and many are happy to stay that way. They also do not understand that turning technology off for some people is not an option and can cause additional problems for everyone involved.

**The Impact of Cyberbullying**

Over three-fourths of adolescents own their own cell phone or have access to a computer with Internet access (David-Ferndon & Hertz, 2007). The increase in availability to technology and the natural desire to communicate with others has provided the means for the cyberbully to find and torture their next victim (Li, 2005). The increases in technology use and electronic aggression have contributed to the negative impact felt when a child is a victim of cyberbullying (David-Ferndon & Hertz, 2007). The victims of cyberbullying often suffer emotionally when excluded socially from peers and may suffer from depression, anxiety, embarrassment, unhappiness, increased aggression, fear, public humiliation, low self-esteem, problems concentrating, school failure, and school avoidance (Feinberg & Robey, 2008; Spears, Slee, Owens, & Johnson, 2009) with victims of cyberbullying 2.5 times more likely to show symptoms of depression (Mitchell, Ybarra, & Finkelhor, 2007). If the situation is not rectified, the victim will start to exhibit behavioral changes leading to additional emotional distress and delinquency (Hinduja & Patchin, 2007) or physical ailments (Nishina, Juvonen, & Witkow, 2005). If a victim is unable to cope with the stress of the cyberbullying along with the regular stress adolescents feel in regular everyday life, then the victim may believe that they must go to extremes to stop the torment. The victims may resort to cyberbullicide or may change roles and become the bully out for revenge (Hinduja & Patchin, 2009). Failure to act against cyberbullying will lead to increased amounts of victims and an increase of violence in and around the schools (High et al., 2007).

**Cyberbullying and the Strain Theory**

Cyberbullying behavior must be viewed as a source of stress or strain in order to understand the potential negative effects of cyberbullying (Hinduja & Patchin, 2007). The general strain theory is one approach that recognizes how stressors can negatively impact a person (Agnew, 1992). Cyberbullying victimization can be viewed as a strain inducing situation which may cause an adolescent to exhibit delinquency against other people or intentionally harming oneself (Hay, Meldrum, & Mann, 2010). A frustrated adolescent of continuous victimization could possible attempt to resolve the strain through act of cyberbullicide or, more commonly, through a role reversal to seek revenge on the aggressor (Hinduja & Patchin, 2007).

**Specific Cyberbullying Cases**

While technology has not introduced new psychological threats to children, the nature of technology has made it harder to protect them (Huesmann, 2007). This is especially true in the cases of Billy Wolfe, Jeffrey Johnston, and Megan Meier. The media throughout the world has publicized the details of their cases and have shown the world and the educational community that cyberbullying must be addressed and the children must be protected (McQuade III, et al., 2009).

**Billy Wolfe**

Billy Wolfe attended high school in Fayetteville, Arkansas. In the spring of 2008 he was a sophomore. Billy, beginning at the age of 12, was the victim of bullying. The bullying escalated after a cell phone video was posted online showing Billy being beaten. During his freshman year a web page was created called *Every One That Hates Billy*

*Wolfe*. It contained a picture of Billy's face placed on the likeness of Peter Pan. Messages containing profanity were posted indicating that Billy was a homosexual. In junior high school Billy was hit so hard by another boy that he briefly lost consciousness. Billy's family has filed lawsuits against the school district which allege that they did not do enough to protect Billy from the bullies in the school (McQuade III, et al., 2009, Willard, 2007b)).

**Jeffrey Johnston**

Jeffrey loved life and the friendships that were developed over the years. Not too long before his death, Jeffrey experienced the age old experience of falling for the beautiful girl and then dumped for no known reason. However, what bothered Jeffrey was the fact that the girl did not break up with him; she just stopped talking to him. And then, others started to shun him as well. The lifelong friends were nonexistent and Jeffrey was devastated. Soon after the isolation was imposed on him, Jeffrey started receiving phone calls. Many were hang ups and others were from a boy known as *The Evil One*. This bully documented every act committed against Jeffrey and posted them on a web site. Although many of the students at school read this web site, it was not reported to authorities until a full 2 years after Jeffrey committed suicide on June 29, 2005 (Johnston, 2007).

**Megan Meier**

Megan Meier lived in Dardenne Prairie, Missouri, until the 13 year old girl committed suicide. Megan committed suicide after an experience she had on the social networking site MySpace. Megan believed that the person on the other end was a boy and

he became her friend. However, after about a month, Megan was told that he hated her. She also endured other online insults from girls from school. Megan, who was suffering from depression, hung herself in her bedroom with a belt. A few weeks into the investigation of her death, the media revealed that the boy that befriended Megan and then turned on her was actually an adult that lived down the road. Megan's case is the foundation of the Megan Meier Cyberbullying Prevention Act, which is the first proposed national cyberbullying crime legislation within the United States (McQuade III et al., 2009).

**Summary**

Cyberbullying is considered relatively new to society. Everyday use of the Internet began in the 1990s and has been increasing as new and innovative technologies are introduced to society. With this in mind, society must come to realize that steps must be taken to learn about cyberbullying and then to take action against it in order to protect our future leaders: our children. The possible harm to the children includes emotional and behavioral issues and, in the recent past, has led to cyberbullicide and other violent events. Technology is increasing, violence in the schools is increasing, and, in order to address these issues, the involvement of every stakeholder must also increase. The stakeholders must come together to address cyberbullying and to protect the children. This study has increased the awareness of the stakeholders and helped them understand why we must work together to stop cyberbullying and to protect the children.

In the next section I will explore and detail the reasoning for selecting a mixed methods design for this study. I will also detail the types of data collected along with the

methods of data analysis for the quantitative and qualitative data collected within the

study. Determining the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child

will be data-driven. Sections four and five will provide the data analysis, interpretation of

the data, recommendations for future research, and recommended actions based on the

data collected during the study.

Section 3: Methodology

**Introduction**

The purpose of this mixed method, sequential, transformative study was to investigate the phenomenon of cyberbullying in the middle school setting, educate the stakeholder community regarding the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child, and to inform school policy. Two surveys were administered with the first survey collecting quantitative data and the second collecting qualitative data. The quantitative data were analyzed to determine the nature of cyberbullying in the middle school setting, and the qualitative data was used to illustrate the impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. This study was mixed in all aspects including approaches to data collection and approaches to data analysis. At the conclusion of this study, the data may be used by the local school district to help develop and implement school policy.

This study focused on answering the following research questions:

1.    How prevalent is cyberbullying within a middle school setting?

2.    For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school setting, what has been the nature and impact of the experience?

**Research Design and Approach**

A mixed methods sequential transformative study design was chosen for this study due to the complexity of the cyberbullying problem and the need to raise awareness of the problem (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 1998). A cyberbullying study could be conducted using one method or the other; however, a mixed methods approach provided a more thorough analysis of the problem and provided both the statistics showing the nature and

the detailed, descriptive writing regarding how cyberbullying impacts the middle school child. Collecting and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data within this study provided a complete picture for the stakeholder community of the phenomenon of cyberbullying and illustrated the need for action in the area of development and implementation of an effective school policy against cyberbullying.

## Setting and Sample

The population being studied included students enrolled in middle school, grades six through eight, within the local school district. These students were selected based on Hummell's (2007), who showed that cyberbullying is found at the highest rate in the middle schools (Hummell, 2007). All students enrolled were invited to participate in the first part of the study. Of the 530 students enrolled, 98% of the total student body completed the first part of the study based on their roles as a bully, a victim, or as a bystander, which represented the three major roles within the bullying event. The second part of the study was the second survey. Based on the data analysis of the quantitative data, the second survey was administered to the students in the eighth grade since they showed the highest level of incidents involved cyberbullying.

I have been employed within the school district for 20 years and have been an administrator at the site of the research for the past four years. The relationships built between me and the families with children attending the school have served to increase interest in participation in the study. These relationships were crucial for maintaining the trust of the students and enabled them to answer the survey and interview questions with

honesty. While this is true, the voluntary nature of this study was emphasized throughout the study.

## Context and Strategies

Data were collected via web-based surveys. Specifically, two different surveys were used during this study. The first survey was quantitative in nature and was developed by the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University (2009). I modified it, with permission, based on the information received from participants involved in the pilot study conducted in June 2009 involving 129 students. This modification included using, with permission, questions provided by Willard (2007).The purpose of the instrument was to collect data regarding cyberbullying within Texas school districts.

While the instrument had been used previously, it had not been used for documented research. Information will be shared with the Texas School Safety Center regarding construct validity after the full study has been completed. The data collected from this survey have provided information showing the nature of cyberbullying within a particular middle school setting.

The second survey was qualitative in nature. I created this survey based upon information gained from Willard and Olweus's (DATE) research. The questions are open ended and designed to determine the impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. This survey, prior to it being used within this study, was used in a pilot study involving 47 participants. The combination of qualitative and quantitative data was necessary to

fully illustrate the nature and impact cyberbullying has had on the middle school child. The two types of data were integrated during the interpretation phase of the study.

The surveys were administered via the SurveyGizmo Web site (2009), which is widely known for its ability to collect large amounts of data within a small window of time. The use of this Web site will ensure a quick turnaround for data collection. The surveys (see Appendices A & B) included questions regarding the participants' personal demographics and their personal knowledge of cyberbullying and sections asking the participants to write about personal experiences with cyberbullying and how the experiences had an effect on them. Raw data from the completed surveys is available in the appendices (See Appendices A & B).

## Data Analysis and Validation

The purpose of this study was to investigate the phenomenon of cyberbullying in the middle school setting, educate the stakeholder community regarding the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child, and to inform school policy. In order to accomplish this purpose, a quantitative survey was administered via the SurveyGizmo website. Next, the data were imported into the statistical program SPSS and analyzed to determine, based on descriptive statistics, the full extent cyberbullying was present at the middle school level. In addition, the descriptive statistics determined the students in the eighth grade level would progress within the study and participate in the second survey. The second survey was a qualitative interview that was used to inform the first research questions and illustrate the impact cyberbullying has had on the middle school child. This data were analyzed inductively using open and axial coding so as to best understand the

experience of cyberbullying from these students without prior assumptions. The coding

process was guided by the recommendations of Corbin and Strauss (2007) and was

analyzed using the computer software program NVivo9 by QSR International.

During the open coding phase, data were reviewed line by line and emerging

codes was documented, revised and collapsed. Codes were reorganized to determine

subcategories and relationships. From these related codes, key themes were determined

and used to inform findings for the second research question. The combination of the two

types of data will be used to educate the stakeholder community and to inform school

policy. While this study was sequential in nature (quantitative first, then qualitative), data

was considered holistically following analysis in relation to the research questions in

order provide a firm picture of cyberbullying among students in this context.

### Measures for Ethical Protection of Participants

The web-based survey was designed to be completed by the children without the

researcher being present. In an effort to preserve the relationship between the researcher

and the children, the survey was completed through the language arts classes. On the day

scheduled to administer the questionnaire, the teachers escorted each class to the

computer lab during a predetermined time within the normal school day. Classes were

taken to the various computer labs on campus by their teachers during their regularly

scheduled class time during the school week. Participants were given detailed instructions

on accessing the web site, which directed them to the questionnaire. I secured school

permission to conduct the study and they served as a partner and stakeholder and assisted

in the coordination of the data collection activities described above.

**Conclusion**

This mixed methods study was carefully designed to illustrate the nature of cyberbullying taking place in the middle school setting and the impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. Current researchers suggested that further investigation into cyberbullying is warranted (Brady & Conn, 2006; Chibbaro, 2007; Hinduja & Patchin, 2007). The goal of this study was to provide the needed descriptions and documentation to not only the school district but to the communities within and around the school district in order to quicken the pace of the establishment of anticyberbullying legislation and programs that are needed to protect our children and allow them to focus on the true mission of schools: to learn. Section 4 will focus on the results of the data analysis

In the next section, survey data will be analyzed and presented to determine the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child.

Section 4: Results

**Introduction**

In this mixed methods study I utilized a sequential transformative mixed

methods study design to collect data concerning the nature and impact of cyberbullying

on the middle school child in a Texas middle school. The middle school participating in

this study will use the study data collected from its students to drive the decision-making

progress. This study was aligned with the goals and mission of the middle school and the

school administration allowed data collection and the use of the data collected to

complete this study. Two separate web-based surveys were administered to address the

following research questions:

1.     How prevalent is cyberbullying within a middle school setting?

2.     For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school setting, what has

been the nature and impact of the experience?

The first survey was quantitative in nature and focused on answering the first question

and the second survey was designed to answer the second research question. Both the

quantitative and qualitative findings of this study will be presented in this section.

A sequential transformative strategy was used to allow the data collection and for

analysis to be performed within a theoretical perspective, which would in turn provide a

voice to the participants and allow others to see and hear the nature and impact of

cyberbullying on the middle school child. Quantitative data retrieved from the first phase

of the study were analyzed using SPSS software. After the second survey was

administered, the qualitative data were coded and analyzed for common themes using the

NVIVO9 software. All electronic data were saved to a password protected flash drive and printed documents were secured in a locked filing cabinet. In this section I will detail the data collection process, describe how the data were analyzed, and present a summary of the findings.

<div align="center">**Findings**</div>

**Quantitative Results**

In September 2010, 517 students representing 97% of the total campus population completed a campus wide cyberbullying survey via SurveyGizmo containing 33 closed ended questions. Each class, prior to data collection, received a detailed description of the study and the students were assured that the study was completely anonymous and voluntary. The students entered the computer labs and proceeded to the designated web address to complete the survey. The questions were divided into sections: demographics, Internet access capabilities, social networking sites, prevalence of cyberbullying (sending and/or receiving), knowledge of cyberbullying, and what would you do scenarios (see Appendix A). The surveys took approximately 20 minutes to complete and then each class of students exited the computer lab and returned to their designated classrooms.

A summary of the student characteristics are presented in Table 1. The students ranged in age 11 to 15 years with most students between age 11 and 13 years. The largest grade in the study was grade 6 (38.2%) followed by grade 7 (35.9%) and grade 8 (26.0%). Finally, there were slightly more boys (52.1%) than girls (47.9%).

Table 1

*Student Demographics*

| Characteristic | *n* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Grade (sixth through eighth) | | |
| Sixth | 197 | 38.2 |
| Seventh | 185 | 35.9 |
| Eighth | 134 | 26.0 |
| Total | 516 | 100.0 |
| Age (years) | | |
| 11 | 157 | 30.4 |
| 12 | 178 | 34.4 |
| 13 | 139 | 26.9 |
| 14 | 39 | 7.5 |
| 15 | 4 | .8 |
| Total | 517 | 100.0 |
| Gender | | |
| Male | 269 | 52.1 |
| Female | 247 | 47.9 |
| Total | 516 | 100.0 |

This survey was designed to determine the prevalence of cyberbullying in the middle school setting and to address the research question: How prevalent is cyberbullying within a middle school setting? The results for this research question for all grades are presented in Table 2. The analysis revealed that the most common form of cyberbullying for the students was having received mean or nasty messages from someone; 37.8% of students indicated they had this experience. The next most common experience was having been in an online fight with someone; 32.4% of students had this experienced. Only 6.5% of students had ever pretended to be someone else to send or

post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships. These data have

shown that cyberbullying is a phenomenon that is affecting the students at the middle

school level. The next area to analyze is to what extent is it affecting these students.

Table 2

*Prevalence of Cyberbullying for all Grades*

| In the past year, have you: | *n* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Been in an online fight with someone? | | |
|     Yes | 168 | 32.4 |
|     No | 351 | 67.6 |
|     Total | 519 | 100.0 |
| Sent mean or nasty messages to someone on the phone or computer? | | |
|     Yes | 138 | 26.6 |
|     No | 380 | 73.4 |
|     Total | 518 | 100.0 |
| Put down someone else while online by sending or posting mean gossip, rumors, or other things? | | |
|     Yes | 76 | 14.6 |
|     No | 444 | 85.4 |
|     Total | 520 | 100.0 |
| Ever pretended to be someone else to send or post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships? | | |
|     Yes | 34 | 6.5 |
|     No | 486 | 93.5 |
|     Total | 520 | 100.0 |
| Shared someone's personal secrets or images online without their permission? | | |
|     Yes | 45 | 8.7 |
|     No | 475 | 91.3 |
|     Total | 520 | 100.0 |
| Helped exclude or keep someone out of your online group? | | |
|     Yes | 112 | 21.5 |
|     No | 408 | 78.5 |
|     Total | 520 | 100.0 |
| RECEIVED mean or nasty messages from someone? | | |
|     Yes | 196 | 37.8 |
|     No | 322 | 62.2 |
|     Total | 518 | 100.0 |
| Have you been put down by someone online who has sent or posted mean gossip, rumors, or other things about you? | | |
|     Yes | 124 | 23.9 |
|     No | 394 | 76.1 |
|     Total | 518 | 100.0 |
| Has someone pretended to be you and sent or posted materials online that damaged your reputation or your friendships with others? | | |
|     Yes | 80 | 15.4 |
|     No | 438 | 84.6 |
|     Total | 518 | 100.0 |
| Has someone shared your personal secrets or images online without your permission? | | |
|     Yes | 93 | 17.9 |
|     No | 426 | 82.1 |
|     Total | 519 | 100.0 |
| Have you been excluded or kept out of an online group by people who are being mean to you? | | |
|     Yes | 79 | 15.3 |
|     No | 439 | 84.7 |
|     Total | 518 | 100.0 |

Next, the data were analyzed to determine which grade level experienced the highest level of exposure to cyberbullying (see Table 3). Based on descriptive statistics, it was determined that exposure to cyberbullying was most prevalent among seventh and eighth grade students.

In comparison to seventh and sixth graders, a greater percentage of eighth graders had been in an online fight (36.9%); sent mean or nasty messages to someone (38.7%); and put down someone else while online (42.1%). As seen in Table 3, in comparison to sixth and eighth graders, a greater percentage of seventh graders had pretended to be someone else to send or post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships (44.1%), shared someone's personal secrets or images online without their permission (40%); and helped to exclude or keep someone out of an online group (35.5%). Furthermore, a greater percentage of seventh graders had received mean or nasty messages from someone (34.9%); had experienced someone pretending to be them and posting damaging materials online (36.3%); and had experienced someone sharing their personal secrets or images online without permission (35.5%).

Chi square analysis was used to determine if the distribution varied significantly across grade. There were several significant chi squares (see Table 3). The results of the chi square test were significant for "Have you been in an online fight with someone?"($X^2$ (2) = 16.81, $p$ =.00), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected.

The chi square test was significant for "Have you sent mean or nasty messages to someone on the phone or computer?"($X^2$ (2) = 19.16, $p$ =.00), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected.

The results of the chi square test were significant for "Have you put down someone else while online by sending or posting mean gossip, rumors, or other things?"($X^2$ (2) = 12.67, $p$ =.00), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected. Similarly, the chi square test was significant for "Have you ever pretended to be someone else to send or post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships?"($X^2$ (2) = 6.82, $p$ =.03), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected.

The results of the chi square test were significant for "Have you received mean or nasty messages from someone??"($X^2$ (2) = 10.32, $p$ =.00), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected. There was also a significant chi square for "Have you been put down by someone online who has sent or posted mean gossip, rumors, or other things about you?"($X^2$ (2) = 6.08, $p$ =.04), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected. Finally, the chi square test was significant for "Have you been excluded or kept out of an online group by people who are being mean to you?"($X^2$ (2) = 6.47, $p$ =.03), indicating that the obtained frequencies by grade level differed from what was expected. No other chi squares were significant.

Table 3

*Chi Square for Prevalence of Cyberbullying by Grade for Students Who Answered Yes*

| In the past year… | Grade % (*n*) | | | Total | $X^2$ | *p* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6th | 7th | 8th | | | |
| Have you been in an online fight with someone? | 29.2 (49) | 33.9 (57) | 36.9 (62) | 100 (168) | 16.81 | .00 |
| Have you sent mean or nasty messages to someone on the phone or computer? | 25.5 (35) | 35.8 (49) | 38.7 (53) | 100 (137) | 19.16 | .00 |
| Have you put down someone else while online by sending or posting mean gossip, rumors, or other things? | 26.3 (20) | 31.6 (24) | 42.1 (32) | 100 (76) | 12.67 | .00 |
| Have you ever pretended to be someone else to send or post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships? | 17.6 (6) | 44.1 (15) | 38.2 (13) | 100 (34) | 6.82 | .03 |
| Have you shared someone's personal secrets or images online without their permission? | 24.4 (11) | 40.0 (18) | 35.6 (16) | 100 (45) | 4.41 | .11 |
| Have you helped to exclude or keep someone out of your online group? | 30.9 (34) | 35.5 (39) | 33.6 (37) | 100 (110) | 5.10 | .07 |
| Have you ever received online messages that made you very afraid for your safety? | 37.8 (37) | 32.9 (27) | 29.3 (24) | 100 (82) | .64 | .72 |
| Have you received mean or nasty messages from someone? | 31.8 (62) | 34.9 (68) | 33.3 (65) | 100 (195) | 10.32 | .00 |
| Have you been put down by someone online who has sent or posted mean gossip, rumors, or other things about you? | 35.8 (44) | 30.1 (37) | 34.1 (42) | 100 (123) | 6.08 | .04 |
| Have you been excluded or kept out of an online group by people who are being mean to you? | 38.5 (30) | 25.6 (20) | 35.9 (28) | 100 (78) | 6.47 | .03 |

At the conclusion of the quantitative data collection and analysis, each class was revisited and the data were shared. The descriptive statistics showed that two grade levels, seventh and eighth grade, have the larger levels of exposure to cyberbullying.

However, the data also showed that the eighth grade class had a larger proportion of their students that were either victims of cyberbullying or were the bully themselves. Based on this information, the eighth grade classes received a second briefing regarding the next phase of the study, which to their delight, included open ended questions and the opportunity to voice their opinions and experiences without fear of repercussions.

## Qualitative Results

The entire eighth grade class was invited to participate in the second web-based survey which included seven open-ended questions. Seventy-nine out of 145 eighth grade students completed the survey or portions of the survey. The students completed the web-based survey in approximately 20 minutes without an adult watching or monitoring what they were typing. This ensured that the students had the opportunity to say whatever they wanted without fear of consequences.

The qualitative survey was designed to answer the second research question:  For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school setting, what has been the nature and impact of the experience? Based on this research question, the survey included two questions about specific cyberbullying experiences, one question about how the cyberbullying event made them feel, two questions about the effects of cyberbullying on their lives and two questions about what they feel should be done and said to stop cyberbullying. The data collected from these questions were then coded and it was determined that several themes were prominent (see Appendix C).

In two of the questions, the participants were asked about specific cyberbullying events in which they were the victim or about someone they knew was a victim of

cyberbullying. Within these questions several themes emerged in regards to the location

and type of cyberbullying experiences. The location of the cyberbullying incident for

both the participant and someone else they knew is overwhelming through social

networking sites. Furthermore, cyberbullying via the cell phones and the type of

cyberbullying received by the participant and someone else they knew was primarily

flaming. Participant statements were used to illustrate the themes found regarding

location of cyberbullying events and the type of cyberbullying employed (see Appendix

C).

**Thematic Analysis of Individuals' Personal Cyberbullying Experiences**

Survey question one asked participants to describe a situation in which they were

the ones being cyberbullied. This question was asked in an effort to find out the nature of

the cyberbullying experience as felt by the individual participants. There were two

primary themes throughout the question: location and type. Participants, while describing

their experience with cyberbullying, described the actual situation along with where it

took place (see Appendix C). While the participants noted several different locations that

cyberbullying took place and various types of cyberbullying encountered, one location

and one type of cyberbullying were more prevalent. The most common location for

cyberbullying, as found in question one, was within the online social networking sites

and the most common type of cyberbullying was "flaming" or short, heated arguments

(see Table 4). For example, the following statement from one of the participants, student

19, showed that she experienced cyberbullying within an online social networking site

and that she experienced flaming:

Once when I was on MySpace I was minding my own business and this chick

messaged me and said that she wanted to fight me and I was wondering why

because we used to be the best of friends and she said because I was fake and that

I always made her feel like crap. I said that I wasn't going to fight her and she

kept messaging me saying that no matter what we were going to fight. I never

wanted to fight her. She wouldn't leave me alone and kept calling me bad names

and saying that I'm stupid and face and a wannabe and I know I never did none of

that so I didn't get mad but then she told my girlfriend of two month that that I

didn't want to fight but she better leave me alone and she kept talking mess and

getting me mad so when the time came we fought and we were not friends for a

while til the third week of school and I said that all the drama wasn't necessary

and that I wanted to be friends again and she agreed and we are friends again but

her friend won't leave me along on MySpace!

Another participant, student 7, in her statement shows that she experienced cyberbullying

in the same manner. She stated:

During seventh grade a girl and I had some issues leading to us arguing/fighting a

bit. I told her I would never forgive her for some of the things she had said to me

and to this day I still don't. Well over the summer she messaged me over

Facebook saying she was sorry. In honesty I told her I wasn't sorry and that I don't

forgive her at all. I told her how I almost hit her in gym last year while in a big

argument between her and I and how my friends held me back. She then answered

cussing me out and told me that I wouldn't be able to touch a hair on her she

would beat me down. In other words saying she would win. Her and I went on

fighting like this and I soon found out it wasn't only her, but her and her cousin.

This went on for about a month, her and arguing back and forth and finally I got

fed up and told her I was done fighting, I'm not forgiving her and I'm not going to

be her friend and I was sorry for even fighting back with her.

Table 4

*Survey Question 1: Location and Type of Cyberbullying*

| Characteristic | *N* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Location | | |
| Cell phone | 14 | 33.3 |
| Chatroom or Forum | 1 | 2.4 |
| Online Gaming | 4 | 9.5 |
| Online Social Networking Sites | 23 | 54.8 |
| Total | 42 | 100.0 |
| Type | | |
| Cyberthreats | 5 | 11.1 |
| Denigration | 6 | 13.3 |
| Flaming | 29 | 64.4 |
| Harassment | 2 | 4.4 |
| Outing and Trickery | 3 | 6.7 |
| Total | 45 | 100.0 |
| Gender | | |
| male | 269 | 52.1 |
| female | 247 | 47.9 |
| Total | 516 | 100.0 |

Survey question two asked the participant to describe how they felt when they

were being cyberbullied. The question is tied directly to determining the impact of

cyberbullying on the middle school child. The emotions ranged from being angry and

frustrated to having no feelings about it (See Table 5). The most common feeling described by the participants was the feeling of being angry or frustrated with the feeling of depression coming in second among the six feelings expressed throughout the study (See Appendix C).

Student 10 described how they felt with this statement:

> Well when it first started I was frustrated because I hadn't done anything but people said I was and it made me lose 1.My pride, 2. My friends, 3. Part of my mom, and 4. My trust in others which made me not want to go have fun like to the movies, park, a walk, parties, school. It got so bad I just wanted to not talk to anyone, not even my dad, mom or lil brother. Everyone was calling me a hoe and a slut for something I didn't do but of course they don't believe that.

Another participant, student 13, stated:

> It made me feel like I couldn't do anything about it kind of like I had no power I knew that no matter what I did these people were still going to talk about me. it didn't want make me cry as much as it made me really angry cuz it's not something that happens every day but it's happened to me a couple of times and sometimes I really hate it cuz it is soooooo annoying I felt like if you had something to say about me what do you have to do it online for and what's the point of you trying to start something with me it started a lot of drama for me and my friends cuz its like I could lose my best friend cuz she thinks that betraying her secrets like that when I'm not.

Table 5

*Survey Question2: Emotions felt by victims of cyberbullying*

| Characteristic | *N* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Feeling felt by participants | | |
| Angry/Frustrated | 19 | 40.4 |
| Depressed/Suicidal/Helpless/Isolated | 10 | 21.3 |
| Felt Sorry for Them | 1 | 2.1 |
| No Feelings | 5 | 10.6 |
| Sad/Bad | 9 | 19.1 |
| Scared | 3 | 6.4 |
| Total | 516 | 100.0 |

Survey question three asked the participants to describe how the cyberbullying event had an effect on their lives. The data from this question helped to provide answers on the impact of cyberbullying on their lives. The impact on their lives ranged from having no effect to safety concerns to having dramatic interpersonal problems (See Table 6). One participant, student 10, stated:

Well when this had all happened my grades all dropped in school because 1. I never showed up ... 2. The drama pulled my mind away from concentration and 3. I felt very unsafe ... my friend lost their trust in me and I lost my trust in everyone, my mom began not to let me go anywhere , do anything , or even believe a word I said ... the only person i felt was on my side was my dad ... to bad he's never around.

Student 15 stated:

> It Broke My Friendship With Some Of My Friends. And That Hurt Me The Most.
> My Family Was Constantly Worried About Me. I Wouldn't Eat, I Couldn't Sleep.
> I Was So Sore. I Wanted To Hurt Myself More Just To Get The Pain Out. My
> Grades Fell Bad. A's To D's. Sometimes I Would Hide It The Bathroom Just To
> Ignore It. But, I Couldn't. I Needed School.

And another participant, student 32, stated:

> I had trouble in school, making new friends, it also made it hard in my
> relationship with my family because I wouldn't talk to anybody and they thought i
> was going into a depression and that I would end up hurting myself.

Table 6

*Survey Question 3: The Effects of Cyberbullying on the Participants*

| Characteristic | *N* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Interpersonal problems | 22 | 42.3 |
| No Effect | 6 | 11.5 |
| Perspective change | 1 | 1.9 |
| Safety Concerns | 13 | 25.0 |
| School Problems | 10 | 19.2 |
| Total | 52 | 100.0 |

Survey question four asked the participants to describe a cyberbullying event that involved someone they knew. Based on experience while working with children this age, it was determined that some of the participants would feel more comfortable if they could describe a cyberbullying event if given the opportunity to say that it happened to

someone else. The data retrieved from this question provided additional incite to the different cyberbullying events that the participants either experienced for themselves or did not want to admit to or it describes an event that involved someone they knew in one form or another. As in question 1, location and type of cyberbullying were focused on with each area having several subgroups (See Table 7). Several participants had information that was coded in multiple areas due to the nature of the data. Student 35 stated:

My friend, her name was XXXXXX, She was 15. She and this dude were dating. When they broke up the dude started spreading bad pics of her online and threw FWDS on Cells. Girls and boys got her email and started hacking all her stuff and leaving bad comments and sending bad msgs to ppl pretending to be her. She lost all of her friends, except me I will always be her friend, I was her best friend. But then it started getting worse, Girls left notes on her bedroom window calling her bad things and saying things that she did that she knows she would never have done. She got nasty phone calls and txt msgs. Even online on her MySpace account everyone was sending her bad msges and calling her bad names. At school I could see how bad she was hurting no matter how well she was hiding her pain from everyone else. The pain in her eyes was terrible. Then one day these three or four girls sent her 17 msgs calling her things like "whore" or "slut" and many other bad things like that. That night she told her mom, she showed her mom all the msges she was getting and her mom started yelling at her and saying how disappointed she was in her daughter for the replies she sent back to the girls.

She was saying nothing to comfort her own daughter. XXXXXX ran back up to her room and hung herself in her closet. Her mom went to go check on her, when she got to the room she screamed. Her dad ran up the stairs and cut the belt off her neck and begged her not to die on him. She went to the hospital and died that night. All this just because of one boy, the drama he started caused her enough pain to take her life away. She will never get it back, it was a mistake she made and it wasn't the right choice. I miss her a lot but in my heart she is still on earth and I'm still her best friend even if she's not here in the flesh, I still talk to her, and she talks back.

Table 7

*Survey Question 4: Location and Type of Cyberbullying*

| Characteristic | *N* | *%* |
|---|---|---|
| Location | | |
| Cell phone | 7 | 18.4 |
| Chatroom or Forum | 1 | 2.6 |
| E-Mail | 1 | 2.6 |
| Online Gaming | 3 | 7.9 |
| Online Social Networking Sites | 26 | 68.4 |
| Total | 38 | 100.0 |
| Type | | |
| Denigration | 12 | 28.6 |
| Flaming | 20 | 47.6 |
| Harassment | 7 | 16.7 |
| Impersonation | 1 | 2.3 |
| Outing and Trickery | 2 | 4.8 |
| Total | 42 | 100.0 |

Survey question five asked the participants to describe how the cyberbullying event described in question four had an effect on their friend. The effects described by the participants ranged from no effects on their friends to mental health effects to emotional effects (see Table 8). The details provided within this data demonstrate that while an incident may be directed at someone else the effects of it are not lost on others and they are not the only ones affected.

One participant, student 4, stated:

> Well she was depressed forever and she dropped out of school because she couldn't stand being alone at school and she also got sent to anger management because she would always throw stuff and break unnecessary stuff.

Another participant, student 6, stated:

> They were always angry and wanted to fight the people that wouldn't leave her along or that kept asking if she sent the messages. She was depressed whenever she went home and it really bothered her family.

Table 8

*Survey Question 5: The Effects of Cyberbullying on the Friends*

| Characteristic | N | % |
|---|---|---|
| Academic Effects | 8 | 11.0 |
| Emotional Effects | 32 | 43.8 |
| Lost Friends | 9 | 12.3 |
| Mental Health Effects | 17 | 23.3 |
| No Effect | 7 | 9.5 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Total | 73 | 100.0 |

Survey question six asked the participants what steps should be taken by the school to help reduce cyberbullying. The data from this question, while not directly illustrating the type of cyberbullying being felt or any specifics about a cyberbullying event, do illustrate how the people that are dealing with cyberbullying everyday believe that the adults in their world should react to this phenomenon (see Table 9). Almost half of the participants that answered this question believe communication between them and the adults in their lives should improve (49%).

One participant, student 15, stated:

Adults listen. Cyberbullying is a big problem nowadays. You guys need to understand. Telling you can either help us or break us. We need help. We want it. People are killing their selves because of rumors. Our cell phones blow up we don't want to eat. Grades go down and people lose loved ones. There needs to be a step up. !!

Student 32 stated:

Adults should ask us kids more about what happens to us and how we fell about cyberbullying. They always think just because they are our parents and they live with us they know what we're going through and they act like they know all about us and what all happens to us when they don't. I think adults would be better at stopping things like kids doing drugs and cyberbullying if they just asked us kids about the stuff.

Throughout the data the participants mention the need for adults to listen to them and do someone with the information. One of the participants, student 58, shared their frustration, "Stop yelling at us just listen we need you more then you think so just imagine what it's like to be me, (us) put you're self in our shoes it's not easy." They want our help but they also want to be heard before we take action.

Table 9

*Survey Question 6: What should the school do?*

| Characteristic | N | % |
|---|---|---|
| Improve Communication | 36 | 49.3 |
| No Action | 15 | 20.5 |
| Restrictive Actions | 7 | 9.6 |
| School Sponsored Reactions | 15 | 20.5 |
| Total | 73 | 100.0 |

Survey question seven asked the participants to write what they would say to someone about cyberbullying and how it makes people feel. There were quite a few participants of the study that did not share specific cyberbullying information until they answered this question. Their information was just as strong as the information given by participants that answered every question of the survey. The themes found within this question were varied with almost a third of the participants indicating that cyberbullying leads to depression (see Table 10). Over one-fifth of the participants simply stated that cyberbullying is wrong and that they should just leave people alone. As student 70 stated, "We are more alike than we are different."

Table 10

*Survey Question 7: What would you say about cyberbullying?*

| Characteristic | N | % |
|---|---|---|
| Ignore it | 3 | 3.2 |
| It is wrong, leave people alone | 21 | 22.1 |
| Leads to alcohol and/or drug use | 1 | 1.0 |
| Leads to depression | 30 | 31.6 |
| Leads to suicide or violence towards others | 15 | 15.8 |
| Make it stop | 19 | 20.0 |
| Report it | 5 | 5.3 |
| We are more alike than we are different | 1 | 1.0 |
| Total | 95 | 100.0 |

One participant, student 5, stated:

> I would tell them don't bully anyone because if the person they bully is sensitive
> then that person might end up depressed and it will haunt them for a long time and
> they would probably kill themselves and people are going to blame you for
> making them do that to themselves and you are going to be haunted by that as
> long as you are alive

Student 8 stated:

> I would tell them that they should really stop; you don't know what's going on in
> that person's life and being insulted so easily could really hurt them. You see kids
> almost every day on the news who committed suicide because on MySpace

someone was called something that deeply affected them. Wouldn't you feel just

terrible if it was your fault someone died?

And another participant, student 15, stated:

It breaks people. It destroys them. They kill themselves and lose life. They feel

unloved and hurt. They can't eat and their grades go down!

**Conclusion**

Key findings of this survey indicate that the prevalence of cyberbullying has

increased from 6% as shown in the YISS-1 survey (Wolak et al., 2006) conducted in

1999-2000 to this study in 2010 indicating almost 57% of the participants have been

exposed to cyberbullying as either the victim or the perpetrator. In addition, the

quantitative data analysis showed that 55.7% of the participants believed that others were

being cyberbullied, 63.4% of the participants believe that cyberbullying takes place on

school computers, and 61.6% via cell phones (see Appendix A). These finding address

and answer the first research question of "How prevalent is cyberbullying within a

middle school setting?"

The impact of cyberbullying on children is an area researcher believes must be

explored in order to gain the information required to help understand the ever-changing

dynamics of this type of behavior (Pronk & Zimmer-Gembeck, 2010). This information

was obtained in this study while analyzing the qualitative data designed to answer the

second research question, "For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school

setting, what has been the nature and impact of the experience?" The participants,

through their narratives described their experiences and those of others so that the

stakeholder can try to understand the difficulties that they are going through and that they want our help. One participant, student 32, summed it up with this statement:

> Adults should ask us kids more about what happens to us and how we fell about cyberbullying. They always think just because there our parents and they live with us they know what we're going through and they act like they know all about us and what all happens to us when they don't. I think adults would be better at stopping things like kids doing drugs and cyberbullying if they just asked us kids about the stuff.

The data from this survey also indicates that the participants are experiencing severe physical and psychological effects as indicated in their personal narratives (see Appendix B).

In the next section the recommendations for further research will be presented along with recommendations on how the stakeholders should proceed in order to combat the phenomenon of cyberbullying. Data from questions six and seven will be incorporated into this section as the participants have ideas of what will work with them and their friends.

Section 5: Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

**Overview**

The purpose of this sequential transformative mixed methods study was to investigate the phenomenon of cyberbullying in the middle school setting in order to educate the entire stakeholder community regarding the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. Two web-based surveys were administered to the participants with the goal of answering the two research questions:

1.      How prevalent is cyberbullying within a middle school setting?

2.       For those touched by cyberbullying in the middle school setting, what has been the nature and impact of the experience?

The school had 530 students enrolled in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades with 521 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students participating in the first web-based survey and 79 eighth grade students participating in the second survey. The participants were from a school serving primarily military related children in Texas. Participants were taken to the computer labs by their language arts teachers during their designated class period.

The school hosting this study is known for conducting surveys throughout the school year and making campus decisions based on this data. Due to the nature of this campus, the consent process involved approaching the building principal and submitting the request to conduct the survey. After answering several questions in regards to the survey and how the data would be used, approval was given to conduct the study.

The cyberbullying study was conducted in the fall of 2010. A quantitative survey was utilized from the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University (2009) provided the foundation of the survey. After conducting the pilot study the questions, the answers were revised based on input received from the participants. Questions from Willard's (2007a) book were also incorporated into the survey with her permission. This survey was administered to the entire school population using the website SurveyGizmo. The participants accessed the website in one of the two computer labs on campus. Participation in the survey was completely voluntary and contained 33 questions (See Appendix A). The participants were encouraged to answer each question honestly as the survey was being conducted anonymously.

The data findings support the concept that middle school students are experiencing cyberbullying at an alarming rate (see Appendix A). Through the detailed personal descriptions of the cyberbullying events they had experienced firsthand or had knowledge of, it was determined that the participants were suffering from psychological effects that are not the norm for traditional bullying (see Appendix D). The data provided by the participants detailed the type of cyberbullying experienced, the impact felt by them, their friends, and their families. It also provided information on how the participants felt that the adults should address cyberbullying in the future (see Appendix D).

After the data collection for the first survey was completed, the data were imported into SPSS and analysis began. As stated in section 4, descriptive statistics were used to determine that while both the seventh and eighth grade classes had a high level of

cyberbullying experienced, the eighth grade class had a higher rate within the majority of the questions. The eighth grade class then proceeded to take the second survey (See Appendix B). The second survey, also conducted via SurveyGizmo, contained seven open-ended questions designed to determine the nature and impact of cyberbullying on the middle school child. The data from this survey were imported into NVIVO9 and were analyzed. It was determined that there were reoccurring themes throughout the data (See Appendix C). The data collection process lasted four days.

## Interpretation of Findings

Quantitative data analysis was used to interpret the data presented from the first survey (See Appendix A). After receiving consent from the doctoral committee, the URR, and the IRB, the first survey was administered to the school population. This survey was designed to gather data to address the first research question regarding the prevalence of cyberbullying in the middle school setting. The questions in this survey were divided into the following categories: participant demographics, use and availability of the Internet, parental involvement, online activities/behaviors, and knowledge of cyberbullying events.

The analysis showed, as stated in section 4 of this study that the top three forms of cyberbullying experienced by the middle school child included: receiving mean or nasty messages from someone (37.8%), being in an online fight with someone (32.4%), and being put down by someone online who has sent or posted mean gossip, rumors, or other things (23.9%) (see Appendix A). In addition, 55.8% of the student population believed that others were being cyberbullied in one form or another. These findings, when

presented to the authorities, should demonstrate the need for anticyberbullying policies and for their swift implementation into the schools. However, based on personal knowledge of the educational system, the statistics provided by this study, without additional information, would not be sufficient to further the process of policy development. It is due to this knowledge that a second survey was administered.

The second survey was administered to the eighth grade class at the school. These students, based on the analysis of the data provided from the first survey, had experienced a greater amount of cyberbullying than the other grade levels. The survey was designed to provide an opportunity for the participants to describe the cyberbullying events they had experienced, events that their friends had experienced, the effects felt, the impact the event had in their lives, and what the participant felt should be done by the adults in the community to help reduce this phenomenon (See Appendix B). The data collected from this survey was coded and themes emerged based on their answers to each question (See Appendix C). Seventy-nine students out of the eighth grade population answered one or more of the questions on this survey.

The findings of this survey support Cassidy et al. who stated "that students want to dialogue about cyberbullying and want to be part of the solution" (p. 398). The participants, through their narratives, made it clear that help is needed in order to combat this phenomenon. This desire for help further supports the theoretical framework of this study which is the idea that children are influenced by every level of stakeholders in society (Agatston et al., 2007; Beale & Hall, 2007; Shariff, 2009; Willard, 2007a). This theory was based on the fact that this influence starts at home, spreads to the

neighborhoods and the schools, and out into society. It is through observation, stress, reinforcement, and mitigating circumstances, that the children of today have learned behaviors that are detrimental to themselves and to others (Bronfenbrenner, 1979). Without working together, the cyberbullying phenomenon will continue to be an issue causing havoc on our children and our society (Cassidy et al., 2009).

The findings of this study, when presented to the stakeholders of the school, will increase the awareness of cyberbullying, how it is increasing the level of psychological and physical harm felt by the children at the middle school level, so that it will be possible to come together and implement a plan to achieve these goals (Olweus, 1993). The solution to this problem must include the input of all the stakeholders, including the children. If there is a failure to include the children in the development of any program, then there is a risk for alienating them and the detriment of the program.

## Implications for Social Change

This study could provide for a substantial impact for social change on many different levels. Just as Bronfenbrenner's (1979) ecological model illustrates that the different areas of society are related to each other, this study illustrates that the social change felt at the individual level will have an impact on the local and national level as well. Likewise, any positive social change on the national or local level will be dependent on the level of social change felt on the individual level. On the national level, this study has provided needed quantitative and qualitative data on cyberbullying that can be used to further research and improve practice. Additionally, further research and improved practice could have a positive impact on the local and individual level.

On the local level, findings will be shared and presented to students, administrators, teachers, and parents. Through a higher level of awareness, they will be able to come together to develop and implement specific practices and policies within the district. If these policies are effective, there will be less disciplinary issues and disruptions on campus, providing a better class environment for all students.

On the individual level, students will be able to see and feel that the adults surrounding them are listening to them and are willing and able to help them through a cyberbullying event. The cyberbullying phenomenon must be addressed at all levels with students believing that there must be a higher level of collaboration and communication between them and the adults (Cassidy et al., 2009). It will be through education and increased awareness of how the phenomenon of cyberbullying can and does have an impact on their lives or the lives of their friends that students could be spared the humiliation, anxiety, depression, and fear associated with cyberbullying. Saving one child these feelings will be a profound impact on the child, the school, the district, and the community.

## Recommendations for Action

This campaign needs to be visible to every stakeholder. Students, parents, campus and district staff, and officials from all levels of government should pay attention to this study as it is a product of the children. An awareness building cyberbullying campaign with real life statistics and narratives from children in the community could make a positive impact on how and when an anticyberbullying policy is developed, implemented, and tracked. This campaign will highlight the fact that over half of the children that

participated in this study believe that people around them are being cyberbullied and that it hurts more than we thought (see Appendices A & D). Failure to take action could result in a fatal tragedy such as the one with Megan Meier or the others (High et al., 2007).

The need to research cyberbullying within the school setting was revealed in the literature review. It was this need, along with the cyberbullying events that students have had to endure, that led me to complete this study. By using a mixed method sequential, transformative approach, I was able to produce the statistics that policy makers require and the student narratives expressing how cyberbullying has made an impact in their lives. The results of this study showed that not only is the prevalence of cyberbullying on the increase, but the impact of it can, and in some situations, does, lead to violence being committed against others or towards oneself.

For this study to have the greatest level of impact, several different groups of stakeholders will have to be willing to open their minds to research coming out of the classroom instead of from outside agencies. The first group that will be approached with the findings of this study will be the participants themselves. True change will not be possible without them. The data presented will be theirs and not something brought in from the outside. They will be the first step in the process of making sure the leaders of our community take heed of the data and take the appropriate steps to develop and implement policies that will protect them from the cyberbullies and allow them to focus their attention on their education. The second group that will be approached will be the staff of the school where the study was conducted. Many of the staff has been aware of the cyberbullying situations that have taken place but are unaware of the implications for

their students emotionally, physically, and academically. The data from this study will make them more aware of the phenomenon of cyberbullying and, hopefully, be more open to being part of the solution instead of the being part of the problem. The third group that will be approached will be the local school district leadership to include the superintendent and the school board. This is the group that will be able to make a direct impact on these students by increasing their level of understanding of the cyberbullying situation and addressing it through the development and implementation of an anti-cyberbullying policy within their student code of conduct. If all three groups are approached with the findings of this data and they are willing to accept the implications of the findings, then they will be able to work together to develop and implement interventions that will deter the cyberbully and help the students focus on their education versus a cyberbullying incident involving them or a friend.

Findings and recommendations from this study will be published in peer reviewed journals, presented at national conferences, and shared with appropriate local and national government agencies. The presentations to students and personnel at the campus and district level will be conducted with the goal of providing the necessary data that will increase their awareness of the nature and impact of cyberbullying and convince them that there is an urgent need to develop and implement an anticyberbullying policy. Presentations will also be provided to the students and their parents to fulfill the promise made during the data collection process to share with them the findings of the study. The presentations will be conducted with the primary focus of raising the awareness of the stakeholders and to highlight the need for the policy to be developed without delay.

The methods to be used to approach the different groups will be slightly different for each group. The participants of the study will have the findings presented to them in raw form with percentages and the opportunity to discuss the findings. This discussion will provide additional information on how to proceed with any type of school wide interventions that target cyberbullying. The discussion will also provide the participants the opportunity to see and understand that their voices are important and needed in order to help the adults understand the true implications of cyberbullying on them and on the community. The school staff will be provided an overview of the statistics with an emphasis on the impact felt by the participants as shown in their narratives within the qualitative study. These narratives will bring home the true impact of this problem and will demonstrate to them that this must be addressed in order for the students to be able to focus on their education instead of the problems surrounding cyberbullying (Worthen, 2007). And, finally, the school district leadership will be presented with an in-depth look at both the quantitative and qualitative data. Through the presentation of the data, they will be able to see that cyberbullying is not going away. It is increasing as the days go by and the impact felt by the students is getting worse and worse and the strain of this impact is being felt emotionally and academically (Wallace, Patchin, & May, 2005). They will also be able to see that with this knowledge, it will be their duty to intervene and provide the policies needed to safeguard the students from the ever-present cyberbully.

**Recommendations for Further Study**

The data from this study will help the research site if they choose to use the data and implement needed interventions that will help their students regain their focus on their education versus the problems associated with cyberbullying. The data will also help other campuses. While different schools will present different data, it is through their own specific data that appropriate interventions could be implemented in an effort to target cyberbullying. The interventions needed at one school may be completed different than what is needed at the next one.

I believe that the next step for cyberbullying research is to move into the area of application versus research study. Data collection should be collected at a site prior to implementing any interventions or programs. A particular program might be effective with a particular group but totally ineffective with another. My recommendation is for a long-term study to be conducted in conjunction with the implementation of an anticyberbullying program. This would enable the site to refine their approach and tailor it to fit the needs of their particular population.

It is also my recommendation that further research be conducted to determine if students have difficulty identifying themselves as a victim or perpetrator of cyberbullying. Throughout my time as an educator I have found students that know that a particular incident is wrong but have been unable, for one reason or another, to even consider the thought that they are either the victim of cyberbullying or possibly the bully themselves (Dehue, Bolman, & Vollink, 2008). It is due to this belief that I feel that the

cyberbully will continue to torment their victims and dodge any consequences that may come to their way.

## Reflections

At the completion of the data analysis stage of this study I realized that the impact of cyberbullying was worse than I originally thought. While I work with these children every day, I found that my knowledge of these events was limited. The increase in awareness that I experienced was significant, and I can only hope that the level of awareness of the others will only increase once the awareness campaign begins. I knew there was a problem. I knew that the children were being hurt emotionally and sometimes physically; however, even I did not know the true extent of this problem.

The one thing that I found to be true throughout the study was that the participants wanted to share their experiences with me. They believed that by sharing their information, something good would come out of the experience. Several stopped me after the data collection phase and told me that they would be willing to speak openly about their situations if I thought it would help in the long run. I knew then that all I had to do to find out what is going on in their lives was to ask them. I am glad I did.

This study offered me the opportunity to become part of the solution instead of being part of the problem. From the moment I was confronted with my first child in despair over cyberbullying until I started working on this study, I was part of the system that was not listening and that was not taking action against this type of bully. This study will provide the information needed by the authorities so that they can make that same transition by becoming an instrument of change and, hopefully, part of the solution.

**Conclusion**

Cyberbullying is a problem that knows no boundaries and the victims are faced with reliving their pain over and over again unless stakeholders come together to develop and implement an effective anticyberbullying policy within the schools. Students rely on educators, school administrators, and parents to teach them and to protect themselves. Unless I want to fail at this mission, then I must listen to their cries for help and provide them with what they deserve: a safe environment in which they can learn and become productive members of society. The solution to the cyberbullying problem involves all members of society coming together and working together to keep the children safe. Failure is not an option. Lack of action is not an option. The only viable option is to listen and hear them when they tell their story.

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Appendix A: Quantitative Survey Results

Thank you for agreeing to complete this survey on cyberbullying. The data collected from this survey will be used to help reduce cyberbullying and to provide input in development of anti-cyberbullying policies. This survey is completely voluntary. Please note that this survey is anonymous. There will be no consequences for any answers provided. Please answer each of the questions accurately and to the best of your knowledge. Thank you for your participation.

Survey Questions

1. What grade and gender are you?

| Grade & Gender | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| 6$^{th}$ grade male | 20.5% | 106 |
| 6$^{th}$ grade female | 17.6% | 91 |
| 7$^{th}$ grade male | 18.8% | 97 |
| 7$^{th}$ grade female | 17.1% | 88 |
| 8$^{th}$ grade male | 12.8% | 66 |
| 8$^{th}$ grade female | 13.2% | 68 |

2. How old are you?

| Age | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| 11 years old | 30.4% | 157 |
| 12 years old | 34.4% | 178 |
| 13 years old | 26.9% | 139 |
| 14 years old | 7.5% | 39 |
| 15 years old | 0.8% | 4 |
| 16 years old | 0.0% | 0 |

3. Where do you surf the Internet (Please check all that apply)?

| Location | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| On my cell phone | 25.9% | 134 |
| On someone else's cell phone | 12.5% | 65 |
| On the computer/laptop at home | 89.8% | 465 |
| On a computer/laptop at someone else's house | 27.8% | 144 |
| I don't surf the Internet | 6.0% | 31 |

4. Do you have a cell phone with Internet capabilities?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 45.2% | 234 |
| No | 29.5% | 153 |
| I don't have a cell phone | 25.3% | 131 |

5. Approximately how many hours are you online on a typical day during the week?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| None | 10.1% | 52 |
| 1 – 2 hours | 52.4% | 271 |
| 3 – 4 hours | 17.0% | 88 |
| 4+ hours | 20.5% | 106 |

6. What are your favorite online activities? (Please check all that apply.)

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Communicating with school friends | 53.2% | 274 |
| Meeting new people in online social communities | 15.5% | 80 |
| Surfing to look for stuff or learn new things | 36.1% | 186 |
| Playing online games | 79.4% | 409 |
| Shopping | 19.6% | 101 |
| Homework | 33.0% | 170 |
| Designing Web sites or profiles | 16.5% | 85 |
| Other | 42.1% | 217 |

7. Do you use a cell phone to call, text, or instant message with other students while at school?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 29.1% | 150 |
| No | 70.9% | 366 |

8. Have your parents/guardians talked with you about how you should treat others online?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 62% | 320 |
| No | 38% | 196 |

9.  How often do your parents/guardians look at what you are doing online?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Alot | 18.1% | 93 |
| Sometimes | 58.1% | 298 |
| Never | 23.8% | 122 |

10. If you have a profile on a social networking site like MySpace, Xanga, Facebook, or Twitter, how often do your parents/guardians look at your profile?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 12.5% | 65 |
| Sometimes | 35.3% | 183 |
| Never | 23.0% | 119 |
| I don't have a profile | 29.2% | 151 |

11. How often do you discuss what you are doing online with your parents/guardians?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 12.8% | 66 |
| Sometimes | 46.5% | 239 |
| Never | 40.7% | 209 |

12. In the last year, have you been in an online fight?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 24.3% | 126 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 8.1% | 42 |
| No | 67.6% | 351 |

13. In the last year, have you sent mean or nasty messages to someone on the phone or computer?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 18.1% | 94 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 8.5% | 44 |
| No | 73.4% | 380 |

14. In the last year have you put down someone else online by sending or posting mean gossip, rumors, or other things?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 10.8% | 56 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 3.8% | 20 |
| No | 85.4% | 444 |

15. In the last year, have you ever pretended to be someone else to send or post material online to damage that person's reputation or friendships with others?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 4.2% | 22 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 2.3% | 12 |
| No | 93.5% | 486 |

16. In the last year, have you shared someone's personal secrets or images online without that person's permission?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 6.5% | 34 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 2.1% | 11 |
| No | 91.4% | 475 |

17. In the last year, have you helped exclude or keep someone out of your online group?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 16.7% | 87 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 4.8% | 25 |
| No | 78.5% | 408 |

18. In the last year, have you ever <u>received</u> online messages that made you very afraid for your safety?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 11.9% | 62 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 3.8% | 20 |
| No | 84.2% | 438 |

19. In the last year, have you <u>received</u> mean or nasty messages from someone?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 26.3% | 136 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 11.5% | 60 |
| No | 62.2% | 322 |

20. In the last year, have you been put down by someone online who has sent or posted mean gossip, rumors, or other things about you?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 18% | 93 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 6% | 31 |
| No | 76% | 394 |

21. In the last year, has someone pretended to be you and sent or posted material online that damaged your reputation or friendships with others?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 12.7% | 66 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 2.7% | 14 |
| No | 84.6% | 438 |

22. In the last year, has someone shared your personal secrets or images online without your permission?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 14.1% | 73 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 3.9% | 20 |
| No | 82.1% | 426 |

23. In the last year, have you been excluded or kept out of an online group by people who are being mean to you?

|  | % | n |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, 1 to 4 times | 12.4% | 64 |
| Yes, 5 or more times | 2.9% | 15 |
| No | 84.7% | 439 |

24. How often do you think other students at your school are cyberbullied?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 29.3% | 152 |
| Sometimes | 26.4% | 137 |
| Never | 6.4% | 33 |
| Don't know | 37.8% | 196 |

25. Do you know of material posted online that puts down or talks bad about a school staff member?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 32.4% | 168 |
| No | 67.6% | 351 |

26. Do you know of any students who posted material online that threatened or suggested violence?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 37.7% | 196 |
| No | 62.3% | 324 |

27. Do you know of any students who posted material online that threatened or suggested suicide?

|  | *%* | *N* |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 20% | 104 |
| No | 80% | 415 |

28. How often do you think cyberbullying takes place when students are using school computers?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 11.2% | 57 |
| Sometimes | 26.3% | 134 |
| Never | 25.9% | 132 |
| Don't know | 36.7% | 187 |

29. How often do you think cyberbullying occurs through cell phones used at school?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 24.3% | 124 |
| Sometimes | 37.3% | 190 |
| Never | 10.2% | 52 |
| Don't know | 28.2% | 144 |

30. How often do students bypass the district's Internet filter to get to sites that have been blocked by the filter?

|  | *%* | *n* |
|---|---|---|
| A lot | 18.7% | 95 |
| Sometimes | 25.3% | 129 |
| Never | 11.4% | 58 |
| Don't know | 44.6% | 227 |

31. If you saw that someone was being cyberbullied online

|  | *Yes* | | *No* | | *Maybe* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | % | n | % | n | % | n |
| Would you join in by posting similar material? | 4.3% | 22 | 85.0% | 435 | 10.7% | 55 |
| Would you side with the cyberbully? | 1.6% | 8 | 85.1% | 434 | 13.3% | 68 |
| Would you read the material, but not add to it? | 50.7% | 260 | 26.9% | 138 | 22.4% | 115 |
| Would you leave the online site? | 43.2% | 221 | 34.1% | 174 | 22.7% | 116 |
| Would you complain to others, but not to the cyberbully? | 18.5% | 95 | 60.2% | 309 | 21.2% | 109 |
| Would you try to quietly help the victim? | 56.0% | 285 | 23.4% | 119 | 20.6% | 105 |
| Would you tell the cyberbully to stop? | 61.0% | 313 | 15.6% | 80 | 23.4% | 120 |
| Would you side with the victim? | 51.2% | 261 | 17.8% | 91 | 31.0% | 158 |
| Would you report the cyberbullying to someone who can help? | 58.4% | 299 | 17.4% | 89 | 24.2% | 124 |

32. If you or someone you knew was being cyberbullied at school or at home…

|  | Yes | | No | | Not Sure | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | % | n | % | n | % | n |
| Would you tell a school staff member? | 54.8% | 281 | 18.9% | 97 | 26.3% | 135 |
| Would you tell your parents? | 68.0% | 350 | 14.8% | 76 | 17.3% | 89 |
| Would you tell the police? | 31.3% | 160 | 31.5% | 161 | 37.2% | 190 |

33. Have you ever reported cyberbullying activities to…?

|  | Yes | | No | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | % | n | % | n |
| a school administrator? | 17.1% | 85 | 82.9% | 411 |
| a teacher or staff member? | 21.5% | 107 | 78.5% | 390 |
| a police officer? | 14.3% | 71 | 85.7% | 425 |
| your parents? | 43.0% | 213 | 57.0% | 282 |

Questions in this survey were taken from the cyberbullying survey provided by the Texas School Safety Center (TSSC) and from Nancy Willard's book, *Cyberbullying and cyberthreats: Responding to the challenge of online social aggression, threats, and distress.* Permission granted by TSSC and Nancy Willard to use and modify questions for this study.

Appendix B: Qualitative Survey Questions

**1.** Describe a situation in which you were the one being cyberbullied.

2. Please describe how you felt when you were being cyberbullied.

3. Describe how the cyberbullying situation had an effect in your life.

4. Please describe the cyberbullying situation that involved someone you knew.

5. How did the cyberbullying incident affect them in their everyday life?

6. What steps should be taken by the school to help reduce cyberbullying at the school.

7. If you could tell anyone you wanted about cyberbullying and how it makes people feel, what would you tell them?

Appendix C: Qualitative Codes and Explanations

**Question 1: Describe a situation in which you were the one being cyberbullied.**

| Location | |
|---|---|
| Cell Phone | Students harassed via text messages on the cell phone. |
| Chatroom or Forums | Students harassed in chatrooms or forums |
| E-Mail | Students harassed via e-mail |
| Online Gaming | Students harassed while playing online games (XBOX, etc) |
| Online Social Networking Sites | Students harassed on Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, etc… |
| **Type of Cyberbullying** | |
| Cyberthreats | Direct or indirect threats towards someones safety. |
| Flaming | Short, heated online arguments that take place between two or more people |
| Harassment | Repeated, ongoing sending of offensive messages to an individual person |
| Denigration | Messages posted online or sent to others that is harmful, false, or cruel |
| Outing & Trickery | The use of personal information or images on public sites without permission |

**Question 2: Describe how you felt when you were being cyberbullied.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Angry Frustrated | Feelings of anger and frustration |
| Depressed Suicidal Helpless Isolated | Feelings of depression, suicide, helplessness, and isolation |
| Felt sorry for them | Feeling sorry for the person trying to cyberbully |
| No Feelings | No feelings expressed or felt about the situation |
| Sad Bad | Feelings of being sad or feeling bad about the situation |
| Scared | Feeling scared about the situation |

**Question 3: Describe how the cyberbullying situation had an effect in your life.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Interpersonal Problems | Changed relationship, isolation, lost friends |
| No Effect | No effect expressed or felt about the situation |
| Perspective Change | Understanding how it feels to be on the receiving end |
| Safety Concerns | Feeling unsafe, increased levels of violence, wanting to hurt self |
| School Problems | Difficulties in school, grades dropping, lack of focus, truancy |

**Question 4: Please describe the cyberbullying situation that involved someone you knew.**

| Location | |
|---|---|
| Cell Phone | Friend harassed via text messages on the cell phone. |
| Chatroom or Forums | Friend harassed in chatrooms or forums |
| E-Mail | Friend harassed via e-mail |
| Online Gaming | Friend harassed while playing online games (XBOX, etc) |
| Online Social Networking Sites | Friend harassed on Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, etc… |
| **Type of Cyberbullying** | |
| Flaming | Short, heated online arguments that take place between two or more people |
| Harassment | Repeated, ongoing sending of offensive messages to an individual person |
| Denigration | Messages posted online or sent to others that is harmful, false, or cruel |

| | |
|---|---|
| Impersonation | Pretends to be someone else & post items that makes that person look bad |
| Outing & Trickery | The use of personal information or images on public sites without permission |

**Question 5: How did the cyberbullying incident affect them in their everyday life?**

| | |
|---|---|
| Academic Effects | Dropped out of school, grades dropped |
| Emotional Effects | Feelings of anger, sadness, being scared, and loneliness |
| Lost Friends | Friendships ending because of the situation or the aftermath |
| Mental Health Effects | Depression, suicide/thoughts of suicide |
| No Effects | No effects expressed or felt about the situation |

**Question 6: What steps should be taken by the school to help reduce cyberbullying at the school?**

| | |
|---|---|
| Improve Communication | Activities that promote communication, talk/listen to the kids |
| Restrictive Actions | Ban cell phones, more restrictions on online activities |
| No Action | No action should be taken by adults |
| School Sponsored Reactions | Anonymous reporting system, disciplinary actions, police enforcement |

**Question 7: If you could tell anyone you wanted about cyberbullying and how it makes people feel, what would you tell them?**

| | |
|---|---|
| Ignore it | Just ignore the cyberbully |
| It is wrong leave people alone | Cyberbullying is wrong, leave other alone! |
| Leads to alcohol and or drug abuse | Cyberbullying can lead to alcohol or drug abuse |
| Leads to depression | Cyberbullying can lead to depression |
| Leads to suicide or violence | Cyberbullying can lead to suicide or violence towards others |
| Make it stop | Please help us stop cyberbullying |
| Report it | Report the cyberbullying. |
| We are more alike than we are different | We are more alike than we are different |

Appendix D: Qualitative Coding for All Participants

**Question 1: Describe a situation in which you were the one being cyberbullied.**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
| --- | --- |
| **Location** | |
| Chatroom or Forums | S1: In was on the internet, and a girl (or boy, it didn't say the gender) posted something on a forum. |
| Online Social Networking Sites | S3: On YouTube some fat nerd sitting down on his computer didn't like my comment on a video. So he (like any other internet nerd) decided to curse me off. Some racial statements were handed. So me (like the internet nerd) did same to him. |
| | S4: It all started with this girl. She was all hay girl and was like what's up. Then she was like what in the world are you doing talken about how me and that boy hooked up behind the movie theater after he got back with his girl that is so stupid and childish of you. i was like whatever so I went home and she IM'd me on MySpace and was like you are a liar and I was like how she was like you said me and that boy hooked up. I was like I had never said that. She was like that's what my friend told me. I was like really? Your friend told me she saw you and that boy and that she took a picture of the two of you and she even sent it to me. She was like well now his girl wants to fight me and if I get beat up I'm coming after you and I will black mail you to the whole school if you don't go and tell the two of them that it's not true. |
| | S7: During seventh grade a girl and I had some issues leading to us arguing/fighting a bit. I told her I would never forgive her for some of the things she had said to me and to this day I still don't. Well over the summer she messaged me over Facebook saying she was sorry. In honesty I told her I wasn't sorry and that I don't forgive her at all. I told her how I almost hit her in gym last year while in a big argument between her and I and how my friends held me back. She then answered cussing me out and told me that I wouldn't be able to touch a hair on her she would beat me down. In other words saying she would win. Her and I went on fighting like this and I soon found out it wasn't only her, but her and her cousin. This went on for about a month, her and arguing back and forth and finally I got fed up and told her I was done fighting, I'm not forgiving her and I'm not going to be her friend and I was sorry for even fighting back with her. |
| | S8: There was one time where I guess I was being cyber bullied over a website I usually go to. It is like myspace, but instead of pictures and stuff you make your own person and username. Anyways, I was in a chat room with a few of my friends and someone came up to me and tried act better then us (Even though we knew she wasn't....) by cussing and insulting us. I don't care about being cyber bullied anymore, because the people who do it I know are just those who think they can do what they want. I got over cyberbullying a long time ago. Usually in these situations I stick up for my friends and I told the girl to go away. She got mad at her failed attempt to make us mad and just left the chat room. |
| | S10: Well it all started when i had dumped my jerk-butt boyfriend J ... after that he had tried to turn all my friends against me or pay people to beat me up then one day i was on the computer and D got on and she said and i quote "You need to shut you |

****in mouth" and i said "What did i do ?" she sent back saying i had told everyone in school that i had spread a rumor that e was only datin his new girlfriend C to make me jealous but i never said that M did ... so then i kept on tellin her no i did and she said you come to school on Monday and see how many people believe you then i got upset started cryin and went in my room told my mom then my mom went to chat with her on facebook and she said she was paid 20 buck to kick my *** after school on Monday ... even though i didnt do ANYTHING ... but now i feel as if im losing my friends ... and i hate that cause i already lose friends constantly because of the army .

S10: and then there was another time when i was on facebook and i had added my friends 22 year old brother and he tried to get me to have cyber sex with him ... but i didnt and he got very upset and told his little sister abunch of rumors about me that were not true

S10: and then there was a time when a girl had got on my profile ad said that i was flirtin with her boyfriend that ... i have no idea who dat is ... come to find out she aint got a boyfriend ... she was just tryin to break me and my boyfriend up

S15: One time I was on MySpace as I always am after school. During that day I already had problems and didn't want to go to school. People were calling me face, saying I was ugly and that I was fat. The next day it carried on. I got to the point I didn't even want to come to school. When you tell teachers they start more problems because you told. Teachers don't fully understand when you are being bullied how it can mentally and physically hurt you. You feel as if your whole life is falling apart. I didn't want to eat, I couldn't sleep with all the text message I was getting. I started failing and if I could I just wanted to drop out just because of a silly text. But, at the time, I felt alone, hurt, unloved, uneasy. I wasn't myself. No one at all should ever bring someone down to the point where it affects them physically.

S19: Once when I was on MySpace I was minding my own business and this chick messenged me and said that she wanted to fight me and I was wondering why because we used to be the best of friends and she said because I was fake and that I alwayss made her feel like crap. I said that I wasn't going to fight her and she kept messenging me saying that no matter what we was going to fight. I never wanted to fight her. She wouldn't leave me alone and kept calling me bad names and saying that I'm stupid and face and a wannabe and I know I never did none of that so I didn't get mad but then she told my girlfriend of two monthat that I didn't want to fight but she better leave me along and she kept talking mess and getting me mad so when the time came we fought and we were not friends for a while til the third week of school and I said that all the drama wasn't necessary and that I wanted to be friends again and she agreed and we are friends again but her friend won't leave me alone on MySpace!

S37:Me and my friend in Hawaii had got into a fight and she decided she wanted to take it to far, so she actually posted stuff on my face-book and myspace that was really hurtful. Sure i was mean back but i wasn't being as bad as she was so i walked up to her and tried apologizing because i felt bad that i was being mean to her even though she's the one that started the whole thing i am not the type of person that can stay mad at a friend forever. So a week later she comes up to me and apologizes and deletes all the mean comments and we just move on and now were closer than

friends were like sister's.

S38: On MySpace the person would try to make me mad by calling me names or saying she/he is going to do something to me or say stuff about me

S39: ok lets go.... last year me n my sis were tlkn to this guy on myspace n we acted like we were a guy she liked but we were'nt. So he found out n of course my sis was stupid enugh to tell him our address and our number so he came to our house n we ddnt answer n he called and threatend me n my sis of chocking us n i aneswered the door n he was only like 14 so i showed him whos boss n then i was in the yard fighting him and of cource we kinda had the same strength but i was fast and wasnt goin to let him touch us

S40: on myspace a kid threatened to cut my fingerss off and that he wus goin 2 jump me

S42: My friend and I were on facebook and she commented on my friends picture saying that I wasn't the cool one and I got mad about that because I wasn't even saying anything to her but then when she said that about me it sparked one of my nerves. So then I commented saying like wtf?! And she was like haha yea I don't give a fxxx about your bxxxx ass and just wait till I see you at school you ugly mother fxxxer. She was saying all this stuff to me so obviously that is gonna get me more mad so I commented back then we were just saying all this rude stuff to each other and yes those words were cuss words. It was just getting us both more heated! So she commented again saying just wait for school to come and I'll show you what I'm gonna do so I waited and she didn't do anything. Then we were still talking bad to each other and then one day it came to it and we fought because of a whole bunch of stupid stuff. I didn't regret what I did cause her day will come when she gets her butt whooped and she ain't gonna like it. All of this was started cause of some stupid stuff on facebook. Just that little comment got me mad so I commented back and we were just going back and foth at it saying bad things and stuff that I shouldn't be saying. So then we were fighting on facebook for about an hour or two then finally went home and that's when all of it stopped. Then at school the next day she wanted to talk her mess behind my back so I said to her to talk her mess to my face and not behind my back because as long as she throws the first hit then I ain't tripping. So days went by and she didn't do anything. But then one day came and we couldn't take it anymore so she came up behind me and pushed me to the ground. She tried to punch me so my friend pushed her off of me then I got up and swung at her and hit her a couple time in her face and that's when cars rolled up and told us to break it up. I was so pissed off so I just left then a cop came up to me and questioned me and her.Then the next day at school she wanted to tell everyone that I got my ass beat but really it wasn't a fair fight! I didn't let it bother me because I know one day she's gonna say the wrong thing to me and I'm gonna go off and she's gonna regret saying the things that she said to me.

S46: Okay, so my friend had some drama with a girl at school. later on, on a friday after school my friend came over to chill with me. we got on myspace and face book and when i got on facebook i had a new picture comment, so i looked at it and it was about my friend. my friend saw the comment and got mad, so she commented back, and they were going off on each other through facebook. then all of a sudden the girl bring's her friend's into it. so i get mad, and told her that wasn't fair, then she start's

goin off on me, andd i was like what the ? so we were going at it for about 30 minutes to an hour. then the next week at school she was startin more drama, but my friend had ALOT of patience . through out the week she was still talkin her stuff, and then friday came and she messed with my friend physically. they got into it, and later on that day i got o myspace/ facebook and tha girl was still talkin, so me and her got into it on myspace, i was so mad, after two week's of glaring at, and talkin bout each other we finally settled this drama, and now we all kewl again ! (:

S49: Well some stupid people were like all over me trying to fight me for no reason just because people were starting rumors about me and my friends. That's not what people are supposed to do especially if those people say that they are your friends. Then I go and look online and they updated their account and said that they are gonna fight me the next day! Ya! I know, not cool! But then I go to school and they are all over me harrassing me.

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S62: The only time that I was bullied was when I was at my old school and this bxxxx said on myspace that i was a sxxx and that i was pregnant when she was the xxxxxxx xxxx.

S64: one time this dude was cyber bullying this kid on face book he was all like you fat xxx and kept calling his mom a xxxxx and was talking alot of mess and just going on and on and he was calling his dad dat was dead a xxxxx

S72: There was this one time where there was this girl i knew from school and i was on facebook den we wur on IM and she asked me out and i sead no.she when and she sead dat she wuz gunna kil herself and stuf lik that.so was so mad at me she told her cuz and he wrote me sayin hes gunna beat the **** out of me and **** me up n jump me and stuf lik dat.he sead he was gunna find me and beat me up in front of her on video.but he didnt do it lol

S73: I was on myspace one time and a girl started to fight with me. how i solved it was by punching her in the face the next day.

S74: Well , onee dayy i wass likee on facebook & mehh & thiss girll weree arqueinqq . & likee we weree tawkinn smackk to eachotherr & likee she was tellinn mehh i was gonee see herr handsz ( Like in a fiqhtt ] & i was likee iqhtt thenn well we will see so thee nexx dyy i was likee ok i didntt see yurr handsz so now yu gone see minee , thenn we faughtt .

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| | S75:  on myspace 2 ppl @ a time were sending me mean messages threating me about that i took her man n the other girl a was asking me why dnt i like her she was annoying me tring 2 force me 2 like her n she sed that she heard his from som1 n never told me who |
| Cell Phone | S06: Well this girl decised it would make her day to just text me and call me a xxxxx. She was mad at me for some reason and wouldn't stop texting me. She was being real stupid and was talking about telling my mom I was a horrible child but I knew she wouldn't do anything.

S23: I remember this one guy in alaska was bullying me on my phone and i just fought back and it was not cool with me cause he just fought and fought so i just said to him you better stop before i call the cops and so he did and that was the last time ever heard from him . that was the only time i have ever been cyberbullyed in my whole life. i told my dad about it and he said what the number so i gave him the number and he said to him to not call my son ever again or i will call the cops on you and then hung up the phone.

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S28: There was this person at the school sent me a text message that told me to shut up and i also said shut up but she has been talking behind my back and i don't like it when she won't leave me alone. She won't stop irritating me and im just going to ignoring her as much as i can hopefully it gets taking care of cause i don't want it to spread any worse than it is.

S29: One time I was texting an old friend and I was like hey girl what's up? And they were like don't talk to me and I was like why? They were like because you are two faced and I was like how am I two faced I'm pretty much your best bud and she just ignored me after that.

S32: when i was 11 my exfriend sent me a text message that said she was gonna hurt me and my family......
S34: One time when I was sick my friend called me and was talking about my other friend and I thought she was kind-of annoying so I told her that. Well, turns out they tricked me and the other girl was on the other line and heard everything I said. Then they went around e-mailing all my friends. Then i got a bunch of emails saying I was a bad person and they would no longer let me hang out with them. Sooner or later all |

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| | my friends were turned against me. |
| | S43: This was through a text message. I received a text saying "you were the one who was talking all this trash on facebook huh?" I replied "what are you talking about? Who are you?" Then they replied, "I'm the one you were saying was a bxxxx, axx, all those other things on facebook" then I said "No I wasn't I don't even know who you are, what your talking about! Plus I wasn't even on facebook today. Then it replied "yes you were *****, I was there and we had this whole conversation about how you was gonna fight me and shit. Then I asked how they go my number and who is this? They replied my friend and you know who I am. Then I told my mom and she was like its probably one of your friends messing with you or something. Then I tried to call the nuymber but it was forwarded to voicemail. Then I got pictures of guns, and knifes. Text messages saying I'm gonna kill you, you better watch your back, I know where you live and all this stuff. |
| | S61: One time I was texting they I got a text from a person it said fxxx this person and they are a piece of sxxx never talk to them. I texted back fxxx you I will not talk to you no more. Then he texted back shut the fxxx up bxxxx. I told him if he sent me another text I will call the police. |
| | S63: by cell this kid text text and said he wanted to kill me cuz i was switching colors |
| | S67: ive only bn in a sit. like 1 time so...... it wasnt dat bd but anyways it was on a cell phone my friend ryan txt me an was lik "sup" i was like "nm" an thn all da sudden i gt a messge sayin, "wat da fxxx u doin txtin my bf. stay away frm him hes mine an if us gts a prob. wid it thn us gt a prob. wth me!!!!!!" i said "im only friends wid him soo..... wats it matta?" she rplyed and said "it mattas cuz u a sknkky ho dat needs 2 keep her leggs closed!" i said " ive neva eva had sex in my ilife so... dnt u b tellin me 2 keep mine closed i dnt evn lik hm lik dat were JUST FRIENDS!!!!!"" l8ter she replyed well it dnt matta if u wnna make dis a fight or nt cuz im comin 2 ur house an were gnna fight!!!!!!!" i tld her 2 leave me alone bt she wdnt so my mum pressed charges..... |
| | S68: Well, I guess i am not really open with stuff that happened to me but like I dont know how you would call it but like it has to to with a sexual situation, yes it was done with a cell phone and yah, i was basically blacked mail and stuff and it could have led to rape in my point of view. but luckily i told an adult and teh whole thing was tooken care of. |
| | S78: two years ago i was on a cell phone and my old frind sad i was a fxxxxxx hxx it stuck with me all of my life nomater how mouch i wanted to foget i could not |
| | S79: well i wasnt really cyberbullyin more of a cyberfight but over the cell phone me and another person shared some angry words |
| Online Gaming | S33: When i was playin MW2 they said a lot of stuff that i cant mention in this |
| | S44: I have been cyberbullied through xbox people cuss and think they are cool so they think they can do anything they want |
| | S50: Okay all right, So I'm at my house, and I was playing tap tap revenge 3 online |

on my ipod touch. I had just gotten finished with playing the game. Of coarse I won:) and this guy gets mad at me and says things i havent even heard of before, one because it was in spanish, two because I dont speak spanish. So what I did is I look it up on google and I find out that he was cursing in spanish at me:( So I say this guy. "lave mi solo" which means leave me alone in espanol according to google.:(

S76: One time i was being cyberbullied on my xbox360 and this is what they exacting said[I'ma Freeze you *@#$ing xbox if you don't give me you account and i'ma hack your account and pay over $10000 Dollar in your real account! So what's going to be, get @#$% or Give me your account.] I left fast and didn't play my xbox for a whole day.

| Type of Cyberbullying | |
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| Cyberthreats | S43: This was through a text message. I received a text saying "you were the one who was talking all this trash on facebook huh?" I replied "what are you talking about? Who are you?" Then they replied, "I'm the one you were saying was a bxxxx, ass, all those other things on facebook" then I said "No I wasn't I don't even know who you are, what your talking about! Plus I wasn't even on facebook today. Then it replied "yes you were *****, I was there and we had this whole conversation about how you was gonna fight me and shit. Then I asked how they go my number and who is this? They replied my friend and you know who I am. Then I told my mom and she was like its probably one of your friends messing with you or something. Then I tried to call the nuymber but it was forwarded to voicemail. Then I got pictures of guns, and knifes. Text messages saying I'm gonna kill you, you better watch your back, I know where you live and all this stuff.<br><br>S49: Well some stupid people were like all over me trying to fight me for no reason just because people were starting rumors about me and my friends. That's not what people are supposed to do especially if those people say that they are your friends. Then I go and look online and they updated their account and said that they are gonna fight me the next day! Ya! I know, not cool! But then I go to school and they are all over me harrassing me.<br><br>S63: by cell this kid text text and said he wanted to kill me cuz i was switching colors<br><br>S65: the man said he knew who i was and that he was going o kill me Heres the message he sent Look Boy i n know who you are and where you live<br><br>S76: One time i was being cyberbullied on my xbox360 and this is what they exacting said[I'ma Freeze you *@#$ing xbox if you don't give me you account and i'ma hack your account and pay over $10000 Dollar in your real account! So what's going to be, get @#$% or Give me your account.] I left fast and didn't play my xbox for a whole day. |
| Flaming | S01 In was on the internet, and a girl (or boy, it didn't say the gender) posted something on a forum. I was starting a play for a story, and he/she was like, "Well, I wanna see some REAL stuff, not just fxxxing writing." I told him/her that I really didn't care about her opinion, and that he/she should leave. And then some person who helps run the site was like, "Well, I could get you kicked off if you make my |

buddy mad." (It was something like that, I just can't remember the exact words). So I left and was like, "The heck? They know nothing about me."

S03 On YouTube some fat nerd sitting down on his computer didn't like my comment on a video. So he (like any other internet nerd) decided to curse me off. Some racial statements were handed. So me (like the internet nerd) did same to him.

S04 It all started with this girl. She was all hay girl and was like what's up. Then she was like what in the world are you doing talken about how me and that boy hooked up behind the movie theater after he got back with his girl that is so stupid and childish of you. i was like whatever so I went home and she IM'd me on MySpace and was like you are a liar and I was like how she was like you said me and that boy hooked up. I was like I had never said that. She was like that's what my friend told me. I was like really? Your friend told me she saw you and that boy and that she took a picture of the two of you and she even sent it to me. She was like well now his girl wants to fight me and if I get beat up I'm coming after you and I will black mail you to the whole school if you don't go and tell the two of them that it's not true.

S06 Well this girl decised it would make her day to just text me and call me a bxxxx. She was mad at me for some reason and wouldn't stop texting me. She was being real stupid and was talking about telling my mom I was a horrible child but I knew she wouldn't do anything.

S07 During seventh grade a girl and I had some issues leading to us arguing/fighting a bit. I told her I would never forgive her for some of the things she had said to me and to this day I still don't. Well over the summer she messaged me over Facebook saying she was sorry. In honesty I told her I wasn't sorry and that I don't forgive her at all. I told her how I almost hit her in gym last year while in a big argument between her and I and how my friends held me back. She then answered cussing me out and told me that I wouldn't be able to touch a hair on her she would beat me down. In other words saying she would win. Her and I went on fighting like this and I soon found out it wasn't only her, but her and her cousin. This went on for about a month, her and arguing back and forth and finally I got fed up and told her I was done fighting, I'm not forgiving her and I'm not going to be her friend and I was sorry for even fighting back with her.

S08: There was one time where I guess I was being cyber bullied over a website I usually go to. It is like myspace, but instead of pictures and stuff you make your own person and username. Anyways, I was in a chat room with a few of my friends and someone came up to me and tried act better then us (Even though we knew she wasn't....) by cussing and insulting us. I don't care about being cyber bullied anymore, because the people who do it I know are just those who think they can do what they want. I got over cyberbullying a long time ago. Usually in these situations I stick up for my friends and I told the girl to go away. She got mad at her failed attempt to make us mad and just left the chat room.

S14: This one time like a couple of months ago, my ex boyfriend was mad at me and like I wanted to talk to him online and he's like "I told you to gtfo of my life already =|" and I'm like "I'll leave your life when I'm ready I still care about you and you need to tell your girl friend that your cheating on her" and he responded "Just shut up okay?! Leave me alone I'm not cheating on her" and I said "Oh really now?? How

come you went out with this girl for 6 months but you went out with me and 5 other girls when you were going out with me??" and he's like "go die in a hole" and I said "Maybe I will, when I'm old" and he's like "Then why don't you die already geez. I know where you live I can come to your house and shoot you right through the head" and I'm like "I live on base so I'm perfectly fine :P" and so on and so forth. Oh by the way he doesn't go to this school. He's 16.

S19: Once when I was on MySpace I was minding my own business and this chick messenged me and said that she wanted to fight me and I was wondering why because we used to be the best of friends and she said because I was fake and that I alwayss made her feel like crap. I said that I wasn't going to fight her and she kept messenging me saying that no matter what we was going to fight. I never wanted to fight her. She wouldn't leave me alone and kept calling me bad names and saying that I'm stupid and face and a wannabe and I know I never did none of that so I didn't get mad but then she told my girlfriend of two monthat that I didn't want to fight but she better leave me along and she kept talking mess and getting me mad so when the time came we fought and we were not friends for a while til the third week of school and I said that all the drama wasn't necessary and that I wanted to be friends again and she agreed and we are friends again but her friend won't leave me along on MySpace!

S21: This person hacked one of my friends online accounts and he started to cuss me out and call me names.

S22: I have been a victim of cyber bullying and i have also been one of the people who cyber bully other people to but it only happened one time. Me and my friend were talking on facebook and then all of a sudden her friend decides to get on and start cussing me out like there's no tomorrow so i did the same thing thing she was doing to me i started to cuss her out right back and so she got mad at me and then the friend i was originally talking to got on and started cussing me out so i got mad so i was cussing her out too so we got in this big old fight. We fought for so long that night we didn't stop fighting until 12 o'clock at night but then she made a threat to me so i made a threat right back but we said some things we shouldn't have said that and trust me we regret everything we said, well the friend was talking to at first but the other one who started to cuss me out first her and I lost our friendship. Me and and the friend that became friends again are best friends still to this very day, And i wouldn't do anything to make our friendship end.

S23: I remember this one guy in alaska was bullying me on my phone and i just fought back and it was not cool with me cause he just fought and fought so i just said to him you better stop before i call the cops and so he did and that was the last time ever heard from him . that was the only time i have ever been cyberbullyed in my whole life. i told my dad about it and he said what the number so i gave him the number and he said to him to not call my son ever again or i will call the cops on you and then hung up the phone.

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S32: when i was 11 my exfriend sent me a text message that said she was gonna hurt me and my family......

S38: On MySpace the person would try to make me mad by calling me names or saying she/he is going to do something to me or say stuff about me

S40: on myspace a kid threatened to cut my fingerss off and that he wus goin 2 jump me

S42: My friend and I were on facebook and she commented on my friends picture saying that I wasn't the cool one and I got mad about that because I wasn't even saying anything to her but then when she said that about me it sparked one of my nerves. So then I commented saying like wtf?! And she was like haha yea I don't give a fxxx about your bxxxx axx and just wait till I see you at school you ugly mother fxxxxx. She was saying all this stuff to me so obviously that is gonna get me more mad so I commented back then we were just saying all this rude stuff to each other and yes those words were cuss words. It was just getting us both more heated! So she commented again saying just wait for school to come and I'll show you what I'm gonna do so I waited and she didn't do anything. Then we were still talking bad to each other and then one day it came to it and we fought because of a whole bunch of stupid stuff. I didn't regret what I did cause her day will come when she gets her butt whooped and she ain't gonna like it. All of this was started cause of some stupid stuff on facebook. Just that little comment got me mad so I commented back and we were just going back and foth at it saying bad things and stuff that I shouldn't be saying. So then we were fighting on facebook for about an hour or two then finally went home and that's when all of it stopped. Then at school the next day she wanted to talk her mess behind my back so I said to her to talk her mess to my face and not behind my back because as long as she throws the first hit then I ain't tripping. So days went by and she didn't do anything. But then one day came and we couldn't take it anymore so she came up behind me and pushed me to the ground. She tried to punch

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S50: Okay all right, So I'm at my house, and I was playing tap tap revenge 3 online on my ipod touch. I had just gotten finished with playing the game. Of coarse I won:) and this guy gets mad at me and says things i havent even heard of before, one because it was in spanish, two because I dont speak spanish. So what I did is I look it up on google and I find out that he was cursing in spanish at me:( So I say this guy. "lave mi solo" which means leave me alone in espanol according to google.:(

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S61: One time I was texting they I got a text from a person it said fxxx this person and they are a piece of sxxx never talk to them. I texted back fxxx you I will not talk to you no more. Then he texted back shut the fxxx up bxxxx. I told him if he sent me another text I will call the police.

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S71: It was last month when this one person started this rumor bout me and i told her to stop so i wrote her a message and her friend found out bout it and she was telling me to leave her the f*** alone and to stop telling people that she spread the rumor bout me and then i ask her friend that to leave me and her alone cuz it only dilled with me and her and she was like im the boss of you and i had to listen to her and she was the boss of me......

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| | S79: well i wasnt really cyberbullyin more of a cyberfight but over the cell phone me and another person shared some angry words |
| Harassment | S10: Well it all started when i had dumped my jerk-butt boyfriend J ... after that he had tryed to turn all my friends against me or pay people to beat me up then one day i was on the computer and D got on and shaid and i quote "You need to shut you ****in mouth" and i said "What did i do ?" she sent back saying i had told everyone in school that i had spread a rumor that J was only datin his new girlfriend C to make me jelous but i never said that M did ... so then i kept on tellin her no i did and she said you come to school on Monday and see how many people believe you then i got upset started cryin and went in my room told my mom then my mom went to chat with her on facebook and she said she was paid 20 buck to kick my *** after school on Monday ... even though i didnt do ANYTHING ... but now i feel as if im losing my friends ... and i hate that cause i already lose friends constantly because of the army ... |
| | S67: ive only bn in a sit. like 1 time so...... it wasnt dat bd but anyways it was on a cell phone my friend ryan txt me an was lik "sup" i was like "nm" an thn all da sudden i gt a messge sayin, "wat da fxxx u doin txtin my bf. stay away frm him hes mine an if us gts a prob. wid it thn us gt a prob. wth me!!!!!!" i said "im only friends wid him soo..... wats it matta?" she rplyed and said "it mattas cuz u a sknkky ho dat needs 2 keep her leggs closed!" i said " ive neva eva had sex in my ilife so... dnt u b tellin me 2 keep mine closed i dnt evn lik hm lik dat were JUST FRIENDS!!!!!'" l8ter she replyed well it dnt matta if u wnna make dis a fight or nt cuz im comin 2 ur house an were gnna fight!!!!!!!" i tld her 2 leave me alone bt she wdnt so my mum pressed charges..... |
| Denigration | S10: and then there was another time when i was on facebook and i had added my friends 22 year old brother and he tried to get me to have cyber sex with him ... but i didnt and he got very upset and told his little sister abunch of rumors about me that were not true |
| | S10: and then there was a time when a girl had got on my profile ad said that i was flirtin with her boyfriend that ... i have no idea who dat is ... come to find out she aint got a boyfriend ... she was just tryin to break me and my boyfriend up .. |
| | S15: One time I was on MySpace as I always am after school. During that day I |

already had problems and didn't want to go to school. People were calling me face, saying I was ugly and that I was fat. The next day it carried on. I got to the point I didn't even want to come to school. When you tell teachers they start more problems because you told. Teachers don't fully understand when you are being bullied how it can mentally and physically hurt you. You feel as if your whole life is falling apart. I didn't want to eat, I couldn't sleep with all the text message I was getting. I started failing and if I could I just wanted to drop out just because of a silly text. But, at the time, I felt alone, hurt, unloved, uneasy. I wasn't myself. No one at all should ever bring someone down to the point where it affects them physically.

S37: Me and my friend in Hawaii had got into a fight and she decided she wanted to take it to far, so she actually posted stuff on my face-book and myspace that was really hurtful. Sure i was mean back but i wasn't being as bad as she was so i walked up to her and tried apologizing because i felt bad that i was being mean to her even though she's the one that started the whole thing i am not the type of person that can stay mad at a friend forever. So a week later she comes up to me and apologizes and deletes all the mean comments and we just move on and now were closer than friends were like sister's.

S46: okay, so my friend had some drama with a girl at school. later on, on a friday after school my friend came over to chill with me. we got on myspace and face book and when i got on facebook i had a new picture comment, so i looked at it and it was about my friend. my friend saw the comment and got mad, so she commented back, and they were going off on each other through facebook. then all of a sudden the girl bring's her friend's into it. so i get mad, and told her that wasn't fair, then she start's goin off on me, andd i was like what the ? so we were going at it for about 30 minutes to an hour. then the next week at school she was startin more drama, but my friend had ALOT of patience . through out the week she was still talkin her stuff, and then friday came and she messed with my friend physically. they got into it, and later on that day i got o myspace/ facebook and tha girl was still talkin, so me and her got into it on myspace, i was so mad, after two week's of glaring at, and talkin bout each other we finally settled this drama, and now we all kewl again ! (:

S62: The only time that I was bullied was when I was at my old school and this bxxxx said on myspace that i was a sxxx and that i was pregnant when she was the fxxxing sxxx.

| | |
|---|---|
| Outing & Trickery | S13: I've had nasty things said about me online to other be and my friends would just go back and tell me what they were saying like they would say that I would tell them something like who my bestfriend liked even if I don't even talk to that person. It's kind of like they would be trying to start some stuff with me because I might not even like that person. I don't really go online alot because I don't really care for that stuff anymore but it doesn't matter what I still end up getting talked about and it is really annoying.<br><br>S34: One time when I was sick my friend called me and was talking about my other friend and I thought she was kind-of annoying so I told her that. Well, turns out they tricked me and the other girl was on the other line and heard everything I said. Then they went around e-mailing all my friends. Then i got a bunch of emails saying I was a bad person and they would no longer let me hang out with them. Sooner or later all my friends were turned against me.<br><br>S39: ok lets go.... last year me n my sis were tlkn to this guy on myspace n we acted |

| | like we were a guy she liked but we were'nt. So he found out n of course my sis was stupid enugh to tell him our address and our number so he came to our house n we ddnt answer n he called and threatend me n my sis of chocking us n i answered the door n he was only like 14 so i showed him whos boss n then i was in the yard fighting him and of cource we kinda had the same strength but i was fast and wasnt goin to let him touch us |
|---|---|

**Question 2: Describe how you felt when you were being cyberbullied.**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
|---|---|
| Angry Frustrated | S1: I felt really mad, and I wanted to rant for DAYS. I mean, just because you have a higher rank than me doesn't mean you can just push me around since I told your freaking idiot of a friend to leave. I RUN THIS. Not her.<br><br>S6: I was upset that that girl called me a bxxxx for something I didn't do to her and I was annoyed and angry she wouldn't stop texting me no matter how many times I ignored her.<br><br>S7: I made me feel infuriated. I didn't want to talk to anyone about it or anything close to talk it out with her.<br><br>S10: Well when it first started i was frustrated ... cause i hadnt done anything ... but people said i were ... and it made me lose 1.My pride 2. My friends 3. Part of my mom ... and 4. My trust in others ... witch made me not wanna go have fun like to the movies,park,a walk, partys , school ... it got so bad i just wanted to not talk to anyone not even my dad, mom or lil brother ... everyone was calling me a hxx and a sxxx for something i didnt do ... but of course they dont believe that ... :/<br><br>S13: It made me feel like i couldnt do anything about it kinda like i had no power i knew that no matter what i did theese people were still going to talk about me. iut didnt want make me cry as much as it made me realy angry cuz its not something that happens eveeryday but its happened to me a couple of times and sometimes i realy hate it cuz it is soooooo anoying i felt like if you had something to say abot me wht do you have to do it online for and whats the point of you trin to start something wit me it started alot of drama for me and my freinds cuz its like i culd loose my bestfrnd cuz she thinks that betraying her secrets like that when im not<br><br>S21: It made me mad so I started doing the same to them.<br><br>S22: It made me mad because i didn't do anything to them but they just started to cuss me out so if someone says something to me that they shouldn't have said it will take a long time for me to forgive you<br><br>S23: I felt annoyed and angry at him so i just told him about it and he handled it<br><br>S25: It makes me mad when some one does something like that. Why would someone do that? I do not think its fun. I think its dumb. I do care what people think. |

S26: It felt retarded and stupid like this person only wanted attention to something that didn't make any sense. That they just wanted to talk shit to get other people involved which is stupid to me because if it ain't that serious then don't worry about going to this other person talking some nonsense and be the bigger person. So to me I didn't care and thought it was really retarded but was pissed off to where I wanted to fight.

S29: I felt like, well my stomach tightened and I just go like so mad and I wanted to say something bad about that person but I didn't.

S37: I was pretty hurt. I felt like a knife just went threw my heart because she told some secrets that i did not want to be told at all. so i was hurt, sad, mad, depressed, and embarrased

S46: I wasn't real sad or scared or nothin like that, but i was really mad, and i had alot of anger built up in me.

S50: I :( felt like I was less of a person because I dont like being cursed at or disrespected at all:(

S60; i was mad as all hell, there was no reason for it, but after sometime and a bible study time, i realized it didnt matter, it was worth it.

S64: I felt like killing someone and then i was punchin holes in the wall and it was crazy

S74: Ihtt didntt makee mehh feel anyway i was juss really heated & was ready to fightt herr right there .

S75: it made me feel angry because i can have my own opion n not like sum1 n she didnt like me bac so i didnt get y i could not lik her as a person n her horrible attitude it made me want 2 fite her but she did not walk home so that was not possible it definetly made me annoyed and at dat tim alot ppl started hating me n not likin me becausse of sum rumors that were goin around so it made me cry alot n i didnt want to ever cum bac to dis skool so i got scared n skipped skool a coupl times

S76: Made me Worried about my account and my parents so we won't be robbed by a hacker. Made me frustrated, angry and worried so much.

| Sad Bad | S4:  it made me feel bad because I didn't want to lose my bestie over some stupid rumor that was kinda true but it wasn't from me. |
| | S28: I felt upset and I cried a few times. |
| | S32: when i was cyberbullied i felt really bad...i also felt sad because my friend was the person doing it.....i was scared at the stuff she said because we had just go into a big fight.. |
| | S34: I felt hurt. I felt like I didn't have any real friends and that they didn't |

like me. It was just so hurtful and I didn't want to be their friend anymore. I was thinking "Why in the world would someone do that???"

S37: I was pretty hurt. I felt like a knife just went threw my heart because she told some secrets that i did not want to be told at all. so i was hurt, sad, mad, depressed, and embarrased

S65: It made me feel bad

S71: it hurts to no that someone wants you dead and that im ugly and then we have to hide how we feel bout it only if they could feel the pain i am going through....

S73: i sorta felt hurt because that one girl was my best friend.

S78: i felt really bad

| | |
|---|---|
| Depressed Suicidal Helpless Isolated | S14: Idk , I didn't feel anything. But when he started yelling at me and threatening me and all this crap. I started crying and I wanted to kill myself. But my friends snapped me out of it. So I'm all good [= |
| | S15 ; I felt alone. I felt hurt and used. My heart felt as if it was ripped out of me as if my blood wasn't flowing. My whole body hurt. My eyes, from all my tears. My throat from all my cryuing. My head, from all the reading. I literally was broken. I couldn't move. I couldn't eat. I hated showing up to each and every class. I never once though I was going to stop. |
| | S19: I felt like all my friends were getting mad at me because of a rumor that wasn't true. I never wanted to lose some of the best friends I've ever had! I felt like I was being torn apart slowly by all the people that cared for me. |
| | S37: I was pretty hurt. I felt like a knife just went threw my heart because she told some secrets that i did not want to be told at all. so i was hurt, sad, mad, depressed, and embarrased |
| | S40: depression was a big problem |
| | S44: It made me feel shut out because I have not been cyberbullied before so it hurt me |
| | S49: Well, it didn't feel good! I felt like everyone was against me. |
| | S63: it made me fell like a pice of heart was missing |
| | S67: I felt lik i was bin punshed 4 sumthin i dnt do. y did she try an fight me wen i tld her we were jst frnds. y wld she continue afta i thratened 2 prss charges.... it made me fl lik i hadf no control ova wat wld happen |
| | S68: I felt really unsafe and i wish people could just stop it because its not |

| | very smart to just do that to someone. I wish they made cyberbullying a LAW!. |
|---|---|
| Felt sorry for them | S61: I felt bad for this person. I told them to calm down and don't worry I will still be their friend. |
| No Feelings | S08:  Actually, I didn't really feel anything. Like I said, I got over being cyber bullied a while ago because it used to happen to me so much. I didn't exactly care for the fact she was calling me names and stuff, she couldn't come to my home and hurt me or anything. So I guess the only thing I wanted was for the girl to go away. No big deal for me.

S38: like they were just trying to get my attention and see what they could get outa me. It doesnt effect me.

S42: It didn't made me feel bad because I knew that if she three a hit to me that I was just gonna whoop her butt!

S62: I didnt care until it effected me with my boyfriend.

S79: however it would make any NORMAL person feel is not for me words dont hurt like the old saying sticks n stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me :) |
| Scared | S32: when i was cyberbullied i felt really bad...i also felt sad because my friend was the person doing it.....i was scared at the stuff she said because we had just go into a big fight..

S43: I felt scared because they were sending pictures and telling me that they know where I lived. I was scared to even come out of the house!
S72: i want scared it was just dat i h8 how he got mad at me cuz i rejected his cuz.i kinda didnt worrie becouse i kno he wudnt do anything but in a way i was becouse he was 17 and i was 12.so i was bu wuznt worried |

**Question 3: Describe how the cyberbullying situation had an effect in your life.**

| Node | Exemplar quotes |
|---|---|
| Interpersonal Problems | S01: It didn't really bother me since it was during the summer, but I was still really mad about that. I just didn't want to go on the site anymore because I think they'd keep bugging me, and it made me not want to write anymore for about two weeks.

S10: Well when this had all happened my grades all droped in school becaus 1. I never showed up ... 2. The drama pulled my mind away from consentration and 3. I felt very unsafe  ... my friend lost there trust in me and i lost my trust in everyone , my mom began not to let me go anywere , do anything , or even believe a word i said ... the only person i felt was on my side was my dad ... to bad hes never around ...

S13: it started sooo much and ended alot of drama wit me n my friends ive almost lost my bessst freinds trust because of the stuff that theese people would say to her and it was hurtful beacuze i didnt realy understand why |

you had to go around and say theese

S15: It Broke My Friendship With Some Of My Friends. And That Hurt Me The Most. My Family Was Constantly Worried About Me . I Wouldn't Eat  , I Couldn't Sleep. I Was Soo Sore. I Wanted To Hurt Myself More Just To Get The Pain Out. My Grades Fell Bad. A's To D's. Sometimes I Would Hide It The Bathroom Just To Ignore It . But , i Couldn't. i Needed School , So i Faced My Fears

S19: I had trouble hanging out with friends and had trouble being with my girl friend. I had troule with myself because I was disappointed that I had lost my friends and didn't do a lot about it.

S22: well since i lost my best friend it made school really hard because her and me talked all day because her and me had a lot of classes together so i had other friends to hang out with but not anybody that i could really relate too. MY life at home was hard

S25: It messes up relationships and friendships. I like this girl and the things they say about her are not true. It makes me so mad I want to hit them in the face. They are so wrong. Why would you say something like that? Now I have to talk to the girl so sh

S29: well, i told a couple of friends what she said and then they werent friends with her anymore and it made me feel bad.,....

S32: - i had trouble in school,making new friends, it also made it hard in my relationship with my family beacause i wouldnt talk to anybody and they thought i was going into a deppresion and that i would end up hurting myself

S34: - After that I only had a few friends. They started being rude and ignoring me at school. I had to find a new seat at lunch, where I ended up sitting next to people I barely knew.

S38: - I had alittle trouble with friends because the bully would tell them i was saying something about them or im pretending to be there friend or i was gona try to steal there boyfriend or something but in the end i kept them because i proved the bully was a

S50: - I didnt have a bad attitude because I have learned to keep my head up above the shadows and give myself put ups in whatever language they are speaking. THis is not a joke this is a real strategy for me.

S58: - Its really hard to make friends.I mean I have some of course but other times I feel as if I'm not wanted. Here we have groups. I float around with mostly everybody or try to. There's always FAKE people who say they are you're friends and just talk about y

S63: - it made it hader cuz i afraid to go outside at night

| | |
|---|---|
| | S64: - one day wen i was in sixth grade me and dis kid had problems so he put on myspace that i was a bxxxx and i had no balls and i was gay so the next day evrybody was pickin on me |
| | S67: - well im nt really dat of great of frnds wid ryan anymore he dated er still an thn l8ter brk up wid her an askin me out. i tld him no asked y he lt thngs happen lik dat an y he evn let her hav my #. i also asked y he wanted date me he said he only wnted 2 |
| | S71: - it hurts cuz no one wants to talk to you bout it and then they tell other people not to talk to you.... they could kill them selfs and that is how i feel sometimes but i no that it is the wrong thing to do.... |
| | S72: - It was fine,the only bad thing was that da girl didnt like 2 chill wit me and she wuz cool.i just lived life as it is and she got over it and we endid up bien friends agian aftr lik a YEAR!! |
| | S73: - it just ruined my friendship with my best friend because she was stupid. |
| | S76: - Well nothing about school but it give me trouble about making friends because some friends can hack people account without them being there so ill watch what kind of friends ill have. |
| | S79: - well not really just me and that person werent friends i dont even care about cyberbullying its just some RETARD telling me things i know arent true |
| No Effect | S08: Well, I didn't know the girl in real life so it had no affect on me. Although I did feel a little better that she couldn't take advantage of me or anything. |
| | S23: - i dont really think it had any affect on me ever since that happened to me which was like a year ago. |
| | S33: - I laughed at the stuff they typed because they try to hurt me but it doesnt work |
| | S46: - naa, i didnt realy loose nothin, except for one friend and she was the one that we had a problem with, but now we all good |
| | S60: no...... no one knew, it was just one of those things, im used to it, if it were not to happen, than it wouldnt have h appen , |
| Perspective Change | S37: It made me relize it's not fun being on the other side of the mean comment. |
| Safety Concerns | S04:  She never talked to me again and she is still trying to fight me even though she knows that she is going to lose. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | S10: Well when this had all happened my grades all droped in school becaus 1. I never showed up ... 2. The drama pulled my mind away from consentration and 3. I felt very unsafe ... my friend lost there trust in me and i lost my trust in everyone , my mom beg<br><br>S15: It broke my friendship with some of my friends and that hurt me the most. My family was constantly worried about me. I wouldn't eat, I couldn't sleep, I was so sore. I wanted to hurt myself more just to get the pain out. My grades fell bad. A's to D's. So<br><br>S32: i had trouble in school,making new friends, it also made it hard in my relationship with my family beacause i wouldnt talk to anybody and they thought i was going into a deppresion and that i would end up hurting myself<br><br>S39: it made me feel that i could beat ne one up and that i am a hero<br><br>S40: it effected me because the kid wud cyber bullied me threatened me and he was in my class at school so i would be scared and nervouse and always around an adlt<br><br>S42: We got into a fight but I didn't care because she's gonna regret saying the things that she said to me!<br><br>S43: It was hard to focus on school and family because I'd always look around making sure someone wasn't following me, someone didn't have a gun pointed at me or something. It was hard to listen to friends, I turned my phone off because I was still getting messages<br>S62: Um nothing happened the only thing that happened was that we got in a fight. and she was the one to lose all her friends.<br><br>S63: it made it hader cuz i afraid to go outside at night<br><br>S71: it hurts cuz no one wants to talk to you bout it and then they tell other people not to talk to you.... they could kill them selfs and that is how i feel sometimes but i no that it is the wrong thing to do....<br><br>S74: - Well iht makes u really mad , & sometimesz peoplee kill theree selff forr tht . Thtszz nott gewddd !<br><br>S75: da effect made me want those ppl dead or never in my life i was so pissed sumtimes i would think about n want 2 cry or just get into a fite after skool 2 get my angry out on sum1 but it would never make me want to kill myself because i would find sum otha |
| School Problems | S06: It makes things harder because you have to sit and have the burden of thinking someone is going to call you names or keep antagonizing you and it could affect your classwork. You are not focused and your anger gets taken out on everyone like your family.<br><br>S10: Well when this had all happened my grades all droped in school |

becaus 1. I never showed up ... 2. The drama pulled my mind away from consentration and 3. I felt very unsafe ... my friend lost there trust in me and i lost my trust in everyone , my mom beg

S15: - It broke my friendship with some of my friends and that hurt me the most. My family was constantly worried about me. I wouldn't eat, I couldn't sleep, I was so sore. I wanted to hurt myself more just to get the pain out. My grades fell bad. A's to D's. So

S28: - I had trouble in school a little but i regained myself

S32: i had trouble in school,making new friends, it also made it hard in my relationship with my family beacause i wouldnt talk to anybody and they thought i was going into a deppresion and that i would end up hurting myself

S43:  It was hard to focus on school and family because I'd always look around making sure someone wasn't following me, someone didn't have a gun pointed at me or something. It was hard to listen to friends, I turned my phone off because I was still getting messages

S49: It made it harder for me to learn at school because they just kept on saying mean things about me then they would make rumors about me and it was just outrageous.

S65: I wasn't doing homework and all that stuff

S66: there was this gurl and she had a pic of herself one her phone then this one gurl had took her phone and sent it then they got into this big argument and when she came to school ppl were calling her a sxxx hxx and bxxxx. Then she thought about transfering

S68: Well it did effect me in school , i wasnt really paying attention in school cause the person that was doing it to me was in like all my classes and i was not only cyberbullied by him i was cyber bullied by alot of people cause there was this rumor going

**Question 4: Please describe the cyberbullying situation that involved someone you knew.**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
|---|---|
| **Location** | |
| Cell Phone | S16: One of my close friends was being cyberbullied on her cell phone and she got really hurt by it so, she told her mom. And her mom called the cops so the cops had to track the person that was cyberbullying my friend. I didn't hear if they caught them though...<br><br>S24: Well, this boy was trying to fight my friend so I sent a text to everyone saying that they were going to fight at the bridge. I even sent it to him. He was like no I can't, I got to do something so I sent a message to everyone saying he was a bxxxx axx nigga and he was fxxxxxx scared so |

| | |
|---|---|
| | he told me to stop but I didn't. I sent it to everyone on my phone which is about 80 people and like when he didn't show up no one was his friend anymore.<br><br>S27: Somebody cussed out my friend in a text message and she and her mom knew the person<br><br>S30: I remember that one day she had told that it was happening two her and I asked her if it was just a prank or something. She showed me a text she had gottom from a number she didn't know. It said something like Hi_____, you better not come to _____'s party tomorrow or else. I was totally surprised and I asked if she had any idea who it was. She didn't. The next day, she got another saying "good job listening to me". She was growing scared that if she didn't listen that something would happen. After a few days of thinking it over, another one of my friends knew what to do. Everyone at school was in her phone because she had so many friends. She compared numbers and found out who it was. She went straight to the principal and the girl was expelled.<br><br>S45: I knew a few people that had been cyberbullied. It happened to one of my friends. It was about a picture she took of herself. Somebody went through her phone and sent it to everybody. They bullied her around over myspace and on the phone and told everybody that she sent it out. It affected a lot of things like her reputation and her friendships.<br><br>S58: On the cell phone people have taken naked pics of them selves and are exposed to everyone. Then it just spreads around people say one thing then another. Then it gets on myspace, facebook and the circle keeps spinning around until they have no friends. And they all turn on you, before you know it you are getting in fights and the cops are involved and its really bad.<br><br>S64: my best friend was special need he was a cool little kid we always hung out until his mom got him a cell phone dis bully he was like 15 and he got a hold of my friends number so he was texting him and callin him retarted stupid axx and a bxxxx axx kid |
| Chatroom or Forums | S31: I havnt really Been in a Situatin like cyberbullying i dont think, but my Friend have been and she told me about it. She was On the Computer and an instant message thing poped up and it was this Girl that She Thought they where sorta close, Well the Girl starts Calling her names and crap. Me and Her where still best friends but then she Moved because she said she hated this place and was sick f being made fun of.I am happy 4 her know because Know she has many friends and a boyfriend and is confident |
| E-Mail | S11: My friend was being cyberbullied on e-mail because she was really tall, to tall to be in sixth grade. She kept reiceiving some emails in which she was teased and she started getting all sad. After a while she got sick and tired of it and she started talking about dropping out of school. I did convince her to stay in school but then after a while she started talking |

| | about just running away. and i convinced her to stay but after a while she got mad and started acting like she was going to fight them. after this kept going on for a while she was sick of it and ran out of the school and told us bye and she said she was not coming to school again for a while. weeks turned into a month and she didn't come back. After the one month was up i went to check on her and i told her she should come back and tell the principal she said she was scared to tell and i told her she should. we went to the principal and told. Then he found out who it was and they got in trouble. after that she realized she should tell even if she dosent want to. |
|---|---|
| Online Gaming | S44: I know some of my friends on xbox have been cyberbullied and I have been theere with them and I tried to stick up with for them so that the person could leave them alone<br><br>S50: My friend C was online playing Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, and he was playing online with his microphone so that he could speak to the other players:) While he was playing the other team was speaking and he heard them say to him u stink( he did not actually say stink but I don't think that it would be appropriate to say) and you need to get a life.<br><br>S60: I HAVE FRIENDS ON MY DSI WHO ARE CONNECTED BY FLIPNOTES, NOW I KNOW YOUR DOING TIS FOR SAFETY BUT IF YOU CAN DONT TAKE THIS APP, YOU CAN EXPRESS YOURSELF AND BE YOU, WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE KNOW ONE ELSE THAT I HAVE MEAT CAN KNOW MY TRUE INNER SELF, ANY WAYS, MY FRIEND xxxx xxxx AND xxxxxx xxxx WERE TALKING ONE DAY AND WERE ABRUTLY INTERUPPTED AND ATTACKED [[VERBALY BY TEXT][] THEY WERE MAKING MY TWO FRIENDS FAIRLY UPSET AND I WAS REALLY GETTING MAD I ENDED IT BUT I KNOW THEY STILL FEEL BAD AND WILL NEVER BE THEM SE;LVES AGAIN, xxxx |
| Online Social Networking Sites | S10: and then there was the time one of my friends had gone to a beach party and her bikini top had ben pulled of and some one took a pic and put it on Myspace .. she had gottin so upset she began cuttin her self ... and it got bad enough were they had to hold her in a hospital and make sure she didnt cause she had cutin a vain ... and she came very ... very close to dying<br><br>S13: on face book my friend was always messaging this guy that she realy liked at school she would ask me to go and ask him if he liked her back he would tell me that he did but then he would go behind her back and tell eveone else that he wishes she would just gt out of his face and on faceboook he called her a bxxxx and told her that she needs to get of his dxxx and i was so shockd cuz he posted it and eveeryone was commentiing on that post he also called her annoying and me annoying it was the weirdest thin ever and we thoought that someone told hi that she was a sxxx and it was the guy my freind liked best freind and we asked him if he called her a sxxx and he told us that he didnt but we know that he did and then later on my freind started liking him i realy didnt understand her logic but it happens |

S15: Sixth grade is always a new beginning. A new step. We were all excited to be in middle school. My best friend and I were walking home and people started yelling at my friend calling her a hot and a sxxx. They were saying she was a sorry excuse for a daughter and that no one wanted her. At the time, my best friend's Mom had just passed away and her Dad was in Iraq. But, the firls saying that to her didn't know that. Later on, her cell phone was blowing up of text messages from people saying she is a liar, hxx, etc. We got on our MySpace and it was posted on everyones status. She just broke down. Her face became white and my should because her best friend. The next day she wasn't there. In all my class they called her name and no reply. After school I stopped by. I knocked on the door and no answer. Weird, I knocked again. Maybe she was sleeping. No answer. I opened the door and called her name. No reply. I walked into the kitchen. One of the chairs was missing. I walked around the corner to her room. There was my best friend. A rope and her. She killed herself. I read the note. It said, "they said I was unloved. They said I wasn't needed. So I'm gone. With no love and unwanted." My eyes poured. All because of rumors. My best friend killed herself.

S19: - Ok, to be honest, I cyberbullied some one on MySpace last night because they were being a big bxxxx and wouldn't leave me alone. I told them they were useless and I didn't care about them and that they didn't mean anything to me and that I hated them and never wanted to see them again! I told them that if they didn't leave me and my girl along I would fight them myself and them make sure they never seen me or her again. I didn't mean everything I said but who doesn't when there are mad? Also last night when I was texting this person they told me I was a bxxxx and that they hated me that they was going to fight me because I hung out with people they didn't like! See in my life if you hang with some one that just like saying that you will fight for or with them and I take that seriously! I told that person they need to back off and leave us alone. They wouldn't listen and kept yelling at me they didn't listen to my feelings and kept telling me I was a stupid piece of sxxx and that I didn't matter to them. I felt said but at the same time I knew it was just being a bully and that they didn't scare me.

S20: One of my friends that I used to be friends with was being a cyberbully and she was one of the people who was being the victim of the bullying. She was going out with this guy and this other girl though that she was going out with this same guy but they were cussing each other out on the Internet (Facebook) and they both starting fighting but they didn't think it as being the boys fault so then they were both doubbling up on this guy about what had happened so then they both got in trouble for doing it to each other.

S25: I have had a friend that was cyberbullied. She did not do anything bad but a girl flipped out on her. I went on facebook and she told me to make fun of her and I said I do not want to say mean stuff to her and I told them to stop and they did not. I told them to quit messing with her and that I like her alot and I want to go out with her and she was a good friend so I did not want to mess with her so that's why I don't like people that can

do and mess with my friends.

S35: My friend, her name was xxxxxx, She was 15. She and this dude were dating. When they broke up the dude started spreading bad pics of hur online and threw FWDS on Cells. Girls and boys got hur email and started hacking all hur stuff and leaving bad comments and sending bad msgs to ppl pretending to be hur. She lost all of her friends, sept me ill alway be hur friend, i was her best friend. But then it started getting worse, Girls left notes on her bedroom window calling hur bad things and saying things tht she did that she knows she would never have done. She got nasty phone calls and txt msgs. Even online on her Myspace account everyone was sending hur bad msges and calling hur bad names. At school i could see how bad she was hurting nomatter how well she was hiding hur pain from everyone else. The pain in hur eyes was terrible. Then one day these three or four girls Sent hur 17 msgs calling hur things like "wxxxx" or "sxxx" and many other bad things like that. That night she told hur mom, she showed hur mom all the msges she was getting and her mom started yelling at hur and saying how disapointed she was in hur daughter for the replys she sent back to the girls. she was saying nuthing to comfort her own daughter. D ran back up to hur room and hung hurself in her closet. Hur mom went to go check on her, when she got to the room she sceamed. hur dad ran up the stairs and cut the belt off her neck and begged hur not to die on him. She went to the hospital and died that night. All this just because of one boy, the drama he started caused hur enough pain to take hur life away. She will never get it back, it was a mistake she made and it wasnt the right choice. I miss hur alot but in my heart she is still on earth and im still hur best friend. even if shes not here in the flesh, i still talk to hur, and she talks back.

S37: Well, my friend was being cussed out by some 27 year old stranger that we didn't know on facebook because when she set her account she forgot to put it on private.

S41: My friend was helpin her other friend about a situation so her friend said said to be mean to this girl on facebook and that she will pay her if she will do it so my friend decided to do it this girl was very innocent. My friend the next day tld me that she was cusing this girl out for her friend everythin i tolkd her that she should have never done that and that you can get introuble by ANYONE.

S42: Well my friend and my other friend we were talking on myspace but one of them said something wrong to the other and so they were both talking smack to each other and just the other day they ended up fighting.

S43: On facebook these two girls were arguing over something stupid if you ask me. They were both my friends so of course I kept up with the arguing. They were arguing because one girls boyfriend was talking tot eh other one and she thought he was cheating so she called her a little bxxxx. They they went back and forth talking and arguing then they started talking about fighting, then I said is this really necessary? They both said yes so I was like they might not even fight this is probably all words. The

next day I hear that they are gonna fight after school. I couldn't go to see if it was true or not because I had to go home but they really did fight and it got a little out of hand. Then I heard one of them was in the hospital. I was so lost but I saw them both at school the next day fine.

S45: I knew a few people that had been cyberbullied. It happened to one of my friends. It was about a picture she took of herself. Somebody went through her phone and sent it to everybody. They bullied her around over myspace and on the phone and told everybody that she sent it out. It affected a lot of things like her reputation and her friendships.

S46: My friend got cyberbullied by a girl on one of my facebook picture's, and m friend got mad and started commenting back, the commenting went on for about 30 mins, to an hour. they psted stuff bout each other on thier status's and just alked samck to each other, but it is all settled now, and we are all cool. <$$

S47: someone from last year was cyber bullied because another person wuz makin fun of how fat she was. the other gurl posted on myspace how she was gonna bring her a twinkie the nxt day at gym.

S48: - 1.Myspace- This girl named A was getting bullied by this girl H because she had liked H's friend J's boyfriend. They were all friends but when J asked who A liked, she lied and didn't tell her it was Jamie's boyfriend. Well As updated her status saying something along the lines of "I wish I didn't like you" or something like it. H commented and started saying that she needs to watch out because J was really mad. A didn't want to deal with it or something, but anyways it got into a big fight over Myspace and H was just being really mean saying that M, J's boyfriend would never like her, and that she wasn't Mexican, that she looked like raw chicken. She kept calling her names such as a bxxxx, wxxxx, hxx, sxxx. And they went back and forth saying it. I tried stepping in saying that H should just let J and A talk it out and see what would happen. But she responded with "she'll just add me again". And it was just nonsense. A few other people joined in. One was supporting H. And I think two others were supporting A. Finally J read the comments and commented that things were getting out of hand and that she wanted to stop. It started to calm down and eventually ceased, but I don't think that A likes H and vise versa. 2. Facebook & Myspace- This girl R posted something about how she called this girl fake and that she needed to stop lying to everyone. She joined in and they just started calling each other fake and everything. Other people joined in causing them to call other people fake and mean names. It stopped a few days ago I think though.

S51: One day in school there was a lot of people talking about this one girl and another girl that fought; But this was out of school. So when one girl beat the other she had went on face book and wrote about the girl she beat; & said that she kicked her butt and she was fake , and that the other girl didn't even lay a hand on her.

S53: One of my friends on facebook was really upset one day when one of

her classmates had posted a fake message from her ruining her reputation. She has been a chatter box since me and my family meet her but to go to a extent as to go say to all her friends that she is lying Bxxxx. She wasn't the same for a month

S57: We were on myspace and these girls were messing with another girl cuz she stole her guy. and they used to b friends so they knew alot and put her whole buisness on blast. called her a ho put her sex life out there and just destroyed th girls rep. don't know them well so it was kinda intetaining but im sure she was upset or embarresed and thats gotta suck.

S58: On the cell phone people have taken naked pics of them selves and are exposed to everyone. Then it just spreads around people say one thing then another. Then it gets on myspace, facebook and the circle keeps spinning around until they have no friends. And they all turn on you, before you know it you are getting in fights and the cops are involved and its really bad.

S59: on facebook my mom has been cyber bullied because everybody on my step dads side of the family are mean to her like hack her account on facebook or put mean post up about her.

S68: Well me and my friend were just hanging out one day and she just told her friend a deep seceret and i dont know what it id but yah the person posted it on facebook and ,myspace and stuff like that. and the she promised to not tell any one.

S69: Okay Soo, My Friendd "Snowflakee" Was Being Cyberbullied My Thiss Girl namedd "Ghetto Butterfly" . Ghetto Butterfly Didnt Like Snowflakee Because She Was Dating This Guy Named "Beaver" andd Ghetto Butterfly Liked Beaver. So Ghetto Butterfly Made Up a Whole Bunch Of Lies About Snowflake Like "She's Just Using Him" - "She Is Cheating On Him" etc. And She Told Beaver && He Was Yelling At Snowflake For It. Then Snowflake gawt Mad At Ghetto Butterfly, Ghetto Butterfly Starting Yelling At Snowflake And Tried To Deny Everything. Then Snowflake Said "Whatever, Shut Uhp. I Dont Wanna Listen To Your Bull Crap Anymore"! Then Ghetto Butterfly Said "Oh Hecks No!" And She Was Talking Trash Like Hard Core About Snowflake. Saying Things Like Oh Hate Her So Freaking Much! Imma Beat Her Up. Just Things Like Thaat... [And Keep In Mind This is All Happenning Over FaceBook) Then Because Im Snowflakes Bestfriend I Had To Get Involved. So I Just Told Ghetto Butterfly That She Needs To Backk Off! Andd Guess What? SHE SURE DID DO EXACTLY WHAT I SAID. I Thinkk Ihts Cause Im Pretty Intimidating, Haha.

S70: My friend commented on my other friend's picture on Facebook. My friend who put the comment said something mean about another girl. Then the girl that my friend was talking about replied to my friend's comment. Then they started arguing about how they thought each other was ugly and who was young an has already had sex at the age of 12 with her 16 year old boyfriend. Then the girl that my friend made remark about

said that she was going to get her 16 year old boyfriend to beat up my friend if my friend had touched her. Then they wanted to fight each other after school one day and they did.

S73: my one friend was being cyberbullied over myspace. it bothered her and she got scared. she changed schools then later killed herself.

S74: THE CYBERBULLYING STARTED ON FACEBOOK / : & Aht tha endd theree wasz a fiqhtt .

S77: Ok this what happen my girlfriend was getting made at my ex girlfriend so one day my girl was writing my ex on myspace and my girl was telling her thats she wanted to fight her and my ex was all like no Im not gonna fight you over a boy that i don't even go out with anymore and then my girl was all like no no no but you did so now we gonna fight and thats the end

| Type of Cyberbullying | |
| --- | --- |
| Flaming | S19: Ok, to be honest, I cyberbullied some one on MySpace last night because they were being a big bxxxx and wouldn't leave me alone. I told them they were useless and I didn't care about them and that they didn't mean anything to me and that I hated them and never wanted to see them again! I told them that if they didn't leave me and my girl along I would fight them myself and them make sure they never seen me or her again. I didn't mean everything I said but who doesn't when there are mad? Also last night when I was texting this person they told me I was a bxxxx and that they hated me that they was going to fight me because I hung out with people they didn't like! See in my life if you hang with some one that just like saying that you will fight for or with them and I take that seriously! I told that person they need to back off and leave us alone. They wouldn't listen and kept yelling at me they didn't listen to my feelings and kept telling me I was a stupid piece of shit and that I didn't matter to them. I felt said but at the same time I knew it was just being a bully and that they didn't scare me.<br><br>S20: One of my friends that I used to be friends with was being a cyberbully and she was one of the people who was being the victim of the bullying. She was going out with this guy and this other girl though that she was going out with this same guy but they were cussing each other out on the Internet (Facebook) and they both starting fighting but they didn't think it as being the boys fault so then they were both doubbling up on this guy about what had happened so then they both got in trouble for doing it to each other.<br><br>S26: - It was a friend of mine who was getting bullied to where I butted in to get this crap handled because it doesn't need to happen. It went very close to a fight but didn't but a lot of words were used in this type of fact that is not the nicest but I cleared my system very well to where I said no |

what don't even worry about it because its stupid just doyou let them deal with theirselves

S27: Somebody cussed out my friend in a text message and she and her mom knew the person

S31: I havnt really Been in a Situatin like cyberbullying i dont think, but my Friend have been and she told me about it. She was On the Computer and an instant message thing poped up and it was this Girl that She Thought they where sorta close, Well the Girl starts Calling her names and crap. Me and Her where still best friends but then she Moved because she said she hated this place and was sick f being made fun of.I am happy 4 her know because Know she has many friends and a boyfriend and is confident

S37: Well, my friend was being cussed out by some 27 year old stranger that we didn't know on facebook because when she set her account she forgot to put it on private.

S41: My friend was helpin her other friend about a situation so her friend said said to be mean to this girl on facebook and that she will pay her if she will do it so my friend decided to do it this girl was very innocent. My friend the next day tld me that she was cusing this girl out for her friend everythin i tolkd her that she should have never done that and that you can get introuble by ANYONE.

S42: Well my friend and my other friend we were talking on myspace but one of them said something wrong to the other and so they were both talking smack to each other and just the other day they ended up fighting.

S43: On facebook these two girls were arguing over something stupid if you ask me. They were both my friends so of course I kept up with the arguing. They were arguing because one girls boyfriend was talking tot eh other one and she thought he was cheating so she called her a little bxxxx. They they went back and forth talking and arguing then they started talking about fighting, then I said is this really necessary? They both said yes so I was like they might not even fight this is probably all words. The next day I hear that they are gonna fight after school. I couldn't go to see if it was true or not because I had to go home but they really did fight and it got a little out of hand. Then I heard one of them was in the hospital. I was so lost but I saw them both at school the next day fine.

S46: My friend got cyberbullied by a girl on one of my facebook picture's, and m friend got mad and started commenting back, the commenting went on for about 30 mins, to an hour. they psted stuff bout each other on thier status's and just alked samck to each other, but it is all settled now, and we are all cool.

S47: someone from last year was cyber bullied because another person wuz makin fun of how fat she was. the other gurl posted on myspace how she was gonna bring her a twinkie the nxt day at gym.

S48: 1.Myspace- This girl named Aisis was getting bullied by this girl Hailey because she had liked Haileys friend Jamie's boyfriend. They were all friends but when Jamie asked who Aisis liked, she lied and didn't tell her it was Jamie's boyfriend. Well Aisis updated her status saying something along the lines of "I wish I didn't like you" or something like it. Hailey commented and started saying that she needs to watch out because Jamie was really mad. Aisis didn't want to deal with it or something, but anyways it got into a big fight over Myspace and Hailey was just being really mean saying that Michael, Jamie's boyfriend would never like her, and that she wasn't Mexican, that she looked like raw chicken. She kept calling her names such as a bxxxx, whore, hxx, sxxx. And they went back and forth saying it. I tried stepping in saying that Hailey should just let Jamie and Aisis talk it out and see what would happen. But she responded with "she'll just add me again". And it was just nonsense. A few other people joined in. One was supporting Hailey. And I think two others were supporting Aisis. Finally Jamie read the comments and commented that things were getting out of hand and that she wanted to stop. It started to calm down and eventually ceased, but I don't think that Aisis likes Hailey and vise versa. 2.Facebook&Myspace- This girl Rachel posted something about how she called this girl fake and that she needed to stop lying to everyone. She joined in and they just started calling each other fake and everything. Other people joined in causing them to call other people fake and mean names. It stopped a few days ago I think though.

S50: My friend Cutakente was online playing Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, and he was playing online with his microphone so that he could speak to the other players:) While he was playing the other team was speaking and he heard them say to him u stink( he did not actually say stink but I don't think that it would be appropriate to say) and you need to get a life.

S51: One day in school there was a lot of people talking about this one girl and another girl that fought; But this was out of school. So when one girl beat the other she had went on face book and wrote about the girl she beat; & said that she kicked her butt and she was fake , and that the other girl didn't even lay a hand on her.

S55: One of my friends Korey . He moved over the summer. But another one of my friends Kori has bin byborbullying him. It was just one time that i saw and read the whole thing. But Kori was calling Korey alot of nasty things, I wanted to help but there both my friends and i didnt really know how. So all i did was tell Kori to stop. But she didnt listen. I wanted to do more but i just couldnt. I feel sorry that i couldnt help. But i think they havent done any more of that lattely. Im pretty sure that they blocked eachother but im not possitive.

S60: I HAVE FRIENDS ON MY DSI WHO ARE CONNECTED BY FLIPNOTES, NOW I KNOW YOUR DOING TIS FOR SAFETY BUT IF YOU CAN DONT TAKE THIS APP, YOU CAN EXPRESS YOURSELF AND BE YOU, WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO ME

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| | BECAUSE KNOW ONE ELSE THAT I HAVE MEAT CAN KNOW MY TRUE INNER SELF, ANY WAYS, MY FRIEND DARK WOLF AND SHADOW WOLF WERE TALKING ONE DAY AND WERE ABRUTLY INTERUPPTED AND ATTACKED [[VERBALY BY TEXT][] THEY WERE MAKING MY TWO FRIENDS FAIRLY UPSET AND I WAS REALLY GETTING MAD I ENDED IT BUT I KNOW THEY STILL FEEL BAD AND WILL NEVER BE THEM SE;LVES AGAIN, NEVE <br><br> S63: yes bcuz i would not like to be cyberbullying some girl was calling them fake and stuff <br><br> S69: Okay Soo, My Friendd "Snowflakee" Was Being Cyberbullied My Thiss Girl namedd "Ghetto Butterfly" . Ghetto Butterfly Didnt Like Snowflakee Because She Was Dating This Guy Named "Beaver" andd Ghetto Butterfly Liked Beaver. So Ghetto Butterfly Made Up a Whole Bunch Of Lies About Snowflake Like "She's Just Using Him" - "She Is Cheating On Him" etc. And She Told Beaver && He Was Yelling At Snowflake For It. Then Snowflake gawt Mad At Ghetto Butterfly, Ghetto Butterfly Starting Yelling At Snowflake And Tried To Deny Everything. Then Snowflake Said "Whatever, Shut Uhp. I Dont Wanna Listen To Your Bull Crap Anymore"! Then Ghetto Butterfly Said "Oh Hecks No!" And She Was Talking Trash Like Hard Core About Snowflake. Saying Things Like Oh Hate Her So Freaking Much! Imma Beat Her Up. Just Things Like Thaat... [And Keep In Mind This is All Happenning Over FaceBook) Then Because Im Snowflakes Bestfriend I Had To Get Involved. So I Just Told Ghetto Butterfly That She Needs To Backk Off! Andd Guess What? SHE SURE DID DO EXACTLY WHAT I SAID. I Thinkk Ihts Cause Im Pretty Intimidating, Haha. <br><br> S70: My friend commented on my other friend's picture on Facebook. My friend who put the comment said something mean about another girl. Then the girl that my friend was talking about replied to my friend's comment. Then they started arguing about how they thought each other was ugly and who was young an has already had sex at the age of 12 with her 16 year old boyfriend. Then the girl that my friend made remark about said that she was going to get her 16 year old boyfriend to beat up my friend if my friend had touched her. Then they wanted to fight each other after school one day and they did. <br><br> S77: - Ok this what happen my girlfriend was getting made at my ex girlfriend so one day my girl was writing my ex on myspace and my girl was telling her thats she wanted to fight her and my ex was all like no Im not gonna fight you over a boy that i don't even go out with anymore and then my girl was all like no no no but you did so now we gonna fight and thats the end |
| Harassment | S05: My best friend was bullied because this boy was calling her all these bad names and cussing her out and she was telling me how pissed she was getting but she didn't know what to do about it and there is nothing I could have reaaly done to help her since I don't live there anymore. |

S07: Ever since 8th grade has started there is always posts about someone gonna go fight someone or this fight they saw. My friend, she has not only been harassed and fought with constantly online, but also in person. On school grounds mainly. Most these fights have been with girls and not many with guys. I'm not saying I agree with them fighting because I honestly think it's just stupid.

S24: Well, this boy was trying to fight my friend so I sent a text to everyone saying that they were going to fight at the bridge. I even sent it to him. He was like no I can't, I got to do something so I sent a message to everyone saying he was a bxxxx ass nigga and he was fxxxing scared so he told me to stop but I didn't. I sent it to everyone on my phone which is about 80 people and like when he didn't show up no one was his friend anymore.

S25: I have had a friend that was cyberbullied. She did not do anything bad but a girl flipped out on her. I went on facebook and she told me to make fun of her and I said I do not want to say mean stuff to her and I told them to stop and they did not. I told them to quit messing with her and that I like her alot and I want to go out with her and she was a good friend so I did not want to mess with her so that's why I don't like people that can do and mess with my friends.

S30: I remember that one day she had told that it was happening two her and I asked her if it was just a prank or something. She showed me a text she had gottom from a number she didn't know. It said something like Hi_____, you better not come to _____'s party tomorrow or else. I was totally surprised and I asked if she had any idea who it was. She didn't. The next day, she got another saying "good job listening to me". She was growing scared that if she didn't listen that something would happen. After a few days of thinking it over, another one of my friends knew what to do. Everyone at school was in her phone because she had so many friends. She compared numbers and found out who it was. She went straight to the principal and the girl was expelled.

S35: My friend, her name was Demitria, She was 15. She and this dude were dating. When they broke up the dude started spreading bad pics of hur online and threw FWDS on Cells. Girls and boys got hur email and started hacking all hur stuff and leaving bad comments and sending bad msgs to ppl pretending to be hur. She lost all of her friends, sept me ill alway be hur friend, i was her best friend. But then it started getting worse, Girls left notes on her bedroom window calling hur bad things and saying things tht she did that she knows she would never have done. She got nasty phone calls and txt msgs. Even online on her Myspace account everyone was sending hur bad msges and calling hur bad names. At school i could see how bad she was hurting nomatter how well she was hiding hur pain from everyone else. The pain in hur eyes was terrible. Then one day these three or four girls Sent hur 17 msgs calling hur things like "whore" or "sxxx" and many other bad things like that. That night she told hur mom, she showed hur mom all the msges she was getting and her

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| | mom started yelling at hur and saying how disapointed she was in hur daughter for the replys she sent back to the girls. she was saying nuthing to comfort her own daughter. Demitria ran back up to hur room and hung hurself in her closet. Hur mom went to go check on her, when she got to the room she sceamed. hur dad ran up the stairs and cut the belt off her neck and begged hur not to die on him. She went to the hospital and died that night. All this just because of one boy, the drama he started caused hur enough pain to take hur life away. She will never get it back, it was a mistake she made and it wasnt the right choice. I miss hur alot but in my heart she is still on earth and im still hur best friend. even if shes not here in the flesh, i still talk to hur, and she talks back. She was born in Killeen TX in 1995, Oct 31st , and died On September 22 2010.<br><br>S64: - my best friend was special need he was a cool little kid we always hung out until his mom got him a cell phone dis bully he was like 15 and he got a hold of my friends number so he was texting him and callin him retarted stupid ass and a bxxxx ass kid |
| Denigration | S06: Well my friend was accused on the internet of sexting someones boyfriend and was repeatedly called a sxxx and other bad names. She never did anything wrong because her phone was broken but everyone still made fun of her.<br><br>S08: I guess this is an example of cyber bullying, I'm not exactly sure how to word it. My friend had me come to her house once and she shown me a few texts that she received from one of her older guy-friends. It involved a lot of really disgusting details of an attempt to start sexting with her, even though she refused to reply. I got really upset and she was pretty much grossed out. When I told her to text him back saying that she didn't want to be his friend anymore, she just said no and said it was no big deal. I got a little mad at her and told her not to be friends with a pervert like that, but she said that she'd tell him she wasn't interested. I was a little worried after that but he didn't do it again after she told him no.<br><br>S10: Well my friend hd gone to a beach/pool party at her guy friends house and some pervert came up pulled off her swim top and took a pic and posted it on Myspace, then she had started cutting herself so bad she had to be taken to the hospital cause she was severly hurt and in great need of care ... and was very close to losing to much blood ... :/<br><br>S11: My friend was being cyberbullied on e-mail because she was really tall, to tall to be in sixth grade. She kept reiceiving some emails in which she was teased and she started getting all sad. After a while she got sick and tired of it and she started talking about dropping out of school. I did convince her to stay in school but then after a while she started talking about just running away. and i convinced her to stay but after a while she got mad and started acting like she was going to fight them. after this kept going on for a while she was sick of it and ran out of the school and told us bye and she said she was not coming to school again for a while. weeks turned into a month and she didn't come back. After the one month was up i went to check on her and i told her she should come back and tell the |

principal she said she was scared to tell and i told her she should. we went to the principal and told. Then he found out who it was and they got in trouble. after that she realized she should tell even if she dosent want to.

S13: I've had nasty things said about me online to other be and my friends would just go back and tell me what they were saying like they would say that I would tell them something like who my bestfriend liked even if I don't even talk to that person. It's kind of like they would be trying to start some stuff with me because I might not even like that person. I don't really go online alot because I don't really care for that stuff anymore but it doesn't matter what I still end up getting talked about and it is really annoying.

S13: on face book my friend was always messaging this guy that she realy liked at school she would ask me to go and ask him if he liked her back he would tell me that he did but then he would go behind her back and tell eveone else that he wishes she would just gt out of his face and on faceboook he called her a bxxxx and told her that she needs to get of his dxxxand i was so shockd cuz he posted tiit and eveeryone was commentiing on that post he also called her annoying and me annoying it was the weirdest thin ever and we thoought that someone told hi that she was a sxxx and it was the guy my freind liked best freind and we asked him if he called her a sxxx and he told us that he didnt but we know that he did and then later on my freind started liking him i realy didnt understand her logic but it happens

S15: Sixth grade is always a new beginning. A new step. We were all excited to be in middle school. My best friend and I were walking home and people started yelling at my friend calling her a hot and a sxxx. They were saying she was a sorry excuse for a daughter and that no one wanted her. At the time, my best friend's Mom had just passed away and her Dad was in Iraq. But, the firls saying that to her didn't know that. Later on, her cell phone was blowing up of text messages from people saying she is a liar, hxx, etc. We got on our MySpace and it was posted on everyones status. She just broke down. Her face became white and my should because her best friend. The next day she wasn't there. In all my class they called her name and no reply. After school I stopped by. I knocked on the door and no answer. Weird, I knocked again. Maybe she was sleeping. No answer. I opened the door and called her name. No reply. I walked into the kitchen. One of the chairs was missing. I walked around the corner to her room. There was my best friend. A rope and her. She killed herself. I read the note. It said, "they said I was unloved. They said I wasn't needed. So I'm gone. With no love and unwanted." My eyes poured. All because of rumors. My best friend killed herself.

S25: I have had a friend that was cyberbullied. She did not do anything bad but a girl flipped out on her. I went on facebook and she told me to make fun of her and I said I do not want to say mean stuff to her and I told them to stop and they did not. I told them to quit messing with her and that I like her alot and I want to go out with her and she was a good friend so I did not want to mess with her so that's why I don't like people that can

do and mess with my friends.

S35: My friend, her name was Demitria, She was 15. She and this dude were dating. When they broke up the dude started spreading bad pics of hur online and threw FWDS on Cells. Girls and boys got hur email and started hacking all hur stuff and leaving bad comments and sending bad msgs to ppl pretending to be hur. She lost all of her friends, sept me ill alway be hur friend, i was her best friend. But then it started getting worse, Girls left notes on her bedroom window calling hur bad things and saying things tht she did that she knows she would never have done. She got nasty phone calls and txt msgs. Even online on her Myspace account everyone was sending hur bad msges and calling hur bad names. At school i could see how bad she was hurting nomatter how well she was hiding hur pain from everyone else. The pain in hur eyes was terrible. Then one day these three or four girls Sent hur 17 msgs calling hur things like "whore" or "sxxx" and many other bad things like that. That night she told hur mom, she showed hur mom all the msges she was getting and her mom started yelling at hur and saying how disapointed she was in hur daughter for the replys she sent back to the girls. she was saying nuthing to comfort her own daughter. Demitria ran back up to hur room and hung hurself in her closet. Hur mom went to go check on her, when she got to the room she sceamed. hur dad ran up the stairs and cut the belt off her neck and begged hur not to die on him. She went to the hospital and died that night. All this just because of one boy, the drama he started caused hur enough pain to take hur life away. She will never get it back, it was a mistake she made and it wasnt the right choice. I miss hur alot but in my heart she is still on earth and im still hur best friend. even if shes not here in the flesh, i still talk to hur, and she talks back. She was born in Killeen TX in 1995, Oct 31st , and died On September 22 2010.

S45: I knew a few people that had been cyberbullied. It happened to one of my friends. It was about a picture she took of herself. Somebody went through her phone and sent it to everybody. They bullied her around over myspace and on the phone and told everybody that she sent it out. It affected a lot of things like her reputation and her friendships.

S53: One of my friends on facebook was really upset one day when one of her classmates had posted a fake message from her ruining her reputation. She has been a chatter box since me and my family meet her but to go to a extent as to go say to all her friends that she is lying Bxxxx. She wasn't the same for a month

S57: We were on myspace and these girls were messing with another girl cuz she stole her guy. and they used to b friends so they knew alot and put her whole buisness on blast. called her a ho put her sex life out there and just destroyed th girls rep. don't know them well so it was kinda intetaining but im sure she was upset or embarresed and thats gotta suck.

S71: they tell me bout that they want to kill them selfs or they cut them selfs cuz some one talking bout how she dresses and her family and how shye talks and i could see cuz i have been through the same thing.....

| Impersonation | S59: on facebook my mom has been cyber bullied because everybody on my step dads side of the family are mean to her like hack her account on facebook or put mean post up about her. |
|---|---|
| Outing & Trickery | S10: and then there was the time one of my friends had gone to a beach party and her bikini top had ben pulled of and some one took a pic and put it on Myspace .. she had gottin so upset she began cuttin her self ... and it got bad enough were they had to hold her in a hospital and make sure she didnt cause she had cutin a vain ... and she came very ... very close to dying<br><br>S68: Well me and my friend were just hanging out one day and she just told her friend a deep seceret and i dont know what it id but yah the person posted it on facebook and ,myspace and stuff like that. and the she promised to not tell any one. |

**Question 5: How did the cyberbullying incident affect them in their everyday life?**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
|---|---|
| Academic Effects | S04: Well she was depressed forever and she dropped out of school because she couldn't stand being alone at school and she also got sent to anger management because she would always throw stuff and break unnecessary stuff.<br><br>S10: Well after the fact she had became one of those emo girls that everyoe makes fun of ... and her grades were all in the 70's but her math grade was a 59 cause the dude that did that is in her class ... and she had became paranoyed and felt like no one care<br><br>S11: Yes her grades wet down badly. she was always angry and upset and mad. she started to back away from her friends and we started to her nothing from her.<br><br>S32: my friend got really depressed and her grades started to slip<br><br>S46: They did not focus in school as much, they were to busy with the drama, they seemed angry all the time, and they wanted to fight. but we settled the drama and we are good now (:<br><br>S47: She jus didnt wana eva go to that class bcuz she new she was gona say something about her and start teasing her again. but i rely didnt no her but i felt bad for her<br><br>S58: Yes they are depressed some start to cut them selves. They say they hate their life, Their grades go down because they don't care about any or anyone. And start to put up this wall even the best of friends are torn apart.<br><br>S75: most there grades went down because they were thinkin about it 2 much it made them sad everyday they would never simile they got depressed all the time so it got hard for me 2 hang out wit sum1 lik dat so slowly i would just not talk 2 them anymore |
| Emotional Effects | S04: Well she was depressed forever and she dropped out of school |

because she couldn't stand being alone at school and she also got sent to anger management because she would always throw stuff and break unnecessary stuff.

S05: She was just made about it. She wasn't depressed or nothing. Her grades stayed the same. She was just pissed and tired of him doing this to her.

S06: They were always angry and wanted to fight the people that wouldn't leave her along or that kept asking if she sent the messages. She was depressed whenever she went home and it really bothered her family.

S07: They were mad, but only at the people who had been harassing them. they went on pretty normal the way I saw it.

S10: Well after the fact she had became one of those emo girls that everyoe makes fun of ... and her grades were all in the 70's but her math grade was a 59 cause the dude that did that is in her class ... and she had became paranoyed and felt like no one care

S11: Yes her grades wet down badly. she was always angry and upset and mad. she started to back away from her friends and we started to her nothing from her.

S13: she went to school the next day and saud she was going to avoid him wich was hard beacuse they 2 clases together but what else cold she have done she spentt the nxt week ranting on about him i think that it really messed her up, even though she wont addm

S15: She became depressed and killed herself.

S16: She got really upset and she was very mad. Her grades staid the same but her mood change for a couple of days. The bully was calling her a cow and other things. She barely spook to me that day i was at her house. But when the police man came she told him

S19: I think it affects them because it makes them feel sad, lonely, hurt, confused, and scared. Like when they get bullied it hurts them so much because they don't know what they didn't or what they can do to make all the drama go away.

S20: My friend was always coming to me and saying she needed help and I kept telling her that I was not going to help fight this other girl over the Internet because I don't fight for any reason.

S21: They stayed home a few days because they were scared and they were angry

S25: it makes people upset about them and hurt them i think that is dumb.

S26: Yes it did. A lot of people didn't like her any more and talk straight

up crap about this girl that was ridiculous but this girl was very upset and felt like she just wanted to die right there that moment.

S30: It made her scared.

S31: She Said It made her feel bad and hurt that someone would be such a meany to he like that because she never does anything bad enless there mean to her but she said she hated it so much and it was hurtful and she said she wanted to cry.

S37: They realized how bad it hurt me when my other friend was saying really harsh stuff behind my back or threw the internet and telling all my stuff so they were no longer mean to anyone else.

S43: They actually became friends and are talking to each other. They were hating each other before but one apoligized and so did the other now there friends.

S45: They got angry and tried to stop it but it wouldn't stop. It didn't really affect their grades but they got mad and weren't as fun to hang around with. Eventually her mom found out about it and called the cops. Then she moved.

S46: They did not focus in school as much, they were to busy with the drama, they seemed angry all the time, and they wanted to fight. but we settled the drama and we are good now (:

S47: She jus didnt wana eva go to that class bcuz she new she was gona say something about her and start teasing her again. but i rely didnt no her but i felt bad for her

S49: Well, I don't know because when she was gettied bullied before she died she was always not so talkative which was weird for her. I tried to ask her what was wrong but she wouldn't tell me until I read her text messages but she failed to listen to me so no

S50: SO c was just mad at the fact that the person really even said that:( He handled it well though he just threw his mic on the ground and beat the mess out of the other team.:(

S57: The victom kinda lost alot friends and the guy that started it all. her grades well im not sure. but her statuses seemed rather down all the time. and she stopped getti g online soo much

S59: she was up set all the time. got very up set and was angry. and she got a little depressed

S62: Um she was crying a lot and se tried to fight me a lot cause she was trying to be all bead but everybody knew that she would back out or lose and she did.

S68: well i dont know but from my popint of view she seemed effeted by it baddly

S69: They Were Pissed Off All Day Everyday! Whenever They'd talkk To me Thats All They Would talk About. I Was Just Like Dangg! Shut up, Its Over, Its Done, Get Over It!!

S71: they were depressed and didnt want to talk to anyone bout what happened they would take there anger out on someone else.....

S72: he has 3 scars on his face.one on his eye brow,one on his eye and the last one on the chin that curves from the right to the left bout an inch long.he isnt as funny he is alot quitter.so he isnt realy imself 4 bout a year.then it kinda got back to normal

S74: They were tawkinn smack so they were goinn throughh a badd timeeee .

S79: they were all crying and everything but i just said get over it...........

| Lost Friends | S11: Yes her grades wet down badly. she was always angry and upset and mad. she started to back away from her friends and we started to her nothing from her. |
| --- | --- |
| | S22: well no their grades didn't go down since we weren't friends anymore she could focus on her schoolwork because we usually talked or passed notes in class and never got caught we were really sneaky |
| | S26: Yes it did. A lot of people didn't like her any more and talk straight up crap about this girl that was ridiculous but this girl was very upset and felt like she just wanted to die right there that moment. |
| | S51: No there grades did not go down; Now all of a sudden they are friends and they always laugh n giggle together. That is dumb, how are you gonna talk bout someone behind there back & then fight them n then become friends. |
| | S57: The victom kinda lost alot friends and the guy that started it all. her grades well im not sure. but her statuses seemed rather down all the time. and she stopped getti g online soo much |
| | S58: - Yes they are depressed some start to cut them selves. They say they hate their life, Their grades go down because they don't care about any or anyone. And start to put up this wall even the best of friends are torn apart. |
| | S63: - she didt have any friends |
| | S75: most there grades went down because they were thinkin about it 2 much it made them sad everyday they would never simile they got depressed all the time so it got hard for me 2 hang out wit sum1 lik dat so |

| | slowly i would just not talk 2 them anymore |
|---|---|
| Mental Health Effects | S04: Well she was depressed forever and she dropped out of school because she couldn't stand being alone at school and she also got sent to anger management because she would always throw stuff and break unnecessary stuff.<br><br>S06: They were always angry and wanted to fight the people that wouldn't leave her along or that kept asking if she sent the messages. She was depressed whenever she went home and it really bothered her family.<br><br>S15: She became depressed and killed herself.<br><br>S18: Depression<br><br>S24: He was depressed.<br><br>S29: they were angry but my grades did not drop... i was a little depressed because we were amazing friends but...<br><br>S32: my friend got really depressed and her grades started to slip<br><br>S35: She had killed hurself after fighting the depression she had<br><br>S49: Well, I don't know because when she was gettied bullied before she died she was always not so talkative which was weird for her. I tried to ask her what was wrong but she wouldn't tell me until I read her text messages but she failed to listen to me so no<br><br>S58: Yes they are depressed some start to cut them selves. They say they hate their life, Their grades go down because they don't care about any or anyone. And start to put up this wall even the best of friends are torn apart.<br><br>S59: she was up set all the time. got very up set and was angry. and she got a little depressed<br><br>S64: he was thinkin bout killin him self he was always depressed and he would cut him self and get into alot of trouble<br><br>S66: she was depressed and stressed out<br><br>S71: they were depressed and didnt want to talk to anyone bout what happened they would take there anger out on someone else.....<br><br>S72: he has 3 scars on his face.one on his eye brow,one on his eye and the last one on the chin that curves from the right to the left bout an inch long.he isnt as funny he is alot quitter.so he isnt realy imself 4 bout a year.then it kinda got back to normal<br><br>S73: they got depressed. |

| | S75: - most there grades went down because they were thinkin about it 2 much it made them sad everyday they would never simile they got depressed all the time so it got hard for me 2 hang out wit sum1 lik dat so slowly i would just not talk 2 them anymore |
|---|---|
| No Effects | S08: My friend hadn't been really affected by it, because the guy stopped and said sorry. |
| | S27: Her mom got mad and called his mom and the problem was solved and it didn't effect her life at all |
| | S28: i.d.k cause i sometimes don't read the things that people put on facebook. |
| | S39: they called back n apoligized with his mother but i didnt accept he still deserves soap in his mouth/... |
| | S42: Nope, nothing happened. Just that they came to school with scratches on their face and a whole lot of cuts. |
| | S55: I dont think it really bothered them. Cause now that they never talk any more i dont think they have to deal with it. |
| | S70: They didn't care about it anymore. |

**Question 6: What steps should be taken by the school to help reduce cyberbullying at the school?**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
|---|---|
| Improve Communication | S04: .i think dat adults shuld start tlkn to their kidz bout der evrday prob. lik drugs fights abstinece jail etc. |
| | S05: The adults should ask their kids everyday when they get home how their day was and if there is anything bothering them. |
| | S06: I think adults should actually listen, they should comfort us, and call the cyberbully and tell them to quit. |
| | S08: I guess adults could encourage their children to ignore the stuff people say about them on the internet. The school could also try to encourage students to go on kid friendly sites and stuff. I'm not really sure, because I don't really care much for cyber bullying. |
| | S09: I don't think they can help very much because the parents can't control what their kids say online. They could tell them not to it but that wouldn't matter. I think the parents should just be more involved in the kids life, like they could make a MySpace to see what their kids say about people and how they act. |

S10: Well the adults should of comforted us or told someone like my mom did .. unlike my friends parents back home did ...

S11: I think they should talk to and spend time with their child more escpecially when they notice something is wrong.

S12: They should be more involved! I mean they need to communicate with us but I mean who would really tell their parents? I wouldn't! I wouldn't mind talking to the counselors but not to my parents.

S15: Adults , Listen. Cyberbullying Is A Big Problem Now Adays. You Guys Need To Understand . Telling You Can Either Help Us , Or Break Us. We Need Help . We Want It. People Are Killing Theirselves Because Of Rumors . Our Cellphones Blow Up . We Don't Want To Eat. Grades Go Down , And People Lose Loved Ones. There Needs To Be A Step Up. !!

S16: what should happen is that i know it would help if students told the APs or adults but that doesn't happen often. But what the adult should do is to create activities to help the students that are being bullied or cyberbullied to gain courage to tell the Adults what going on. And to get the cyberbulliers to stop bullying the other students.

S17: Adults should teach their kids more about internet safety, like telling them not to accept any friend requests unless they absolutely, positively are sure that they know this person.

S32: adults should ask us kids more about what happens to us and how we fell about cyberbullying. they always think just because their our parents and they live with us they know what we're going through and they act like they know all about us and what all happens to us when they dont. I think adults would be better at stopping things like kids doing drugs and cyberbullying if they just asked us kids about the stuff

S33: They should listen to what the person who's being cyberbullied and hear what the person said or wrote about them

S34: Well, I;m not really sure what the school could do to stop it because the school has nothing to do with what goes on at home. The most the school could do is send maybe a parent letter home to notify the parents/guardians about cyberbullying and that they could monitor what the students do and say on the internet or on the phone.

S35: Adults should try to understand more and not do things like yell or get them in trouble. Because surtain things adults do make it way worse then it already is. They should ask what they should do.

S37: They should at least stand up for what they think is right and help there child and make sure that before they are aloud to use and start accesing and account on like face-book or myspace that all their stuff is

on private or friends only to where no-one can look at your stuff or do anything to your profile unless you accept their friend invite.

S40: They should actually do somthing instead of saying "well tell him to stop" whenever somebody reports that they are being threatend it just makes me want to yell at the adult and call them a bunch of mean words/. i would love if whenever sombody reports that they are being treatened that they should call them down and have the 2 of them sit at a taable with the principle and disscuss the issue

S44: I think the adults should teach kids how to stop or stay away from cyberbullying because cyberbullying is a very serioud to little kids if they are cyberbullied over a comuter phone or game console.

S45: I think there isn't really that much you can do but leave them alone. If it's getting really bad maybe talk to all the students involved and if its worse then you thought then call the parent. But other than that let it happen, it is natural and most of the time its not that bad.

S47: i thnk that the adults should always help and comfort there child if there being cyberbullied cuz you cant prevent it. The school should make activites to where other kids can get to no eachother and make new friends so that theyll no the real person and wouldnt want to tlk to them bcuz that culd be there new friend or somethiing

S49: I think they should take more control of their kids!! If they did then my friend, practically a sister, wouldn't be dead now would she! It makes me so mad and frustrated!

S50: I think that they need to tech kids on how to be respectful, and I think that our worries will be gone. Smiley face

S51: Well the adults could like tell the students that cyber bulling isn't the right thing to do & that violence doesn't solve anything.

S52: they should get the kids together so they can talk face to face if they fight let them fight it solves the problem a little so they can talk and express them self

S53: i think they should check their kids computer and make sure they're not a cyberbully

S56: Take controll and talk to there kids about there problems and stop being lazy asses

S57: uhm i think the school shold be aware if kids have acounts. not be able to access just know. and i think parents should check up on their kids profiles and pages more often. other than that there's noty much more that can be done

S58: Stop yelling at us just listen we need you more then you think so just

| | imagine what it's like to be me, (us) put you're self in our shxxs its not easy. |
| | S62: I mean sometimes we dont want to take it to seriously we just want to get it out of our heads we dont always want to got to the the teacher right away because we might really care to start out with. |
| | S63: tell them ur secrets and for them to listen |
| | S66: i think they should let people get heard and get of there lazy ass and do something bout it. |
| | S67: I'm not sure if you could help maybe if you just listen and quit telling us to tell them 2 quit and you help a little. Some of us would try killing ourselves because it's so bad bad just listen next time please. |
| | S70: I think they should teach their children how to be VERY respectful and to not how to get into drama. I also think they should make them realize that drama is immature and freakin stupid. it's a waste of time. |
| | S76: They should help spread the information to other adults and keep children away from computers when they are fighting and guy by typing, texting, phone chat, anything that require technology in it and with someone else that is yelling, threating, Acting like someone else, or hacking someone then acting like them to get to your account, IS CYBERBULLYING. so parents will check on there child and always read what they write or hear what they say to the other person. |
| | S77: there should be like a little get together and we should all just sit and talk about it |
| | S78: i thank that thay shold achely triy to healp instad of tacking are phone away r somthing lick that i hate it i fell lick thay are gust thare to torment os thay dont get it THAY DONT UNDERSTAND |
| Restrictive Actions | S01: Well, I don't know about the school, but I think there should be a law on all online sites saying that you aren't allowed to abuse your status or your power. |
| | S18: Shut down MySpace |
| | S20: I think that the school should ban the students from getting on their email, facebook, and myspace because that is how most of it gets sent to the other people and that is how fights get started and them it is called cyberbullying and we don't want that to be happening to any one here on campus or anywhere else for that matter. |
| | S27: Ban cellphones in the texas schools |
| | S36: i think that adults could do more to stop cyberbullying by putting restrictions by having so kids cant say certain things online. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | S43: They should make sure that no one as there cell phones on. No one is getting on site that can cause this drama. Sometimes they could ask the students if they wanna talk about something and it could be totally secretive and help the students with advice. |
| | S68: Well its not just the adult , but they should make it a law |
| No Action | S07: There really is nothing adults can do to help. No matter what in one way or another people will be cyber bullied and/or just fought with and picked at. If you tried to help all you've be doing is blocking us from the outside world. Which is what we need to be able to grow up and be prepared to deal with what will soon be our everyday life.<br><br>S13: i dont think theres anything that the adults an doo idk what else hey can do but take away all our phones and our comp but theres realy nothing that they can say but that it realy hurts other people feeelngs its no like the people dont know that they are hurting people feelings<br><br>S19: I think it isn't going to stop so theres nothing you can do.<br><br>S26: Shoot the adults should stay out of our way because all they do is cause us more trouble so they don't need to do anything just let the teens be teens. If a fight comes up then oh well they can deal with it latter and just let the teen handle it.<br><br>S29: i think that adults should stay out of the way because they are not going to help or make it better unless they make a law about it because, even though they may take away the computer or phone or anything... it still goes on at school, it still goes on after school, and it goes on and on and on untill the STUDENT does something about it<br><br>S31: I dont think the Adults Can help Even it they Tryed. its been doing on 4 a while and i dont think its Going to stop anytime soon. The Kids That You Punish Really won't care they would just taking it out on them again and again<br><br>S42: I don't think the adults should even get in it because they don't know what we are going through and the more they just tell us to stop fighting we want to fight more! Cause if we are about to fight and they got in between the fight they act like we aren't gonna wait till they leave to fight! So they should just let us fight it out to get our anger out and get all this bull crap over with!<br><br>S46: i mean like i don't think help from the school is necassary becuz like if they dont talk there smack or fight it out, becuz if adult's or someone try to break it uhp then they can't fight it out, and solve the drama or get it over with then it's just going to build up more anger and thing's are gonna get worse, an that's the thing that adult's dont understand bout us, we fight to solve the drama get it over with becuz if we dont its jus gonna get worse and we wont solve nothin. |

S48: I don't know what the school should do. If they cut in, things might get worse. I want to say that they should let it settle on their own, but the bullied might get extremely depressed or troubled and do something to hurt themselves.

S54: I think adults should stop worrying so much its just so stupid how you guys worry over the stupid things in life I meen I know people are commithing suicide but thats there problem its there life and I think its just so stupid how they would kill themselves over some words on the internet...havent they heard the question stick and stones may break my bones....... anyways as I was saying before if they have nothing else to do then kill themselves over some words they should probably be dead anyways I meen seriously people are going to say stuff no matted how you look, or what race you are just GET ON WITH LIFE AND STOP WORRYING ABOUT STUPID STUFF LIKE THIS YOU MORONS P.S I was not calling you a moron I was calling the people who think about (and) killing themselve over words.............

S55: I think that the adults shouldnt really do anything unless it gets really serious. That they have to or something bad will happen.

S59: nothing you guys are doing a great job

S69: Theres Nothing You Really Can Doo Because Its CYBERbullying. You Cant Stop What Kids Say in There Texxt Messages,on Facebook, or On Myspace. Its eally Up To Our Parents To Stop Iht.

S73: nothing. they need to stay out of it because it will make being bullied worse.

S79: i reallt think adults should stop OVEREACTING and let kids be kids cyberbullying is not life threatning and its not bad for your health

| School Sponsored Reactions | S02: If you just report cyberbullying it would solve the whole problem. People cyberbully, other people tell and get ISS for a week. They cyberbully again and get ISS again, eventually the get smart and say if I dont cyberbully, I don't get in trouble and they stop. If they don't send them to juvenile detention I'm sure they'll realize its not worth it after a few years of being locked up. |
| --- | --- |
|  | S08: I guess adults could encourage their children to ignore the stuff people say about them on the internet. The school could also try to encourage students to go on kid friendly sites and stuff. I'm not really sure, because I don't really care much for cyber bullying. |
|  | S16: what should happen is that i know it would help if students told the APs or adults but that doesn't happen often. But what the adult should do is to create activities to help the students that are being bullied or cyberbullied to gain courage to tell the Adults what going on. And to get the cyberbulliers to stop bullying the other students. |
|  | S23: i think the adult should either call the cops and let them handle it. |

one more thing is that they could call the person and tell them to stop and if they dont they will call the cops and have them work the problem

S28: 1. Write Referral 2. If they do it again they should get expelled. 3. Or they can have another chance. 4. Or they can go to alternative school

S30: SUSPEND THE BULLIES!

S34: Well, I;m not really sure what the school could do to stop it because the school has nothing to do with what goes on at home. The most the school could do is send maybe a parent letter home to notify the parents/guardians about cyberbullying and that they could monitor what the students do and say on the internet or on the phone.

S38: When you find out whos cyberbullying, if you do, you should see what they have said and tell there parents

S40: They should actually do somthing instead of saying "well tell him to stop" whenever somebody reports that they are being threatend it just makes me want to yell at the adult and call them a bunch of mean words/. i would love if whenever sombody reports that they are being treatened that they should call them down and have the 2 of them sit at a taable with the principle and disscuss the issue

S64: uhh let kids have more fun do more things but still have rules and kick all the bullys out the school

S65: This ain't fun this is serious but not just cyberbullin bullying period i think that you and this audiemurphy school should fix it up

S71: talk to them or bring a cop into this cuz it hurts to no that he adults no bout and wont do stuff to help iut but just say stay away from them.....

S72: Tell a teacher that some1 is messn wit ya.if he dousnt stop tel ya mom.if he still goin tell da cops

S74: They shouldd qive themm a warningg , if they dew ihtt againn they SHOULD go TO Jail :D Tht way theyy cann stayy outta troublee .

S75: there could be somthing lik a councling room were they can sit there n talk about everything that goes on in there everyday lives sum1 they can talk 2 n not b scared

**Question 7: If you could tell anyone you wanted about cyberbullying and how it makes people feel, what would you tell them?**

| Node | Exemplar Quotes |
|---|---|
| Ignore it | S01: I'd tell them that get makes me ticked off, and that it's more helpful to just ignore it than let it get to you, unless it's something major. In my case, it wasn't anything huge, but you never know. If you know somebody who gets bullied, tell their parents or somethin, or just report it to the owner of the site. Try to |

| | block them (Some websites actually have that option), or if it's bothering you that much even after you've told someone, leave. It's somewhat simple. |
|---|---|
| | S19: I would tell them not to worry it will be ok and that even if it won't they will find a way out and get past it. Also, tell them fighting isn't always the answer but I'm always here if they need a shoulder to cry on. |
| | S26: To be like whatever they say don't let it get to you and just move on. I mean you can say some things to clear your system but just let it go because all that person is is an attention catcher which have no life because they are going through tough times and want to put it out on you so don't even worry about it. |
| It is wrong leave people alone | S02: Cyberbullying is wrong! It makes people feel bad about themselves and then they go and commit suicide because you were a meany-butt! Geez people these guys are killing themselves. You make them feel so bad so stop being idiots and stop cyberbullying! |
| | S05: I would tell them don't bully anyone because if the person they bully is sensitive then that person might end up depressed and it will haunt them for a long time and they would probably kill themselves and people are going to blame you for making them do that to themselves and you are going to be haunted by that as long as you are alive |
| | S06: I'd say to leave people alone, they don't need someone texting or messaging them mean stuff. They need to leave them alone and get on with their lives. |
| | S07: I've only been cyber-bullied once or twice& the most effect it had on me was make me mad. I truly don't care for this violence& idiocracy(sp). It's all just a waste of time, just like debating. People could go on for hours and hours and hours if someone would let them. We are all stubborn and have opinions who's to stop us from speaking them? No one can so no one can help so it's pointless tell people unless it's having a really extreme effect on you and your life. |
| | S08: I would tell them that they should really stop; you don't know what's going on in that persons life and being insulted so easily could really hurt them. You see kids almost everyday on the news who commited suicide because on myspace someone was called something that deeply affected them. Wouldn't you feel just terrible if it was your fault someone died? |
| | S12: That I don't know how it feels but I'm sure it hurts really bad and they would probably be scared and like not be their self! But they shouldn't I mean if you act big and bad then I mean you shouldn't be scared so I just got to say to worry about whxxvers doing it! |
| | S17: Why would you bully someone online, rather then in their face? |
| | S31: Idk who I would tell, But i would tell then that its Wrong and it hurts people, some people badly. It Kills Alot of people with Low self of steam and depressed issues. Its PainFul and the Cyberbullyers Dont understand what they are doing, they think its funny but it really not |

S42: I would tell them to not do it but if they do they should talk it out and if things get physical then they shouldn't tell an adult because they should just fight it out and get things over with because if they don't get their anger out some how it is just gonna keep building up! So I just want to say don't do bullying over the Internet, do it to their faces because as long as they make the first hit then your okay! And don't let some stupid stuff ruin a school year okay so fight and forget about it. It will help everyone and if you loose the fight just say that it was unfair or just say that they are going to regret saying and doing what they did because one day things are going to go wrong for them and they are going to get their bootie beat and they should just watch their back and sleep with one eye open!

S48: I would tell them that they have no right to be talking about them like that. They don't know them and they don't know everything that's going on in their lives. And how would they feel if they were the cause of the bullied hurting themselves. My friend CT actually killed himself. He wasn't being cyber bullied, but he was getting bullied and I think he had problems in his home. He used to live here in Texas, but then moved to Virginia. He was getting bullied her though too. I think he was trying to stick up for his brother but then the other kid's brother got into it too. He got jumped on Halloween 2009, his last Halloween, that he spent with us. When he moved, he got bullied then too. I don't exactly know the details, but he hung himself. I don't know how the bullies feel, but they probably don't feel too great, or they don't feel anything at all. But i know that in middle school, people really don't think about what can happen. They need to be aware of everything that can happen from bullying and cyber bullying.

S50: I would tell them that it is not cool and it has never been cool. Also that they should watch their mouths because what that guy said online was well, lets just say he doesn't kiss his mother with that mouth.:P But seriously I think our world would be a better place.

S51: That whenever someone is talking about you in a nasty way that does not mean you should be afraid of them. It just means they are afraid of you. Because they just talk about you online and not in your face or whatever. So really they are just showing they are fake and that they have not guts to tell you that your not pretty or whatever. And besides, why would you cyberbully someone anyway? I mean I've never done this before because I'm not face. Just to tell you, I'm straight up honest. If I don't like you then I don't. But then there are times when I feed bad for people so I'll just hang with them so at least they have one friend that will be there. And that's wrong if anybody every cyberbullies someone. The right thing could be a bad or good thing. But I know that life gets complicated and you just want to let your feelings out to someone but why even try if you know its not going to work out?

S52: It's so stupid. If your gonna bully do it to their face so when you step out of line you can get put back fast so you won't do it again or have the bad parents take all their electronics and sell them so you can't talk about someone.

S54: I would tell them to shut up

S55: I would say that it has too stop. No one enjoys it unless the one bullying

others finds it funny or fun to do. But other then that. No one really likes it. It makes them feel like there nothing. And no one should ever feel that way.

S58: That it hurts, that we hate how in a instant our lives become a nightmare, (be there stop judging and listen!!!)

S59: that it hurts people and its un called for!!!!!!

S69: Id Tell The That Cyberbullying Really Is A Big Deal in Todays Society. . The Things People Say About Each Other Really Can Affect The Person. Sometimes Its So Bad They Wanna Kill Them Self. No Kid, well No Person Should Ever Have To Feel Like That.

S70: I would tell them that they shouldn't treat other ppl the way they do because whxxver is cyberbullying isn't the only one who has/had problems in their life. Everybody else does too so there is no need to treat other people different just because they're not the same as them. We're more alike than we are different..

S71: that it hurts ppl bout it so y would u do it if u no that u dont like it when other ppl do it to u....u go through the same emotions and it hurts to no that u would do it when u dont like it when they do it to u so they should shut the f up.......

S72: i would tell them that words realy do hurt and people can get effected by it and ppl dont reliz it but it happens.they shoul get seriously punished 4 it becouse it is just wrong

| | |
|---|---|
| Leads to alcohol and or drug abuse | S36: i would tell people that actully are the bullies and say that it can make people do things like drugs or skip school and feel depressed. |
| Leads to depression | S01: I'd tell them that get makes me ticked off, and that it's more helpful to just ignore it than let it get to you, unless it's something major. In my case, it wasn't anything huge, but you never know. If you know somebody who gets bullied, tell their parents or somethin, or just report it to the owner of the site. Try to block them (Some websites actually have that option), or if it's bothering you that much even after you've told someone, leave. It's somewhat simple.<br><br>S02: Cyberbullying is wrong! It makes people feel bad about themselves and then they go and commit suicide because you were a meany-butt! Geez people these guys are killing themselves. You make them feel so bad so stop being idiots and stop cyberbullying!<br><br>S05: I would tell them don't bully anyone because if the person they bully is sensitive then that person might end up depressed and it will haunt them for a long time and they would probably kill themselves and people are going to blame you for making them do that to themselves and you are going to be haunted by that as long as you are alive<br><br>S08: I would tell them that they should really stop; you don't know what's going on in that persons life and being insulted so easily could really hurt them. You see kids almost everyday on the news who commited suicide because on myspace someone was called something that deeply affected them. Wouldn't |

you feel just terrible if it was your fault someone died?

S11:I would tell everyone that it hurts and that anyone that does this should stop because it hurts other people.

S12: That I don't know how it feels but I'm sure it hurts really bad and they would probably be scared and like not be their self! But they shouldn't I mean if you act big and bad then I mean you shouldn't be scared so I just got to say to worry about whxxvers doing it!

S13: ide just tell them what happens and how it hurts and makes me angry i wouldnt know what else to say

S15: It Breaks People. It Destroys Them. They Kill Their Selfs . & Lose Life. They Feel Unloved And hurt. They Can't Eat . And Grades Go Down Bad. ! /:

S16: What I would tell them is that I am being cyberbullied and I feel uncomfortable dealing with this situation on my own and that i need help. And my mom would be the first I would tell because I tell her everything.

S20: I would tell them that it is not fun and it can get people very hurt or even killed so don't do it for any reason at all.

S21: That it hurts people or makes them mad.

S22: just sometimes if you don't know what to do about the situation and you get really mad just know that someone is ALWAYS ALWAYS going to be there so you can talk to them about anything

S24: its is GOING to make the other person feel like shit whether they show it or not

S25: It makes me so mad I hate it.

S30: That it is hurtful and will be puniishable. It's not a joke or fun to do.

S31: Idk who I would tell, But i would tell then that its Wrong and it hurts people, some people badly. It Kills Alot of people with Low self of steam and depressed issues. Its PainFul and the Cyberbullyers Dont understand what they are doing, they think its funny but it really not

S33: It's just a bunch of idiots who have nothing to do who make fun of others because somethings wrong with them and they try to cover that up by hurting someone else

S34: I would tell them: "Would YOU like to have this happen to you? I don't think so! It makes people feel like they don't belong, like they shouldn't be who they are. Cyberbullying has lead to death, by cause of suicide. We shouldn't let this go on, we should try and stop it."

S35: That its a hard thing to go threw, it dosnt just hurt the person it hurts people

very close to see them go threw that. What if they were you and you were them. Youd know how they feel so dont do it to others becuase it can tear people apart or even cause death.

S36: i would tell people that actully are the bullies and say that it can make people do things like drugs or skip school and feel depressed.

S37: I would tell them that if they were on the other side of what they were typing to people how would that make you feel put yourself in their shxxs, it wouldn't be fun to be teased over somewhere other people can read what your saying and if they didn't care i would ask them if they wanted me to tell one of their secrets or yell at them so they could actually see how it feels to be on the other side.

S40: cyber bulling is bad it could cause depressin and you WILL get nervouse ALOT!!!!!!!!!!!!

S41: That it hurts people feelings and their everyday life...andd that you can also get introuble by it

S43: That it doesn't feel good. Don't do it cause it can get worse.

S44: I would tell them that it makes feel people sad let out shuned upon because that person that had cyber bullied them was like that once and he/she didnt tell anyone about it so they take it out on people that they know/do not know

S45: if i could tell anybody i would tell the people that started it. i would tell them that it really hurts peoples feelings and you should think about how it makes you feel when others do it to you. i would tell them that it makes people feel bad and might even lead to suicide. it is very serious because some people take what others say very seriously and think thats how the world feels about them. what would happen if the situation was flipped and they were doing that to you. you would realize how serious it really is and you should stop.

S47: - i would ask them how it wuld make them feel if someone was constantly harasing you. it wouldnt make them feel so hot so why wuld they do that to someone else

S48: I would tell them that they have no right to be talking about them like that. They don't know them and they don't know everything that's going on in their lives. And how would they feel if they were the cause of the bullied hurting themselves. My friend CT actually killed himself. He wasn't being cyber bullied, but he was getting bullied and I think he had problems in his home. He used to live here in Texas, but then moved to Virginia. He was getting bullied her though too. I think he was trying to stick up for his brother but then the other kid's brother got into it too. He got jumped on Halloween 2009, his last Halloween, that he spent with us. When he moved, he got bullied then too. I don't exactly know the details, but he hung himself. I don't know how the bullies feel, but they probably don't feel too great, or they don't feel anything at all. But i know that in middle school, people really don't think about what can happen. They need to be aware of everything that can happen from bullying and cyber

bullying.

S58: That it hurts, that we hate how in a instant our lives become a nightmare, (be there stop judging and listen!!!)

S69: Id Tell The That Cyberbullying Really Is A Big Deal in Todays Society. . The Things People Say About Each Other Really Can Affect The Person. Sometimes Its So Bad They Wanna Kill Them Self. No Kid, well No Person Should Ever Have To Feel Like That.

S71: that it hurts ppl bout it so y would u do it if u no that u dont like it when other ppl do it to u....u go through the same emotions and it hurts to no that u would do it when u dont like it when they do it to u so they should shut the f up.......

S72: i would tell them that words realy do hurt and people can get effected by it and ppl dont reliz it but it happens.they shoul get seriously punished 4 it becouse it is just wrong

| | |
|---|---|
| Leads to suicide or violence | S02: Cyberbullying is wrong! It makes people feel bad about themselves and then they go and commit suicide because you were a meany-butt! Geez people these guys are killing themselves. You make them feel so bad so stop being idiots and stop cyberbullying! |
| | S05: I would tell them don't bully anyone because if the person they bully is sensitive then that person might end up depressed and it will haunt them for a long time and they would probably kill themselves and people are going to blame you for making them do that to themselves and you are going to be haunted by that as long as you are alive |
| | S07: I've only been cyber-bullied once or twice& the most effect it had on me was make me mad. I truly don't care for this violence& idiocracy(sp). It's all just a waste of time, just like debating. People could go on for hours and hours and hours if someone would let them. We are all stubborn and have opinions who's to stop us from speaking them? No one can so no one can help so it's pointless tell people unless it's having a really extreme effect on you and your life. |
| | S08: I would tell them that they should really stop; you don't know what's going on in that persons life and being insulted so easily could really hurt them. You see kids almost everyday on the news who commited suicide because on myspace someone was called something that deeply affected them. Wouldn't you feel just terrible if it was your fault someone died? |
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| | S20: I would tell them that it is not fun and it can get people very hurt or even killed so don't do it for any reason at all. |

S21: That it hurts people or makes them mad.

S29: That it is a very bad and stupid thing to do and to knock it off because people in our everyday lives kill themselves over cyberbullying... and for what? to get away from it? idk but IT HAS TO END NOW!!!!

S31: Idk who I would tell, But i would tell then that its Wrong and it hurts people, some people badly. It Kills Alot of people with Low self of steam and depressed issues. Its PainFul and the Cyberbullyers Dont understand what they are doing, they think its funny but it really not

S34: I would tell them: "Would YOU like to have this happen to you? I don't think so! It makes people feel like they don't belong, like they shouldn't be who they are. Cyberbullying has lead to death, by cause of suicide. We shouldn't let this go on, we should try and stop it."

S35: That its a hard thing to go threw, it dosnt just hurt the person it hurts people very close to see them go threw that. What if they were you and you were them. Youd know how they feel so dont do it to others becuase it can tear people apart or even cause death.

S45: if i could tell anybody i would tell the people that started it. i would tell them that it really hurts peoples feelings and you should think about how it makes you feel when others do it to you. i would tell them that it makes people feel bad and might even lead to suicide. it is very serious because some people take what others say very seriously and think thats how the world feels about them. what would happen if the situation was flipped and they were doing that to you. you would realize how serious it really is and you should stop.

S48: I would tell them that they have no right to be talking about them like that. They don't know them and they don't know everything that's going on in their lives. And how would they feel if they were the cause of the bullied hurting themselves. My friend CT actually killed himself. He wasn't being cyber bullied, but he was getting bullied and I think he had problems in his home. He used to live here in Texas, but then moved to Virginia. He was getting bullied her though too. I think he was trying to stick up for his brother but then the other kid's brother got into it too. He got jumped on Halloween 2009, his last Halloween, that he spent with us. When he moved, he got bullied then too. I don't exactly know the details, but he hung himself. I don't know how the bullies feel, but they probably don't feel too great, or they don't feel anything at all. But i know that in middle school, people really don't think about what can happen. They need to be aware of everything that can happen from bullying and cyber bullying.

S69: Id Tell The That Cyberbullying Really Is A Big Deal in Todays Society. . The Things People Say About Each Other Really Can Affect The Person. Sometimes Its So Bad They Wanna Kill Them Self. No Kid, well No Person Should Ever Have To Feel Like That.

| Make it stop | S02: Cyberbullying is wrong! It makes people feel bad about themselves and |
|---|---|

then they go and commit suicide because you were a meany-butt! Geez people these guys are killing themselves. You make them feel so bad so stop being idiots and stop cyberbullying!

S10: Im tired of it and i need help with me and my family plus my friend and her mom

S11: I would tell everyone that it hurts and that anyone that does this should stop because it hurts other people.

S23: i would tell them to not cyberbuly or fight back in cyberbullying problem

S29: That it is a very bad and stupid thing to do and to knock it off because people in our everyday lives kill themselves over cyberbullying... and for what? to get away from it? idk but IT HAS TO END NOW!!!!

S30: That it is hurtful and will be puniishable. It's not a joke or fun to do.

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S42: I would tell them to not do it but if they do they should talk it out and if things get physical then they shouldn't tell an adult because they should just fight it out and get things over with because if they don't get their anger out some how it is just gonna keep building up! So I just want to say don't do bullying over the Internet, do it to their faces because as long as they make the first hit then your okay! And don't let some stupid stuff ruin a school year okay so fight and forget about it. It will help everyone and if you loose the fight just say that it was unfair or just say that they are going to regret saying and doing what they did because one day things are going to go wrong for them and they are going to get their bootie beat and they should just watch their back and sleep with one eye open!

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S46: i dont knoe cause i dont knoe how other people feel bout it, but i would say that why not say it person to person, face to face instaed of over the computer, but ayee that's jus mee.

| | |
|---|---|
| | S47: i would ask them how it wuld make them feel if someone was constantly harasing you. it wouldnt make them feel so hot so why wuld they do that to someone else |
| | S48: I would tell them that they have no right to be talking about them like that. They don't know them and they don't know everything that's going on in their lives. And how would they feel if they were the cause of the bullied hurting themselves. My friend CT actually killed himself. He wasn't being cyber bullied, but he was getting bullied and I think he had problems in his home. He used to live here in Texas, but then moved to Virginia. He was getting bullied her though too. I think he was trying to stick up for his brother but then the other kid's brother got into it too. He got jumped on Halloween 2009, his last Halloween, that he spent with us. When he moved, he got bullied then too. I don't exactly know the details, but he hung. I don't know how the bullies feel, but they probably don't feel too great, or they don't feel anything at all. But i know that in middle school, people really don't think about what can happen. They need to be aware of everything that can happen from bullying and cyber bullying. |
| | S50: I would tell them that it is not cool and it has never been cool. Also that they should watch their mouths because what that guy said online was well, lets just say he doesn't kiss his mother with that mouth.:P But seriously I think our world would be a better place. |
| | S55: I would say that it has too stop. No one enjoys it unless the one bullying others finds it funny or fun to do. But other then that. No one really likes it. It makes them feel like there nothing. And no one should ever feel that way. |
| | S68: Make it stop , or put it as a law!!!!! |
| | S69: Id Tell The That Cyberbullying Really Is A Big Deal in Todays Society. . The Things People Say About Each Other Really Can Affect The Person. Sometimes Its So Bad They Wanna Kill Them Self. No Kid, well No Person Should Ever Have To Feel Like That. |
| | S70: I would tell them that they shouldn't treat other ppl the way they do because whxxver is cyberbullying isn't the only one who has/had problems in their life. Everybody else does too so there is no need to treat other people different just because they're not the same as them. We're more alike than we are different.. |
| | S72: i would tell them that words realy do hurt and people can get effected by it and ppl dont reliz it but it happens.they shoul get seriously punished 4 it becouse it is just wrong |
| Report it | S01: I'd tell them that get makes me ticked off, and that it's more helpful to just ignore it than let it get to you, unless it's something major. In my case, it wasn't anything huge, but you never know. If you know somebody who gets bullied, tell their parents or somethin, or just report it to the owner of the site. Try to block them (Some websites actually have that option), or if it's bothering you that much even after you've told someone, leave. It's somewhat simple. |

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| | S04: i would tell my brother evrythin dat happend cuz he listens to mhe and actually comprehens wit mhe and mhy mom sometimes does iht when she isnt avin a bad day which is mostly neva.<br><br>S16: What I would tell them is that I am being cyberbullied and I feel uncomfortable dealing with this situation on my own and that i need help. And my mom would be the first I would tell because I tell her everything.<br><br>S22: just sometimes if you don't know what to do about the situation and you get really mad just know that someone is ALWAYS ALWAYS going to be there so you can talk to them about anything<br><br>S27: to tell an adult immediately |
| We are more alike than we are different | S70: I would tell them that they shouldn't treat other ppl the way they do because whxxver is cyberbullying isn't the only one who has/had problems in their life. Everybody else does too so there is no need to treat other people different just because they're not the same as them. We're more alike than we are different.. |

**Curriculum Vitae**

**JACQUELINE K. PILKEY**

<u>**EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION:**</u>

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| **2007-2011** | **Doctor of Education in Administrator Leadership**<br>**Walden University, Minneapolis, MN** |
| **1996-1997** | **Master of Education in Educational Administration**<br>**University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, TX**<br>*Educational Administration*<br>Certification: *Mid-Management, Principal (EC-12)* |
| **1988-1991** | **Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education**<br>**University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, TX**<br>Certification: Secondary Mathematics and<br>Government/Political Science |

<u>**PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**</u>

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|---|---|
| **1991 – Present** | **Killeen Independent School District**<br>2004-Present  Middle School Assistant Principal<br>1991-2004     Teacher of Mathematics<br>          Harker Heights High School (2000-2004)<br>          Killeen Ninth Grade Center (1995-2000)<br>          Killeen High School (1991-1995) |

<u>**ACADEMIC AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT:**</u>

Response to Intervention Coordinator (2008-Present)
AVID Site Coordinator (2002 – 2003)
Mathematics Department Chair (2000-2004)

<u>**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:**</u>

Association of Texas Professional Educators
Texas Association of Secondary School Principals

<u>**HONORS/AWARDS:**</u>

Kappa Mu Epsilon (Math Honor Society)
Kappa Delta Pi (International Honor Society in Education)