

CYBERBULLYING AWARENESS MONTH



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Cyberbullying occurs when someone harasses, torments, threatens or humiliates someone else through the use of technology — including text messages, social media sites, email, instant messages and websites. Like face-to-face bullying, cyberbullying can manifest itself in several different kinds of behaviors. October is Cyberbullying Awareness Month. There has been a rise in cyberbullying in teens since 2016, where around 34% of middle and high school students experienced some form of online bullying. There are several forms of cyberbullying such as: Impersonation, Cyberstalking, Flaming, Harassment, Outing, Trolling, Trickery, Catfishing, Denigration, and Exclusion.

Impersonation: Fake accounts or profiles to impersonate the victim.

'Frapping' - Online predator gains access to a victim's social media account and acts as the victim, posting inappropriate content on their account. With this in mind, always remember that whatever you post on the internet will always be there and can be accessed by anyone. Be mindful of what you post!

Cyberstalking: When someone uses technology to constantly harass, intimidate, and/or threaten someone online.

Cyberstalkers may keep information on someone and make several attempts to meet up with their victim in person. In most cases, cyberstalking consists of adult men groping and harassing teens into engaging in inappropriate sexual relationships.

Flaming: When people post demeaning comments on someone's social media or website, typically to insult or humiliate him or her.

Flaming usually occurs when an online fight breaks out, leading to negative communication with foul language.

Outing: The sharing of one's private information by an online predator in an attempt to humiliate the victim. Outing can be the sharing of photos, messages, emails, or videos on the internet or sending them to other people.

Harassment: The constant sending of abusive or threatening messages to an individual or a group of people online. Harassment can be done in private or in public settings.

Trolling: The deliberate act of provoking a response through the use of certain inflammatory statements, like insults and bad language in an online setting.

The goal of trolling is to ignite anger in someone, hoping to make them post something inappropriate or embarrassing. Trolling typically occurs to make the troll feel better by making others upset.

Trickery: Similarly to outing, trickery is revealing personal information about someone online. Normally, the person doing the bullying befriends their victim and gains their trust with the full intent to share their personal information with others.

Catfishing: This is where someone pretends to be someone else on the internet to hurt or manipulate relationships. They might post inappropriate information.

Exclusion: Creating groups or events excluding others.

This can also happen when people are not tagged in photos that their in, not being invited to events that other people they know are invited to, and not being included in online conversations.