Cyberbullying

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- Community Services Branch
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Truly local television



What is Bullying

- Repetitious and continuous abuse including:
 - Physical-pushing, hitting, throwing, etc.
 - Verbal-teasing, taunting, ridiculing
 - Psychologicalgossip, rumors, excluding, rejection



EFFECTS OF BULLYING ON CHILDREN

- Become withdrawn
- Fear of going to school
- Low self esteem
- School work problems
- Physical pain
- > Emotional pain



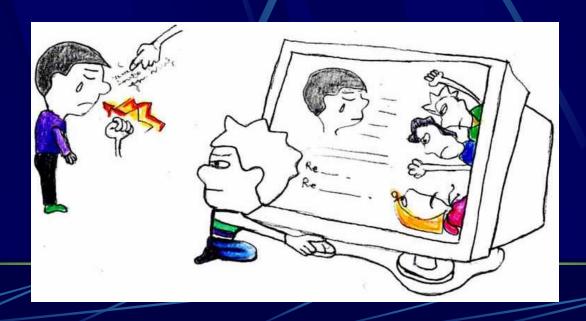
Traditionally bullying has taken place:

- > On the school bus
- > In the classroom
- On the playground
- In the washroom (ex: Myles Neuts)
- > On the phone
- On the way to and from school



What is Cyberbullying?

The use of information and communication technologies to bully, embarrass, threaten or harass another



Information and Communication Technologies

- Instant Messaging
- Cell Phones
- ➤ Interactive Games
- ▶ E-mail
- Websites
- Profiles

- Blogging
- Discussion Boards
- Guest Books
- Provocative postings
- Websites targeting the other with humiliation

What are they?

- Instant Messaging: MSN, YAHOO, ICQ-Real time chat, webcam, photos
- Cell Phones: camera phone with text messaging
- > Interactive Games: Grand Theft Auto
- E-mail: not real time, forwarding hurtful e-mails
- Websites: "Dave Knight"

Cont'd

- Profiles: personal info, could pretend to be someone else
- > Blogging: on-line diary (myspace.com)
- Discussion Boards/Newgroups/Guestbooks: often used to make fun of others. People can add to it www.rateteacher.com

NOW THE BULLY HAS COME INTO MY HOME





>THERE IS NO ESCAPING IT

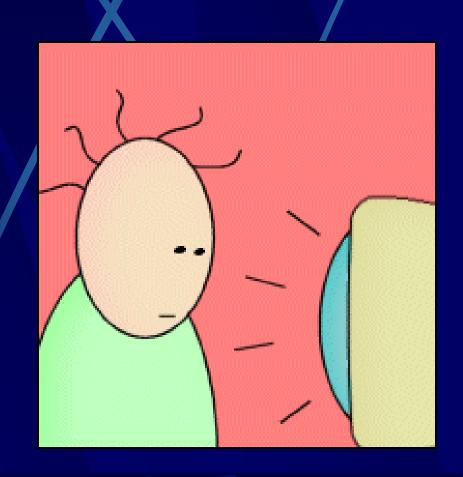
>HOME IS NO LONGER A

REFUGE FROM THE HURTFUL

WORDS AND ACTIONS

WHY CYBERSPACE

- IT IS A
 VIRTUAL
 PLACE TO
 HIDE
- >NO WITNESSES
- > NO CRIME SCENE



Four Types of On-Line Bullies

- > The Vengeful Angel
- The Power-Hungry or Revenge of the Nerds
- The "Mean Girls"
- The Inadvertent Cyberbully or "Because I Can"
- > www.netbullies.com

The Vengeful Angel

- >The victim of bullying retaliates
- Don't see themselves as a bully
- Righting wrongs or protecting themselves or others from the "Bad Guy"
- >Protecting a friend

Power Hungry/Revenge of the Nerds

- Like the schoolyard bullies
- >Need an audience
- >Want to exert their power
- ➤ Often brag about their actions

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- Often the victim of typical offline bullying
- May be physically smaller
- The ones picked on for not being popular enough
- > Greater technical skills
- "Revenge of the Nerds"

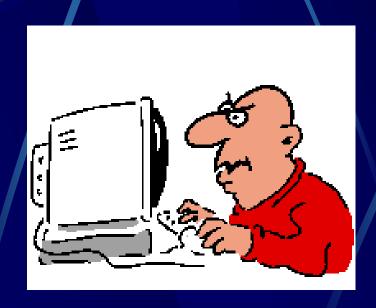
"Mean Girls"

- Done/planned in a group
- > Entertainment
- >Bullying other females
- Grows when fed by group admiration, cliques or by the silence of others

Inadvertent Cyberbully

- > "Because I can"
- Don't believe they are cyberbullies
- Pretending to be tough online
- ➤ Don't think before clicking "send"

How it Happens



- > Flaming
- Harassment
- Cyberstalking
- > Denigration
- > Impersonation
- Outing and Trickery
- > Exclusion

Definitions

- Flaming: online "fights" with angry words
- Harassment: repeatedly sending offensive, rude, and insulting messages
- Cyberstalking: repeatedly sending messages that include threats of harm or are highly intimidating.

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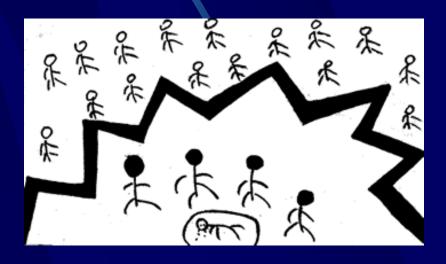
- Denigration: "Dissing" someone online.
- Impersonation: breaking into someone's account, posing as that person.

Cont'd

- Outing and Trickery: Sharing someone's secrets. Tricking someone into revealing secrets
- Exclusion: Intentionally excluding someone from an online group, like a "buddy list"

BYSTANDERS

- Forward hurtfule-mail
- Visit a cyberbully's "vote for the fat girl" site
- Allow cyberbullies to take cell phone photos or video of others' personal moments



TIPS FOR THE BULLIED

- Block sender's e-mail
- Change e-mail or cell phone number
- Don't reply to messages from cyberbullies
- Don't erase or delete messages
- > Tell an adult
- Inform your ISP
- Call police if messages are threatening



BULLY BEWARE "YOU CAN BE FOUND"



- Your internet service provider – you can be held accountable and lose your privileges
- A footprint is left on your hard drive with any messages sent

ASK YOURSELF

- Am I being kind and showing respect to others and myself?
- ➤ How would I feel if someone did the same thing to me or to my best friend?
- > How do I feel inside?
- What would a trusted adult, who is important in my life, think?

Cont'd

- ➤ Is this action in violation of any agreements, rules, or laws?
- How would I feel if everyone could see me?
- Would it be okay if I did this in my home or at school?
- > How does this action reflect on me?

Statistics

- ➤ In 1995, there was one hate-related website
- In 2004, there were 4700
- In Canada,
 - ▶ 14% of teens say they've been threatened while using instant messaging

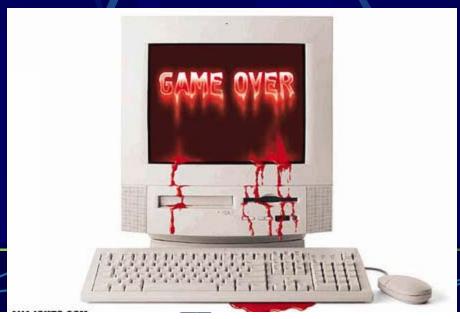
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- 16% admitted to having sent hateful messages themselves
- > 75% of victims don't call police
- 25% of victims suffer in silence, never tell anyone

MISCONCEPTIONS

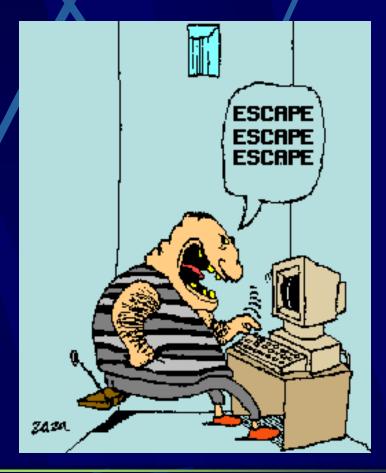
- Tell all, it's okay to tell personal secrets on the Internet
- > I have free speech rights.
- What happens online is just a game. It is not real, so no one can get hurt.
- What happens online should stay online.

The Truth YOU WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE



The Law, Cyberbullying and You

- Utter threats cc 264.1
- Extortion by threats cc 346 (1)
- > Assault cc 266
- Criminal harassment cc 264 (1)
- > Personation cc 403



THOSE WHO CAN, DO

THOSE WHO CAN'T.



RESOURCES

- www.cyberwise.ca
- www.internet101.ca
- www.bewebaware.ca
- www.cyberbullying.ca
- www.cybertip.ca
- www.transl8it.com
- www.safekids.com- on-line safety quiz
- www.stopcyberbullying.com
- www.wiredkids.org on-line quiz
- www.bullying.org

FOR THE PARENTS

FILTERS

- SECURITY SOFTWARE Predator Guard: scans all messages and "notices" when that text could be threatening to user
- ➤ E-MAIL TRACKER PRO: allows you to track Internet E-mail back to sender
- PARENTAL CONTROLS: offers chat filtering protection for both instant messaging and chat rooms

What You Can Do

- Make it your business
- Keep computer in a common place
- Check their online activities periodically and tell them you will be doing this
- Search for your child's name online check his/her profiles, postings, blogs, web pages, etc.

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- ➤ Tell your child that you may check their history on chat lines and e-mail if you believe you may find unsafe or irresponsible behavior
- > Watch out for secretive behavior online

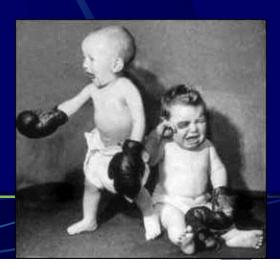
Signs of Victimization

- Your child is emotionally upset, depress, sad, anxious, angry or scared, especially after using the phone or Internet
- Your child avoids friends, school, activities
- Your child decline in grades
- Your child subtle comments that reflect emotional distress or disturbed online or inperson relationships

Centre for Safe and Responsible Internet Use

Prevent Your Child From Being a Cyberbully

- Give good examples
- Give good values
- Talk to them about the implications of severe cyberbullying
- Retaliating is not smart



Thank you to TV Cogeco for their support in making this presentation possible

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