CYBERBULLYING: THE IMPACT OF STAYING CONNECTED

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CYBERBULLYING

- Cyberbullying occurs when younger people under the age of 18, use technology as an instrument to harass or threaten their peers via email, computer, social networking sites, text messaging, chat rooms or cell phone (Patchin & Hinduja, 2010).
BULLYING
CYBERBULLYING
WHAT IS CYBERBULLYING?

- On-line fighting/trash-talking
- Offensive harassing messages
- Publicly disclosing someone’s intimate personal information
- Breaking into someone’s account and sending messages to damage friendships
- Taking pictures of someone without their knowledge and then posting the pictures online or sending them via email or phone
- Taking pictures of someone WITH their knowledge but posting the pictures WITHOUT their consent
- Using the Internet, cell phone or email to intimidate someone
- Creating a fictitious on-line account using legitimate personal information and then placing damaging or harassing information in the account
THE TRAGEDIES BEHIND CYBERBULLYING

Megan Meier - 13
THE TRAGEDIES BEHIND CYBERBULLYING

Phoebe Prince - 15
THE TRAGEDIES BEHIND CYBERBULLYING

Ryan Halligan - 13

ryanpatrichalligan.Org
THE TRAGEDIES BEHIND CYBERBULLYING

campusprogress.org

Tyler Clementi - 18
Megan Meier Cyberbullying Prevention Act

- On April 2, 2009, a federal level bill addressing cyberbullying was placed before the House of Representatives titled the "Megan Meier Cyberbullying Prevention Act" (Bill H.R. 1966). The Megan Meier case caused law enforcement, parents and advocates to realize that in some cases adults were perpetrating some of the crimes, which may allow some jurisdictions to look at cyberbullying as a form of child abuse when an underage minor is involved.

Read more: Cyberbullying Laws | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/about_5376722_cyberbullying-laws.html#ixzz1Ga5kCorQ
Cyberbullying Studies

• The Cyberbullying Research Center claims that cyberbullying affects almost half of all American teens

• 19,000 suicide attempts occur each year within the U.S. (www.cyberbullying.us)
Cyberbullying Studies

• Adam Hildreth, founder and CEO of Crisp Thinking states, “Out of 15 million children’s IM accounts analyzed we found that 5.6 million children received cyber bullying messages” (Hildreth, 2010)
POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OUTCOMES

• HARASSMENT
• STALKING
• PORNOGRAPHY
• INCARCERATION
• FORFEITURE
SEXTING/PORNOGRAPHY

• Sending or receiving of sexually-suggestive or explicit texts or pictures via one’s cell phone
• Sending a picture of yourself to a friend without any clothes on can be considered child pornography.
• Sending a picture to a friend of your boyfriend/girlfriend without any clothes on can also be considered pornography.
Sexting Suicide

PENNSYLVANIA LAW

• Anytime you use a telephone or computer to send a picture(s) of a naked person who is a minor, that constitutes a felony each time the telephone or computer is used to send that picture(s).
FELONY SENTENCES CAN APPLY TO ANYONE WHO IS AGE 14 YEARS OR OLDER
WHAT IF THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENS?

• In 2012, a new law that is supposed to take effect will require any person, including a juvenile, age 10 or over, who is found guilty of sending pornography to register as a sex offender for a minimum of 15 years.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE REGISTERED AS A SEX OFFENDER?

Your name, address and photograph are posted on numerous websites for the entire world to see.
EXAMPLE

• If you send two pictures of your naked girlfriend to ten other people, you have committed 20 felonies of the third degree punishable by up to 140 years in prison.
Cyberbullying will only decrease when the extent of the problem if fully understood.
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(Paulet, 2011)
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

• NetSmartz.org – www.netsmartz.org
• iKeepSafe Internet Safety Coalition – www.ikeepsafe.org
• Enough is Enough – www.internetsafety101.org
• Working to Halt Online Abuse Kids-Teen Division www.haltabusektd.org
• Wired Safety – www.wiredsafety.org
• National Organization for Victims Assistance- www.trynova.org/victiminfo/readings/cyberbullying.html
Photo Resources

- Blogs.bgsu.edu
- Exchangehostings.com
- Nvudev.com
- Childof the nineties.blogspot.com
- Teshcrunch.com
- Wynnsolutions.com
- Chicagosmugnet.org
- Supershareware.com
- Digitaltrends.com