



CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is just what it sounds like - bullying through Internet applications and technologies such as instant messaging (IM), social networking sites, and cell phones. It can start easily—with a rumor, a photo, or a forwarded message—and just as easily spiral out of control.

An embarrassing video posted to a social networking site by someone in Kansas tonight may be watched by someone in Japan tomorrow.

Cyberbullying victims may be targeted anywhere, at any time.

Common Forms of Cyberbullying :

- * Flaming and Trolling – sending or posting hostile messages intended to “inflame” the emotions of others
- * Happy-Slapping – recording someone being harassed or bullied in a way that usually involves physical abuse, then posting the video online for public viewing
- * Identity Theft/Impersonation – stealing someone’s password and/or hijacking their online accounts to send or post incriminating or humiliating pictures, videos, or information
- * Photoshopping – doctoring digital images so that the main subject is placed in a compromising or embarrassing situation
- * Physical Threats – sending messages that involve threats to a person’s physical safety
- * Rumor Spreading – spreading gossip through e-mail, text messaging, or social networking sites

(Source : <http://www.netsmartz.org/Cyberbullying>)