

CYBERBULLYING EMERGES FROM FIVE TYPES OF ONLINE ABUSE

by:

Rizalyn G. Urmatan

Teacher III, Mariveles National High School - Poblacion

Everyone of us can consider ourselves as one of online abusers, especially the students who always use their cellphones in order to access social media. When can we consider ourselves online abusers? Online abuse happens if someone acts in a way that causes harm and distress to others. It is often obvious if someone is behaving in an abusive manner but it's not always clear where the boundary falls.

All of us are expected to have the same standards behavior online as those expected in face to face interactions. If someone treated us in an unlawful manner, unfair or unacceptable before our very eyes then it doesn't make it acceptable to behave that way online.

The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan

According to Hartney (2019), here are the five types of online abuse that -which have been used by cyberbullies to embarrass, exploit and harass others as well as techniques for protecting yourself against them.

1. Social Exclusion

If someone leaving out of a group to which they should expect automatic membership it can be consider this as one of the mildest forms of cyberbullying and can cause serious distress to someone. If you experienced this scenario better for you to find real-life relationship rather than depending on virtual relationships.

2. Tagging Without Permission

If somebody attaching a name of a person to an online image without permission can be considered a form of internet abuse because the intention is to distress or ridicule the person. If this thing happened to you better to limit posting your censor image.

3. Flaming

It is the way of posting uncomplimentary comment about other person. It can be outing other by revealing his/her secret without his/her permission; character assassination wherein scoring someone's character through exaggerating her perceive faults in an unbalanced way; posting up unbelievable stories in order to damage her image or reputation.

4. Sext Re-Posting

It is a risky activity and might happen for those people who are in a relationship wherein they are sending pictures with each other without thinking about the potential future risk that can be used against each other in the future.

5. Impersonation and Identity Theft

If a person pretending to be someone else and can range that is an obvious form of mockery to actually borrowing or stealing someone's identity such as their name, image ore revealing information in order to carry out actions which are referring to the victim.

1. Harassment and Intimidation:

Cyberbullies might employ online platforms to intimidate and harass their peers by making hurtful comments, issuing threats, or spreading false information This can create an environment of fear and anxiety for the targeted individuals.

2. Impersonation and Identity Theft:

Cyberbullies might engage in identity theft or impersonation, creating fake profiles to spread rumors or tarnish the reputation of their classmates. This can lead to significant emotional distress and damage to personal relationships.

3. Exclusion and Social Isolation:

Through online means, cyberbullies may purposefully exclude certain individuals from social groups or activities, fostering a sense of isolation. This exclusionary behavior can negatively impact the victim's mental well-being and social integration.

4. Public Humiliation:

Posting embarrassing photos, videos, or personal information online with the intention of ridiculing the victim can result in public humiliation. The widespread nature of the internet can amplify the humiliation, making it challenging for the targeted individual to escape the negative attention.

5. Spreading Offensive Content:

Cyberbullies may distribute offensive or inappropriate content targeting specific individuals. This can include spreading rumors, sharing explicit material, or engaging in hate speech, causing emotional distress and potential harm to the victims' reputation.

It's essential for schools to address these issues through education, awareness programs, and implementing effective measures to prevent and respond to cyberbullying incidents.

References:

Cuncic, A. (2023, December 31). The Psychology of Cyberbullying. Verywellmind. Retrieved January 12, 2024, from <https://www.verywellmind.com/the-psychology-of-cyberbullying-5086615>