Cyberbullying Brutally Affecting Society

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Abstract:

This article provides in-depth information about Cyber Bullying. Cyber bullying equally affects lives of individuals negatively. The victims suffered from bullying by friends, close relatives and people close to them. The continuous act of Cyber bullying creates immense pressure which may lead the victims to commit suicide. There is an alarming rate of cyber bullying victims in the younger population. The paper suggests strategies to decrease cyber bullying in society, in general, and educational institutions in particular.

Keywords: Cybercrime, Cyber bullying; Internet; Prevention; Students, strangers, suicides, psychopaths.

Introduction to Cyberbullying

Bullying isn't a new concept, but the universal adoption of new communications technologies that has caused bullying behavior to move to cyberspace, this phenomenon is known as "Cyberbullying." Because of its increased estimated frequency and the fact that it has been suspected as a main factor in a number of teen suicides, Cyberbullying is becoming a growing cause of worry for parents, police, educators, and the general public. Bullying is categorized as the widespread abuse of power by unreasonable and recurring actions designed to annoy or injure another person. It can have a direct or indirect effect like physical and verbal teasing. Bullying has become more of a challenge for teenagers and educators, particularly with the increased use of digital technologies that allow for quick and widespread communication. Bullying has previously been connected with educational environments; however, this is no longer true, as emerging technologies allow sexual abuse to happen outside of school hours and at any moment during the day. [1]

Another Way of Defining Cyberbullying

There is currently no generally recognized way of defining Cyberbullying, but many of the concepts studied share similar elements. The Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights review, Cyberbullying Hurts, Respect for Rights in the Digital Age , recognizes the difficulty in reaching agreement on a consistent definition of Cyberbullying, owing to a lack of shared idea of what constitutes this practice. [2] The Analysis found support for

the argument that Cyberbullying is a form of conventional bullying, claiming that Cyberbullying involves actions meant to harm, ridicule, assault, or abuse the victims. Cyberbullying occurs in many ways, that includes sending offensive and intimidating messages via email, text messaging, and phone calls, as well as sharing such messages in discussion groups, "bash boards," and some other social media websites. [3] The digital sharing or electronic dissemination of humiliating pictures or videos is yet another common method of Cyberbullying. It may also mean making websites insulting, tormenting, and bullying the alleged target or victims. Cyber bullies are also using certain platforms to set up opinion polls or voter rolls, enabling site users to vote on subjects like who is the "dumbest" or "ugliest" student in class. [4] According to a new report, one out of every three high school students has experienced bullying or Cyberbullying in some way. 8th footnote According to Statistics Canada's Self-reported Internet Victimization in Canada, 2009 Footnote 9 (based on the General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization), 7% of Web users aged 18 and up have been victims of Cyberbullying at some point in their lives. Violent or offensive e-mails or text messages were the most common type of Cyberbullying, as recorded by nearly three-quarters (73%) of Cyberbullying victims, followed by negative comments by more than half (55%) of survivors. In the study, 8% of teenagers had their identities stolen by someone who then sent them offensive e-mails. [5] Messaging and networking sites web users were nearly three times more likely to become victims of Cyberbullying than someone who did not ever use sites. A stranger cyber bullied the number of people between the ages of 25. (49 percent). Bullying was most common among people aged 15 to 24, who were harassed by a peer, student, or colleague (64 percent). Males are more likely than females to be intimidated by a stranger (46% vs. 34%), and female are also more likely than males to be bullied by a colleague or workmate (13 percent versus 6 percent).[6]

Adult respondents were also asked if any of their kids or youth (ages 8 to 17) had been victims of abuse or child luring in their home. [7] According to the findings, 9 percent of adults living in a household with a child were aware of a case of Cyberbullying involving at most one of their kids. Of these adults, 74 percent responded that the Cyberbullying was in the form of violent or harsh e-mails or messages. [8] This was followed by terrible comments sent by e-mail or messaging or posted on a website (72 percent), and having someone use the child's identity to send threatening messages (16 percent). The percentage of parents said the kids were harassed by someone they met, such as a colleague (40%), a relative (20%), or an associate (11%) rather than an outsider (21 percent). [9]

Furthermore, it is discovered that only a small percentage of Cyberbullying cases were criminally prosecuted (7 percent of adults and 14 percent of children). "Since Cyberbullying is not always relevant to the investigation and therefore does not require prosecution to police, other steps may be more effective," the authors write. Survivors were more likely to block messages from the source (60 percent), leave the site (51 percent), or complain the circumstance to their Internet or e-mail network operator, according to the data (21 percent). [10] Other explanations for not disclosing Cyberbullying, according to statements provided to the Standing Senate Committee, include fear of confrontation, inappropriate responses in the past, and risk of losing access to their data. It's harder to form

broad conclusions about the occurrence of Cyberbullying because evidence suggests that rates differ widely based on a number of reasons. Nonetheless, recent Comparative research on the existence and incidence of Cyberbullying show that Cyberbullying is a common occurrence that mostly affects teenagers but also grown up. [11]

Youth who have a disorder, are overweight, are members of ethnic minority groups, and those who identify as, or are considered to be, lesbian, homosexual, bisexual, or transgendered are all at risk of being targeted, according to the study. Cyberbullying is especially harmful because it can reach a large number of people in a short amount of time, anonymously or by manipulation, and it can last forever online. Teenagers and adolescents who are victims of Cyberbullying are more likely to suffer mental, psychological and emotional damage, such as chronic stress, academic difficulties, and acting out problems (e.g., weapon carrying). [12] Victims of Cyberbullying may feel powerless, which may lead to youth crime and suicidal thoughts. These consequences are believed to be caused by the significant role of digital communications, the large population reached by digital communications, and cyberspace's indestructibility [13]

What is Cyber-Bullying

Cyber harassment is described as when the Internet, mobile phones, or other devices are used to send or post text or photos meant to intimidate or disgrace other individual" by certain definitions. [14]"A condition in which a teenager is regularly 'brutalized, harassed, threatened, mocked, humiliated, or violated' by another teenager using messaging apps, e-mail, text messaging, or any other types of electronic new technologies,". Since

cyber-stalking may refer to bullying between adults through the internet or mobile phones, the last meaning only applies to teenagers or youngsters.

A cyber harassment scenario can be as easy as sending e-mails to those who have requested that you lose contact with them, but it can also be very severe when it involves harassment, sexual assault, or the development of a website where that individual is mocked. Psychopaths may post confidential info about their offenders on websites or forums, or even appear to be anyone else in addition to publishing derogatory or humiliating material in the victim's name. The majority of bullies use a similar strategy, sending offensive messages to their victims or calling them derogatory names.

Who is a Cyber-Bully

A cyber harassment is typically a victim of his community, where he is manipulated in a variety of ways, including emotionally and psychologically, and may even be cyber harassed. However, it's possible that they're just lonely or corrupt enough to make someone else's life a shambles. Many times, cyber harassed operate in communities although it makes them feel better, but they may not enjoy their behavior indulgently. Their biggest issue is that they are unable to leave their team because they feel insecure and are afraid of being cyber harassed themselves. Studies have identified that oppressors are often more frustrated than their hostages. What should bother everybody is that when cyber-bullies send intimidating and flame e-mails to their victims, they get a false sense of gratification because they are amusing themselves. The primary goal of cyber bullies, as well as conventional bullies, is to gain control. They want to be in control of any condition. They

want to rule over others and marginalize them.

Effects of Cyber-Bullying

Cyber Harassment exemplifies the technology's ugliness. Cyberbully survivors may become distressed and, in the worst-case scenario, attempt suicide. As a result, it can be see how the internet is disruptive and unfamiliar to the majority of people, capable of "hurting" them if they are unaware of the internet in general. Cyber Harassment has a number of detrimental consequences for individuals and communities. It usually begins with the survivor being perplexed and humiliated because an individual or a group of people has singled them out and humiliated them for no other reason than to be cruel. Most people would wonder why they are being bullied, but maybe even cyber-bullies have no idea. They gradually develop feelings of fear or isolation, as well as apprehension about leaving their home or attending school. If a victim is bullied on a regular basis, his grades will suffer, and he may even exhibit paranoid symptoms, finding it challenging for him to interact with peers or meet new people. Mental illness is one of the consequences of cyberbullying, and the term "symptoms" is used because it appears that cyberbullying has become a "sickness" in our environment. The survivor feels lost because they don't know who to turn to for assistance. Of course, in severe cases of relentless bullying, suicide can be a factor. Cyberbullying should be prohibited, but the question is how to do so.

Proper Individual Reaction

The United States of America is thought to be more worried with cyber-bullying because of the large percentage of their people that is impacted and the comparatively large number of cases registered, prompting them to pass legislation against it.The advice to an average person would be to just Ignore the bully, don't take him seriously, don't answer to him, and ignore him again if he shows up at your place. It is recommended to tell advisor or parents about it so that they can assist. If the victum does not react to cyber-bullies, it is likely that they will become discouraged and move on to the next victim. Nonetheless, these recommendations would only assist an individual in avoiding cyber-bullying. Furthermore, while cyberbullying may not go away, it is a good place to start for indiscriminate harassment.

Significance of Cyber-Bullying

How real is cyberbullying as a threat. Adults generally agree that cyberbullying, along with traditional bullying, is to blame for much of the psychological, depression, and anxiety issues that children face, since this is the situation that has the most impact on them. Many teens, on the other hand, disagree with this assertion; they believe that cyber-bullying is less of a concern because nothing is "genuine" on the internet, and what is said or performed should not be adjusted to reflect as much. Teens, think that they know advancement of technology better than adults, and thus are not duped by the media, whose job is to report any situation in the most sensational way possible. However, this does not justify the rising number of suicides among teenagers. Anyone who claims to be oppressed in the digital environment knows very little about how to defend themselves, even though they are. Authentically, the internet does not always reveal its true "face," and cyber-bullying is far from the only thing to be concerned about. The internet is full of mysterious traps and contradictions that can lead someone astray. Cyberbullying is a major problem that is alarming our culture on a daily basis. Cyberbullying isn't the last aspect that should be concerned with. People must be trained with

the ways of how to avoid cyberbulling.

Real Life Incidents of Cyber Bulling

Megan Meier, a 13-year-old girl from Missouri, committed suicide in her bedroom in 2008, surprising most people in the United States into knowing what cyber-bullying is. Megan died as a result of excessive stress brought on by persistent and cruel cyber-bullying, according to investigators Adults such as Lori Drews, the father of Megan's friend with whom she had a fight, and an 18-year-old officer who worked for M. Drews claimed to be a mystery man in Megan's neighbourhood and started a relationship with her via Myspace (a social networking site). Megan had been duped into believing she had an increasing relationship with the "kid" by the party. Megan lacked the emotional strength to cope with the embarrassment of being ridiculed after the hoax was exposed, so she committed suicide. Since Missouri did not have any legislation against cyber-bullying at the time, none of the members of the family could be prosecuted. In Massachusetts, another tragedy occurred. Phoebe Prince, a 15-year-old Irish migrant, was abused at school, on the internet, and on her computer. She declined to change her Facebook settings or cell phone number for threat of damaging her few friends. Even worse, her perception of herself as a "loser" drove her to commit suicide.
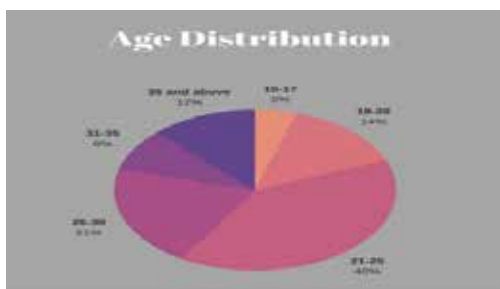

Figure 1 Age Distribution Pie Chart

Fig 1 shows a pie chart of age distribution that what is the percentage of which age group that is being affected by Cyberbullying

The figures are as surprising as the events themselves. According to a 2008 cyber-bullying study survey of 2.000 middle-school students, approximately 43% of them have been victims of cases that can be classified as cyber-bullying: "Receiving an instant message that offended them (15.8%)""Obtaining something written on their MySpace that irritated them (14.1%)." "Even more concerning, a survey of 1,247 young people aged 14 to 24 conducted by AM/MTV in September 2009 found that": "50 percent of youngsters in this age group have encountered digitally abusive behaviour, with older teens aged 18-24 (52 percent vs. 47 percent) and females more likely to be targeted (53 percent vs. 42 percent)" "On social networking sites, 45 percent of young people claim they see people being rude to each other."[15]
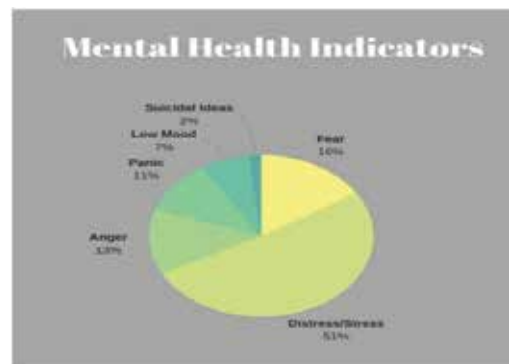

Fig 2 shows the pie chart containing the percentage of victim's mental health

The Relationship with Traditional Bullying

"Sticks and stones can break your bones, but names will never harm you," as the saying

goes. Personally, I disagree with that statement. Despite the fact that Cyberbullying is less physical than conventional forms of bullying, it has much more damaging and long-term consequences for victims. It is very simple to gain access to a machine and destroy someone's mental health. People overlook the fact that anyone, even a young, physically vulnerable child who has been a victim of conventional bullying, may be a bully online. The difference is that someone is now in a position to do much more harm than a large force. "The internet is a sinister, silent enemy: you simply don't know where to start to tattle," Emily Moor, a British bullying survivor, said. But, as faceless as a machine can be, it is just as dangerous as a human bully, if not more so, because the audience reading these heinous messages can be massive. While it is true that if you are bullied at school, you can simply go home and stop it, you have nowhere to go if you are cyber bullied..

Laws Against Cyber-Bullying

It is already widely acknowledged that the presence of false identities or identities with back stories makes it difficult to identify the perpetrator. Law makers are attempting to pass new cyber-bullying law since it seems that there are currently no standard laws in place that tackle the issues. They want to combat cyberbullying by enacting legislation that designates the act of harassment as bullying. Nonetheless, it is difficult to find a wealth of knowledge on laws prohibiting secret identities or false accounts, with the exception of states such as Texas and Georgia, which have enacted laws prohibiting people from posing as anyone else on the internet. What's more, people who create fake profiles on social media platforms can face charges for their antisocial conduct. [16]

Legislation aimed at punishing cyber-bullying and digital bullying has been passed in a number of US states, including New York, Missouri, Rhode Island, and Maryland. In 2007, at least seven states enacted legislation prohibiting cyberbullying. For example, the city of Dardenne Prairie in Springfield, Missouri, has made online bullying a misdemeanour. Furthermore, in 2008, state lawmakers in Jefferson City, Missouri, gave final approval to a bill making cyber-bullying illegal. Supporters agree that this bill would cover bullying that occurs by computers, text messages, and other mobile devices. The first bill dealing specifically with cyber-bullying was passed in August 2008 by the California state legislature. The bill was dubbed "Assembly Bill 86 2008," and the aim was to add provisions to the School/Law Enforcement Partnership Act that dealt with bullying conducted through an electronic communication device or system. To that end, a concept of electronic communication was added to the School/Law Enforcement Partnership Act. Even if many schools are now able to confront cyberbullying as a result of the following changes, I will hold the following details in the Laws Against Cyber-Bullying portion.

In Arkansas, a law was passed in 2007 that allowed school officials to deal with cyber bullies even if the bullying did not occur or begin on school grounds. Following the passage of the legislation, school administrators were given more leeway in punishing bullies.

Several laws have been passed in Iowa that require schools to enact anti-cyberbullying policies that include bullying that occurs in the classroom, on school property, or at any school event or activity supported by the school.

New Jersey has always had tough anti-bullying regulations, but there were no laws in place that specifically addressed cyber-bullying until 2007. Once again, the legislation empowers school officials to discipline students who engage in bullying behaviour against their peers.

Idaho lawmakers passed a law in 2006 that authorised school employees, especially officials, to suspend students who harassed other students using a computer or other electronic device.

They wanted to investigate cyber-bullying in greater depth and broadened the definition at Oregon State University.

Recently, the governor of Rhode Island attempted to pass a bill that would prosecute cyber-bullying perpetrators for violating the state's rules.

Vermont already had stringent anti-bullying and anti-cyber-bullying rules, but lawmakers recently imposed a $500 fine for those who are abusive to those on the internet. Vermont is regarded as one of the states with the most stringent anti-bullying laws.

Laws Against Cyber-Crime in Pakistan

In recent years, cyberbullying has become a big issue in Pakistan. Thousands of young people have become used to receiving unsolicited slanderous, offensive, and derogatory messages and comments on their social media pages. According to a survey conducted by the Express Tribune in 2013, 75 percent of online consumers were men, indicating male dominance on the Internet. Unfortunately, young women in Pakistan are

subjected to online abuse by men, and this problem has gotten worse in recent years as a result of increased social media use. Men's bigotry and discrimination have been perpetrated against Pakistani women who have been oppressed on the Internet. Online abuse is a problem that can be seen in both developing and developed countries. A mushroom growth of online abuse has tarnished the image of many young people in a country like ours, where technology invades earlier than its due SOPs. Women are psychologically depressed as a result of being intimidated, maligned, and blackmailed by fake accounts. If cyber criminals were not curtailed by legislation, the future of social media in Pakistan will be bleak. In Pakistan, the participation of a few genuine private individuals in leading this cause to safeguard women's integrity and privacy is a landmark moment.

The Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act – PECA)

Parliament passed a bill (The Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act – PECA) in 2016 that aided in bringing cyber criminals under the jurisdiction of the law. Anousha Rehman Khan (a lawyer and minister of state for information technology and telecommunications) has clarified on several occasions how a large number of lives have been lost as a result of the abuse of social media and how important it is to prevent this from happening again. Regardless of the fact that the legislation has been passed, there is no public knowledge of it. Few private companies acknowledged the need to protect and protect people (especially women) from cyber bullying.

Digital Rights Foundation (DRF)

The Digital Rights Foundation (DRF) is one such agency that operates to increase

awareness, particularly in women, about the importance of protecting their social media accounts and reporting legitimate online abuse reports. DRF published a study in 2016 to collect data on women who were abused online. This study was conducted in 17 of Pakistan's major universities throughout the country, in all of the country's provinces. The results were shocking, with 34% of respondent (all women) admitting to having experienced online harassment and 55% admitting to knowing about other women being harassed online. When asked how effective the FIA was in dealing with online abuse complaints, 47 percent said it was immensely beneficial and also that their reports were properly examined. However, 53% believe that the reporting process should be more sophisticated and precise because it is ineffective. Surprisingly, 72 percent of educated women were unaware that there was a law against online abuse.

The Hamara Internet (translates as "Our Internet") project was completed successfully, and the "Measuring Pakistani Women's Experience of Online Violence" study was used to launch the Cyber Harassment Helpline. Our research aimed to debunk the misconception that digital rights are a niche issue; according to the Hamara Internet campaign, 79 percent of young women use digital technology. The use of these devices is based on gender and motivated by the user's identity. Adult women are more likely than men to consciously their personality traits and to be harassed online. This makes them, as well as other groups in Pakistan such as religious and ethnic minorities and liberals, more vulnerable in online spaces. When it comes to dealing with online abuse in personal cases, DRF has noticed a significant difference. Established law enforcement agencies coping with online abuse have a low level of trust. As a result, many women have reached out to DRF about their experiences with online discrimination and bullying, and these cases have provided the catalyst for us to streamline our activities and institutionalize the capabilities to accommodate in-person bullying. . By offering a sexual identity and confidential environment for those experiencing online abuse, the Helpline aims to solve systemic problems and limitations that women face. To ensure that a secure environment is built for its callers, the Helpline Support Staff has established robust policies regarding privacy, caller anonymity, and quality assurance. In a patriarchal culture such as ours, societal expectations and the concept of honour pose a significant barrier to combating cases of online abuse. As a result, the perpetrator survives several encounters, and online abuse remains a largely unreported crime. There have been several occasions where harassers have been arrested and convicted as a result of the passage of this law. After the victim submitted evidence of his involvement in online abuse, a professor from the University of Karachi was apprehended. Similarly, a few female faculty members at NCA Rawalpindi raised allegations of online abuse against the campus's director. After that, he was asked to resign.

After that, in the midst of the online abuse debate, female rights activists in Pakistan argue that victims should seek justice through a judicial process based on substantial and meaningful facts rather than condemning men in general and requesting assistance from social media users. According to them, the rise of anonymous allegations threatens to delegitimize the long-running fight against online abuse. Sharmeen Obaid C is one example who took help from twitter.

 PECA ensures that internet users are secure. The responsibility, nevertheless, falls on the government and other relevant agencies to

educate the public about the law. More significantly, it is the responsibility of the educated class to raise consciousness about the law's practicality and legality. The government must develop a strategy to educate students in schools, colleges, and universities about Internet protection and freedom of speech. They must be taught how they can legally take up their cases. Article 18 of PECA states:

" Whoever knowingly and publicly exhibits, shows, or transmits false information through any information system, and intimidates or damages the integrity or privacy of a natural individual, shall be punished with imprisonment for a period up to three years or a fine up to one million rupees, or both."

After a report is filed, the matter is taken up by the FIA, which tracks down the perpetrator while respecting the complainant's privacy. If fully implemented, this legislation can help to alleviate online gender inequality and challenges to feminism. Furthermore, opinion leaders and media behemoths should emphasise the importance of educating the public about Internet safety precautions. While speaking out against abuse online is essential, legal procedures must be followed. There are currently regulations in place to deal with these issues. If these legal processes are not followed, then slamming harassers on social media sites like Twitter and Facebook amounts to nothing more than accusations and stoking controversies. PECA is a successful legal mechanism for preventing online abuse of women. [17]

School Action

It's worth noting that many schools are implementing strategies to combat Cyberbullying, which is extremely significant. Since cyber-bullying is primarily a result of the internet's presence, many schools have limited the number of websites available to students in order to protect them from visiting places that could lead to them being a target of a cyber-bully. In addition, several governments have implemented anti-bullying laws and regulations that include cyber-bullying. They constantly watch teenagers' internet browsing at school and have purchased monitoring software to screen out problematic online habits and bullying, but they do not rely exclusively on it. Many educators work to inform students, teachers, and other members of the staff about the risks of online harassment. [18]

Responsible People

Despite efforts to change laws and regulations and to put them into effect, what is concerning is that no legislation can truly prevent cyber-bullying. Since contact through the internet or mobile phones offers anonymity, many fake accounts are generated in order to tease or threaten people on social media platforms such as "Facebook" and "Myspace. there is no one who can take responsibility for this mess. there should be a way to tell when a fake account has vanished. Our culture encourages abuse, which makes it harder to solve the issue. The majority of violent crimes are depicted in video games, television, and other forms of mass media. As a result, children and teenagers become used to the notion of violence and accept it as the norm. The concept of cyber-bullying is unfamiliar to most parents. It's not entirely their fault; technology advances at a breakneck pace, and many of them are unable to keep up. Teenagers seldom discuss their issues with their parents, making it difficult for parents to assist their offspring. Many schools make the mistake of not adequately educating students or teaching them how to defend themselves. Children should have an understanding of online harassment in order to avoid any "injuries." It

is believed that only society as a whole can be held accountable for this problem. [19]

Conclusion

To summaries, while the internet and cell phone communication systems make our lives simpler and play an important role in our actions, it is sad that they have been tainted and ruined by their misuse. The advantages of the internet and cell phones cannot be debated or enumerated; however, I am fairly confident that the disadvantages are numerous. "Online bullying is the intolerable face of digital media, and we need collective action through society to fix it," according to Kevin Brennan. Schools must play a significant role, and this new guidance will assist them in more efficiently identifying and responding to cases of cyberbullying, as well as offering practical advice and information about how to avoid it. " [20]

Cyber-bullying is on the rise, and it affects almost everyone who owns and uses a computer or a cellphone, but the possibility of stopping or preventing it seems to be a long way off. Cyberbullying occurs in classrooms, out of schools, and anywhere, and since guardians do not have absolute ownership over their children's behaviour in and out of school, it is difficult to track bullies' plans. Although overall school violence is decreasing, bullying behaviours have increased by 5%. Furthermore, there were several suicide deaths as a result of cyber-bullying in the last months of 2010. There are several reasons why anyone would bully someone else, and there are even more traps that might lead the harassed person to remain silent and add to the massive issue. After doing a lot of research, I'm not sure if this whole scenario can be avoided, but hoping it can at least be reduced. It seems that there is no way to avoid it because most states in the United States lack laws that specifically addresses cyber-bullying. Because of the anonymity of cyberbullying, even where regulation exists, it lacks the ability to significantly minimise it. This might even be a great research question for another extended essay. "Should the internet offer anonymity and the option to keep one's identity hidden " Existing legislation in the states mentioned that United States has only worked in a few cases where the bully has not concealed his identity. Parents especially must not forget that thy have to protect their children. Because bullying via the internet and mobile phones cannot be completely eradicated, the next best option is to make children immune to it. It is important to teach children how to stop it and move on with their lives. They should be taught how to avoid being used as victims by bullies. Parents should assist their children in developing a strong personality. [21].

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