

## What is Cyberbullying?

**Cyberbullying** is defined in legal glossaries as:

\*Actions that use information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual group.

\*Use of communication technologies for the intention of harming another person

\*Use of internet service and mobile technologies such as web pages and discussion groups as well as instant messaging or SMS text messaging with the intention of harming another person.

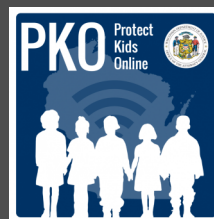
Basically: Incidents where adolescents use technology, usually computers or cell phones, to harass, threaten, humiliate, or otherwise hassle their peers.



## Want more information?

Email us at [ICAC@DOJ.STATE.WI.US](mailto:ICAC@DOJ.STATE.WI.US) for additional help!

Find us on [www.protectkidsonlinewi.gov](http://www.protectkidsonlinewi.gov) and tune in for our Protect Kids online (PKO) podcast!



Find us on:



Twitter [@WIICACTaskForce](https://twitter.com/WIICACTaskForce)/  
Facebook [WI ICAC Task Force](https://www.facebook.com/WIICACTaskForce)

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children  
[www.missingkids.org](http://www.missingkids.org)



NetSmartz (information for kids, parents and educators)



[www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org)

WI Victim Helpline (WI Office of Victim Services)  
[www.doj.state.wi.us/ocvs](http://www.doj.state.wi.us/ocvs)



WI Department of Public Instruction (DPI) [dpi.wi.gov/internet-safety](http://dpi.wi.gov/internet-safety)



# INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE CYBERBULLYING

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## I'm Being Cyberbullied...

What Can I Do if I'm Being Cyberbullied?

- \***RECOGNIZE** that you don't deserve to be treated this way, even if it's your friends!
- \***REPORT** the content to the site and then block the user. Also, tell a trusted adult about what's going on.
- \***RECORD** when/where the bullying is happening. Save the messages or photos for your record.
- \***RESIST** the urge to reply! Revenge is never the best answer.
- \***REFUSE** to participate in another person's cyberbullying attempts by not forwarding or replying to messages or pictures. (from the National Crime Prevention Council)



## IMPORTANT FACTS

- \* It is estimated around 50% of all American teens either have or have been cyberbullied
- \* Girls are significantly more likely to be cyberbullied than boys.
- \* Popular websites for cyberbullying include social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube
- \* It is more common to be cyberbullied over instant messaging/text messaging
- \* All 50 states have laws regarding forms of cyber harassment, with some states making it a misdemeanor offense
- \* Consequences for bullies can include fines, disciplinary actions in school and even criminal charges
- \* Some counties within certain states (including WI) now have ordinances that holds the parents of the bully liable as well.
- \* Victims of cyberbullying experience depression, loss of self esteem, and even suicidal thoughts.

## EXAMPLES

What are some examples of Cyberbullying?

- \* Spreading rumors or gossip about someone online
- \* Sending hurtful messages or posting hurtful comments on someone's Wall/Feed
- \* Pretending to be another person
- \* Sending intimidating messages meant to start fights
- \* Posting embarrassing or degrading photos of someone (from the National Crime Prevention Council)

CYBERBULLYING RESOURCES:

US Department of Health and Human Services **Stop Bullying Initiative**  
[www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)



National Crime Prevention Council  
[www.ncpc.org/topics/cyberbullying](http://www.ncpc.org/topics/cyberbullying)



US Cyberbullying Research Center  
[cyberbullying.us/](http://cyberbullying.us/)

