

Cyberbullying

With the introduction of mobile communication technologies, many students are currently using their cell phones, camera phones, and PDA's to communicate with friends, surf the web and access blogs. With this advancement in technology, a new crime has recently emerged.

Cyberbullying is the computer version of bullying. It is the sending or posting of harmful or cruel text or images over the Internet or through other methods of communication.

A cyberbully is a bully that chooses to use the Internet for purposes of bullying or harassing others. This bully may be someone a student knows, or a stranger on the Internet.

A cyberbully is usually under the misconception that their identity is anonymous, thus empowering them to bully, harass, or transmit pictures across the Internet or Instant Messenger. What they don't realize, is that every time they send a message they are creating cyber-footprints which can be traced to their IP address.

Cyberbullying is against the law.

If you or someone you know is a victim of cyberbullying, tell a responsible adult immediately.

They will contact the proper authority to put an end to the cyberbullying.

Internet Safety Tips for Students



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A Message from District Attorney Tim Cruz



New mobile communication devices, such as cell phones, camera phones and PDA's have become extremely popular.

These devices provide us all with a great way to keep in touch with family and friends.

They enable us to access the Internet, our e-mail accounts, and our Instant Messenger accounts.

However, when they are linked to the Internet, they provide a new array of dangers that perpetrators use to lure unsuspecting victims into their web.

This brochure has been created to raise awareness to these dangers. It will assist you and your family members in protecting your identity when you are using the Internet.

More importantly, by using common sense, and sound judgment, you can avoid these dangers and enjoy all that this new technology has to offer.

My best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Cruz".

Avoid the Dangers of Instant Messaging

- **Be aware,** Instant Messaging is never 100% secure
- Instant Messaging provides an easy way for a stranger to contact you or find out vital information about you
- If IM privacy settings are not set on your IM account, anyone could watch you while you are online

Protect yourself while using Instant Messaging

- Be sure to set your privacy settings
- Allow only people you know "IRL" (in real life) on your "buddy list"
- If you receive an IM from someone not on your "buddy list" or from a stranger, you can block them from contacting you
- Be sure not to provide any personal information about you or your family in your "buddy info" or profile

Follow the rules!

It is illegal:

- To threaten people over the Internet or phone
- To send graphic photos to people under the age of 18
- To harass or bully anyone
- To use other's credit cards without permission
- To download music without permission
- To use someone else's identity without permission

Protect your Information

- Do not give out your name, address, phone #, photo, birthday or social security number
- Use extreme caution when writing your profile
- Protect your password from others, even your friends. Giving them your password is like giving them the keys to your house.
- Beware of free offers and surveys

Answers

- Never respond if you feel uncomfortable
- Never say you're alone
- Don't answer chat room questions, even with lies

Security

- Kids and teens should not make online purchases
- Use caution when using Morpheus, Kazaa or Grokster. Check with your parents and your school before using file-sharing programs
- Enable Firewalls
- Use Virus Checkers
- Install Security updates from your Internet Service Provider

Strangers

- On-Line "friends" are still strangers
- Meetings are forbidden
- People on the Internet may have many identities

Avoid becoming a Victim!

Protect

Answers

Security

Strangers

Remember
the
PASS
Word!