SOLSTICE & CLTR Conference 2012

Edge Hill University

Harnessing the Evil: Recognizing and Preventing Cyberbullying.
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Cyberbullying

What is Cyberbullying?

"Cyberbullying is when someone repeatedly harasses, mistreats, or makes fun of another person online or while using cell phones or other electronic devices."

Cyberbullying Venues

- Emails
- Instant messaging
- Text or digital imaging messages sent on cell phones
- Web pages
- Blogs
- Chat rooms or discussion groups
- Other information communication technologies

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4

Types of cyberbullies?

- Types of cyberbullies
  - Vengeful Angel
  - Power-Hungry or Revenge of the Nerds
  - "Mean Girls"
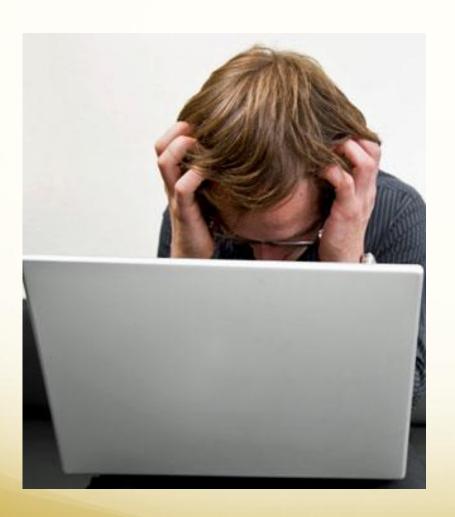 - Inadvertent Cyberbully or "Because I can"

Cyberbulling "All Grown Up"

- In the workplace

- Facebook

- MySpace

- Rate your Professor

- Hostility in Online courses

Student Attitudes Online

- Increase in online courses

- Forum-based discussions

- Monitoring by professor

- Message boards

Hostility toward Professors

- Resent slow grading

- Lack of presence on forums

- Emails

  - To professor

  - To other students

  - To administration

- Anonymous posts to discussion boards

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8

Online Etiquette

- Clarify expectations
  - Bad language
  - insults

- Discussion focus

- Posting
  - Too casual
  - Too personal
  - Mean

Set Preferences

- Filter
  - Bad language
  - Racial slurs

- Anonymous posts

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10

Online Presence

- Check forums regularly
- Participate
- Be involved
- Stop conversations
- Eliminate concerns
- Reporting process

Communicate

- Students who stop participating
  - Why?
  - Address concerns

- Students who show hostile behaviors
  - Email then phone
  - Warn
  - Discipline

Educate

- Include a plan in your syllabus
  - Expected behaviors
  - Unacceptable behaviors
  - Consequences for specific behaviors

- Swift attention
  - Contact
  - Reduction of grades
  - Referral for formal disciplinary action

Questions/Discussion

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