Cyberbullying—Thoughtful Links

For Teens, Parents, and Educators

National Crime Prevention Council—Cyberbullying

<http://www.ncpc.org/topics/cyberbullying>

This website is designed to promote a campaign to end cyberbullying. There are a number of resources, though, that will work even for those who just want information. The site offers definitions, FAQs, information for both teens and parents, and reports.

Cyberbullying Research Center

<http://www.cyberbullying.us/index.php>

Run by two associate professors of criminal justice, one at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and the other at Florida Atlantic University, this website is designed for use by parents, teens, and educators. The site includes firsthand accounts from victims of cyberbullying, as well as, numerous fact sheets and reports dealing with the issue. Additionally, there are links to great blog discussions on the topic and links to the latest headlines dealing with this issue. There are even activity sheets which can be downloaded.

Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use

<http://www.cyberbully.org/>

Led by Nancy Willard, this website focuses on helping educators in particular but also teens and parents become more aware of safety issues involving the use of the internet. The site even includes a K-12 instructional scope and sequence for teaching children about safe online practices. Several online articles and reports concerning cyberbullying can be reached through this site. Nancy Willard’s blog can also be accessed through this site, but the last entry was from a year ago.

Stop Cyberbullying by WiredKids, Inc.

<http://www.stopcyberbullying.org/index2.html>

Designed more for kids of all ages but also applicable to parents, educators and law enforcement, this website provides a question and answer format explaining what cyberbullying is and how it can be prevented. There is even a link for learning netiquette rules. Especially interesting is the brief look at why people choose to engage in cyberbullying.

Cyber Bullying Searchable Information Center

<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/cyberbullying/home.action>

This is a great searchable online library containing a collection of e-books and several documents from government agencies and PEW Internet & American Life Project. The titles, though not numerous, offer parents, educators and teens timely information on internet safety, including prevention of cyberbullying. Users can read the titles online in the quick view or can create a free account which will enable the user to highlight, bookmark, and make notes.

Girl Scouts—Life Online

<http://lmk.girlscouts.org/Online-Safety-Topics/Cyberbullying/What-it-is---isn-t.aspx>

Although this site is most likely intended for younger teens and children, it offers a great jumping off point for educators and parents to talk about the subject with teens. There’s a great interactive, online quiz that could even be used by older students to determine whether or not they are the victims of cyberbullying. The site includes a couple of short videos that would be a perfect introduction for a discussion or class lesson on cyberbullying. The site examines different types and styles of cyberbullies and bullying, too.

Common Sense Media—CyberSmart Curriculum

<http://cybersmartcurriculum.org/>

This site is designed for educators to provide in depth lessons on internet safety. Although most of the topics covered in the curriculum are relevant to cyberbullying and proper online behavior, there is a specific cyberbullying component with lessons on the topic divided by grade level. The site includes a scope and sequence and additional support materials. Though designed for educators, there are also articles and information for parents, as well.

Stop Bullying Now

<http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/adults/cyber-bullying.aspx>

This is another site which offers an overview and definition of cyberbullying. This site, however, gives a number of statistics which bring home the prevalence of this problem. It offers tips for dealing with and preventing cyberbullying and examines the consequences that this type of bullying has on teens and children. The site is divided into sections for adults, parents, educators, law enforcement, health and safety officials and a special section for kids.

The New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/28/style/28bully.html>

This site offers an interesting article for both parents and educators to consider. It looks at the dilemma faces by both parents of children who have been victims of cyberbullying and school officials who oversee these children. The article examines both sides of the issue especially whether or not school officials should discipline off-campus instances of cyberbullying.

Discovery News

<http://news.discovery.com/tech/is-cyber-bullying-illegal.html>

Similar to the New York Times article mentioned above, this article examines what, if anything, the federal government should do to regulate cyberbullying. This brief article looks at the arguments in favor of some federal regulation and those more inclined to state or local measures. This article is a personal analysis by one of the Discovery News contributors, so personal opinion is included. However, the article makes a good “jumping off” point for adults in particular considering how cyberbullying should be curtailed.