CYBERBULLYING: A STUDY OF STUDENT BEHAVIOURS AND BELIEFS ABOUT THIS PHENOMENON

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ABSTRACT: A literature review of research pertaining to cyberbullying was completed. Findings indicate that cyberbullying is becoming more prevalent as students spend an increasing amount of time using technology that keeps them connected to people at all hours of the day. There are many different ways in which cyberbullies reach their victims, including instant messaging over the Internet, social networking web sites, text messaging and phone calls to cell phones. There are different forms of cyberbullying including, but not limited to, harassment, impersonation, and cyber stalkings. It has been found that there are differences between not only the prevalence of cyberbullying   between males and females and also the ways in which males and females cyberbully. Like bullying, cyberbullying is a serious problem which can cause the victim to feel inadequate and overly self-conscious, along with the possibility of committing suicide due to being cyberbullied. Two such cases are included in this paper. There are numerous ways in which schools and parents can prevent cyberbullying and ways in which they can intervene if it has occurred.

Keywords: cyberbullying, social networking, student behaviour

I. INTRODUCTION

Cyberbullying is a medium through which harassing happens (e.g. group chat, text messages). Cyberbullying has been characterized as an individual or a group willfully using information and correspondence including electronic advances to work with purposeful and rehashed badgering or danger to another individual or gathering by sending or posting unfeeling content as well as illustrations utilizing technological methods. A considerable lot of the strategies utilized in conventional harassing are utilized in cyberbullying. Direct cyberbullying can happen when one individual calls another a name through an electronic message. Social harassing can likewise happen on the web. For instance, with the various informal communication locales now on the web (e.g., Facebook, My Space), 'hate groups' have become a famous way to deal with tormenting. In a hate group, an understudy makes an online gathering of people against a classmate, permits others to join, and by and large the gathering posts antagonistic remarks about the student.

Luckily, interpersonal interaction locales have started making a move against the making of hate gatherings. While making a gathering on Facebook, for example, a notice is set close to the lower part of the page that peruses, "Note: group that assault a particular individual or gathering of individuals (e.g., bigot, misogynist, or other disdain gatherings) won't go on without serious consequences. Making such a gathering will bring about the quick end of your Facebook account." There are a few likenesses among cyberbullying and conventional harassing. Analyzing the cover among cyberbullying and conventional harassing, one investigation tracked down that 56% of online casualties were additionally survivors of customary tormenting. Sadly, no data exists on whether the cyberbully was a similar individual who likewise harassed the casualty generally. Strangely, this additionally implies that a few casualties are focuses of just internet tormenting.

One clarification that has been proposed for this wonder includes the namelessness an individual has on the Internet. In customary harassing, the individual tormenting a casualty is quite often known. On the web, in any case, people are addressed by screen names that don't really compare with their genuine character. The mental results of menaces and casualties of cyberbullying are additionally comparable corresponding to conventional tormenting. Around 38% of youth who are irritated online report passionate misery about the occasion. Moreover, the kind of provocation executed affects the level of enthusiastic trouble one encounters. Perhaps the most genuinely troubling sorts of badgering referenced by youth incorporates being propositioned to send an image of oneself.

Some examination has shown that there are likewise contrasts among cyberbullying and customary types of harassing. As with traditional bullying, prevalence rates of cyberbullying vary depending upon the method of assessment and the meaning of cyberbullying. A union of exploration discoveries recommends that 10–30% of youth are engaged with cyberbullying. There are likewise sexual orientation contrasts in

cyberbullying. One examination tracked down that the sex of online harassers was part equitably among guys and females. These discoveries, notwithstanding, might be impacted by the absence of actual tormenting that can happen on the Internet. In another difference to conventional bullying, in which prevalence rates decrease with age, cyberbullying has been appeared to increment with age. This might be because of the expanded accessibility of the Internet to older students.

With an expanding number of youths and younger children going online,cyberbullying is a significant area for further research.

OBJCTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the opinion of students on cyberbullying
- To study the aftermath of cyberbullying
- To learn what students do when witnessing it
- To learn why most of the victims does not report the incidents
- To study why most of the victims parents aren't aware of thesituation
- Prevention of cyberbullying

All these objectives will be achieved through an online based modesurvey system.

II.   ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

How often do you think cyberbullying happens?
50 responses

- It happens all the time
- It happens sometimes
- It never happens
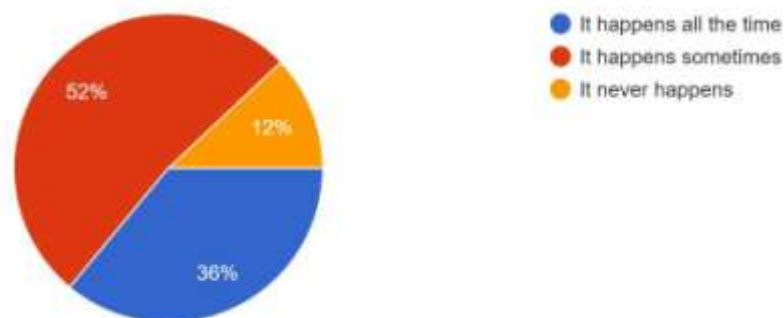
It is hard to pin down how often cyberbullying happens as different studies measure cyberbullying differently. Even the definition of what cyberbullying includes can vary as well. Cyberbullying can happen anywhere people can connect. Apps that allow users to remain anonymous but it can also happen over text, over instant-messaging andeven in social media comments.

I recently conducted an online survey in which 52% mentioned it happens sometimes and 36% said it happens all the time and 12% thinksthat it never happens.

Have you ever been cyber-bullied?
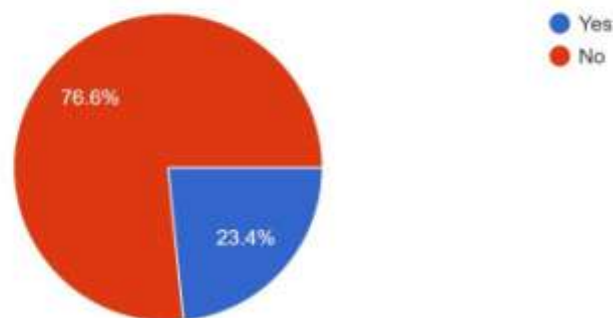
51 responses
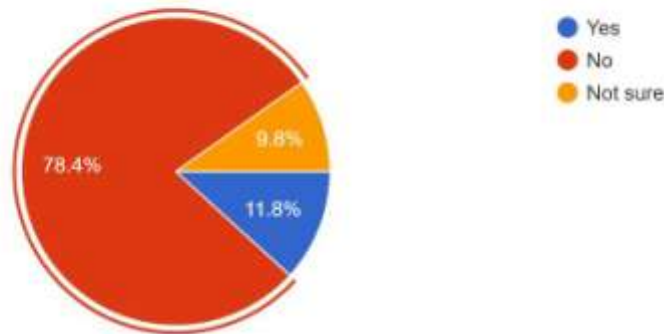
Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers and tablets, as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat and websites. The advancement in technology and social media platforms can be described as one of the prominent factors of cyber bullying. Irrespective of culture, region and ethnicity, people have taken to social media as a platform to voice their opinions with complete disregard to ones feelings or emotions. For instance, we can refer to the recent case of the Zomato incident where an employee of Zomato and a social media influencer got into a disagreement over the late delivery of food. The video got viral in seconds and people were quick to voice their opinions. Taking a look at the comments on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram, it was clear that there were divided opinions and the social media influencer admitted to receiving death threats. It is thus evident that cyber bullying is evident in today's world than it were before the existence of social media platforms.

In the recent online survey on cyber-bullying the result is in the above given graph in which I received 51 responses in total out of which 11.8% of people responded that they have been cyber-bullied. A percentage of 9.8% answered that they were not sure as in they have seen someone being cyber bullied and have at some point experienced it to some extent. The remaining 78.4% answered they have never been cyber bullied.

If you have been cyberbullied, did you report it to anyone?

47 responses

In response to reporting a cyber bullying experience, 76.6% responded yes and the remaining 23.4% responded no. The reason for not being able to speak out about a bullying incident may be due to the following reasons:-

• Shame and embarrassment

- Fear of retaliation
- Low self-esteem
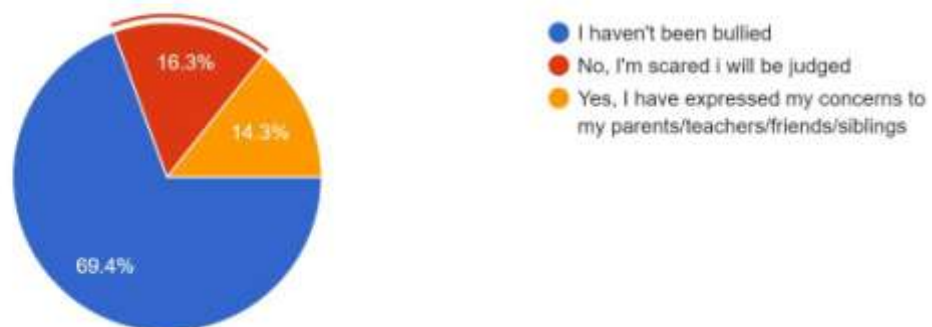- Concern about being believed
- Not knowing how to report

Bullying is about power and control and being targeted and this can cause the victim to feel powerless or weak. For many victims, this creates a feeling of intense shame and embarrassment. If a victim is being bullied because of something they are already sensitive about physical attribute or an accusation about something they did, the willoften be too embarrassed to talk about it.
Often, victim feel like reporting a bully will not do any good. Not only do they feel powerless, but they also worry that the bully will only make their lives worse if they speak up. Many victims would rather try to weather the storm alone than risk escalating the problem. Sometimes, they even believe that if they kept quiet, the bullying will eventually end.

In cases involving cyberbullying, the person doing the bullying is oftenanonymous or unknown, so victims often does not know if reporting it will help make it stop. They also aren't sure how to report the bullying online through social media apps and internet service providers.

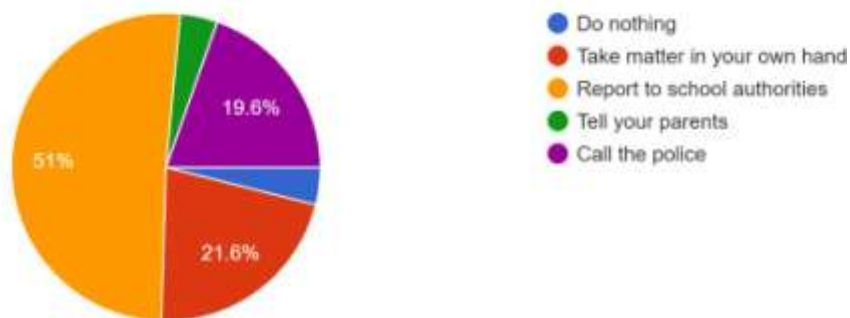**Have you talked to anyone about being bullied ?**
49 responses

- ● I haven't been bullied
- ● No, I'm scared i will be judged
- ● Yes, I have expressed my concerns to my parents/teachers/friends/siblings

16.3%
14.3%
69.4%

In regards to the above survey, 69% mentioned that they have not beenbullied and about 16% is scared of being judged and the rest 14% has expressed the concern to adults/friends/teacher.

If you saw someone being bullied would you
51 responses

- ● Do nothing
- ● Take matter in your own hand
- ● Report to school authorities
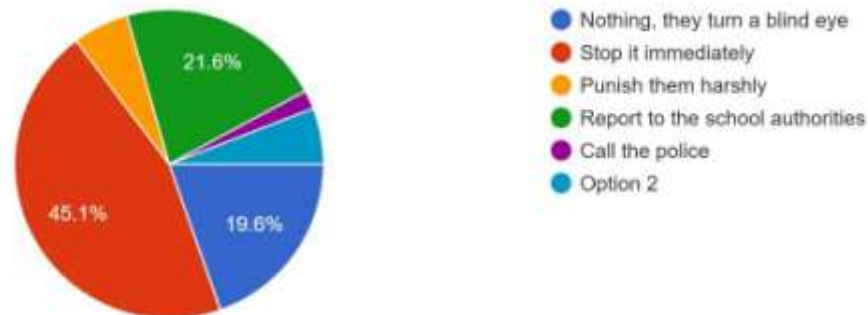- ● Tell your parents
- ● Call the police

19.6%
51%
21.6%

When asked how they would respond in the event of seeing someone being bullied- 51% mentioned they would report to school authorities.21% would take matter in their own hands and about 19% will call the

police and whereas nobody picked the option for "Do Nothing" and "Tell your Parents".

What do the adults in your institution do when they see bullying?
51 responses

- Nothing, they turn a blind eye
- Stop it immediately
- Punish them harshly
- Report to the school authorities
- Call the police
- Option 2

21.6%
45.1%
19.6%

In response to the above question, there was a rather satisfactory response. The majority 45.1% mentioned that the
authorities have stopped the bullying immediately and 21.6% of the students report it to school authorities. Except for the 19.6% who responded they would not do anything about it, which may be due to fear of judgement or other personal reasons, we do know that majoritypeople would not sit and watch someone being bullied.

III. WHY IS CYBERBULLYING SO HARMFUL ?

A great many people who are tormented online are likewise harassed face to face. Nonetheless, while disconnected tormenting permits one theopportunity to stay away from zones and circumstances that will place them in direct contact with a domineering jerk, cyberbullying offers no such respite.

Cyberbullying can follow casualties any place they go, regardless of whether they are in a group or alone. Cyberbullies can arrive at their casualties, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. They frequently post pernicious substance on the web, namelessly, with the goal that they can't be followed or halted.

Given the idea of web-based media, such substance rushes to become aweb sensation, and contacts a huge crowd instantly, making it troublesome, even unimaginable, for specialists to erase the hurtful substance before it wrecks harm.

The all-inescapable nature of cyberbullying, just as the measure of time it takes to follow cyberbullies, makes the development of cyberbullyinga disturbing pattern across the globe.

Since cyberbullying is hard to follow, numerous casualties feel powerless and unfit to adapt to it, particularly if the tormenting is closeto home and since quite a while ago drawn. It is nothing unexpected, subsequently, that this type of tormenting has been known to trigger gloom and tension in its casualties. In numerous occurrences, it has likewise brought about casualties creating self-destructive inclinations.

IV. WAYS TO COMBAT CYBERBULLYING

1. Don't respond or retaliate

Once in a while, a response is by and large the thing aggressors are searching for on the grounds that they think it gives them control over you, and by not fighting back, you are indeed, declining to enable a harasser.

You should likewise recall that returning at a domineering bully regularly transforms you into one yourself, and can set off a chainresponse of mean demonstrations.

On the off chance that you can, eliminate yourself from the circumstance. In the event that you can't, now and again humorincapacitates or diverts an individual from harassing.

On the off chance that you are ever apprehensive for your security, you need to contact law requirement offices. They can decide if anydangers made are valid. In the event that they are, the police will officially investigate your grievances and guarantee your security.

2. Save the evidence

The only good news about cyberbullying, is that proof of the harassing can generally be caught, saved and appeared to somebody who can help.

It is essential to keep all proof of the harassing: messages, posts, remarks, and so forth On the off chance that there are ways you can figure out who precisely is offering the remarks, likewise archive that.

Second, contact the help or substance supplier through which the tormenting is happening. For instance, in the event that you are being cyberbullied on Facebook, contact Facebook authorities. If you are receiving hurtful or threatening cell phone messages, contact your cell phone company to obtain assistance.

Similarly, acclimate yourself with the Terms of Use for the different locales you much of the time use and the online records you pursue. Many sites explicitly forbid provocation and on the off chance that you report it through their set up components, the substance and additionallymenace will be eliminated from the site in a convenient way.

3. Tell the person to stop

This is totally up to you – don't do it on the off chance that you don't feel absolutely good doing it, since you need to make your position totally understood and guarantee that the harasser comprehends that you won't represent this treatment any more. You may have to rehearse beforehand with somebody you trust, similar to a parent or old buddy.

4. Reach out for help

Particularly if the bully's behavior conduct is truly getting to you. You deserve backup. Check whether there's somebody who can listen to you,help you measure what's happening and even assistance you work through it – a companion, relative or perhaps a grown-up you trust**.**

5. Use availability technology and tools to cut off the bully

Most online media applications and administrations permit you to block the individual Whether the harassment is happening via an app, over texts and comments or using tagged photos, do yourself a favor and block the person.

You can likewise report the issue to the help. This presumably will not end it, yet you needn't bother with the harassment in your face, and you'll be less enticed to react. In case you're getting dangers of actualdamage, you should call your nearby police and report it.

6. Protect your account
Don't share your passwords with anyone, even your closest friends, and password-protect your phone so no one can used it to impersonate you.

7. Keep your social profile and interaction safe

Some points to be noted

- Continuously be careful about what you post. Being caring to others online will assist with guarding you. Try not to share whatever could hurt or humiliate anybody.

- Think about who sees what you post on the web. Complete outsiders? Companions? Companions of companions? Security settings let you control who sees what.

- Try not to open messages from sources you do not know and don't download attachment except if you are anticipating a connection from somebody.

- Quit downloading free media from downloading programming that isn't legitimately affirmed and therefore, not controlled.

V. LAWS AGAINST CYBERBULLYING

Offences of bullying, stalking, terrorism, breach of confidentiality, etc. committed in cyberspace are like similar offences in the real world and are punishable. The Information Technology Act, 2000 (IT Act) was enacted to deal with e-commerce and electronic records, and also to punish e-commerce offences. Offences such as intimidation, insult, annoying, harassment, defamation, etc. in cyber space continued to be punishable only under the IPC till the 2008 amendment to the IT Act.

Section 66A in the amended IT Act deals with these crimes. Sending any message (through a computer or a communication device) that is grossly offensive or has menacing character; any communication which he/she knows to be false, but for the purpose of causing insult, annoyance and criminal intimidation comes under this section. This crime, under the current IT/Cyber/Criminal laws in India is punishable up to three years with a fine.

Security and protection awareness in India is poor. It would be helpful if both, the government and civil society were more aggressive in raising awareness and triggering change in behaviour .

Shockingly, this is somewhat similar to smoking – despite the fact that individuals know about the issues, they take part in hazardous conduct on the web. The solution to make cyber laws stricter as current law under the IT Act 2000 is a bailable offense with three years' detainment and a fine. The IT Act 2000 ought to be re-altered to explicit arrangements relating to cyber harassing. Further, cyber bullying should be made a genuine offense with least five years detainment and a fine of Rs. 10 lakh. Except if you have prevention in law, it will keep on being a common offense.

Luckily, till such time, there safeguard mentioned above can help prevent such acts of cyber offenses.

VI. CONCLUSION

Cyberbullying is a difficult issue, and like any type of harassing it can have long haul consequences for its casualties.

As technology continues to become an increasingly large part of our every day to day routines, and the existences of our children, it is important to recognize the threats of cyberbullying and to find clear ways to prevent it.

Parents, teachers, and children should cooperate to prevent cyberbullying and to make the internet a more safer place for all. Children ought to be taught on what to do and who to face to if they encounter a cyberbully.

And parents should encourage schools to update their technology policies to help prevent instances of online bullying. With parents, children, and teachers cooperating we can decrease the cases of cyberbullying and make a more secure and more rewarding online environment for all the of our children.

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