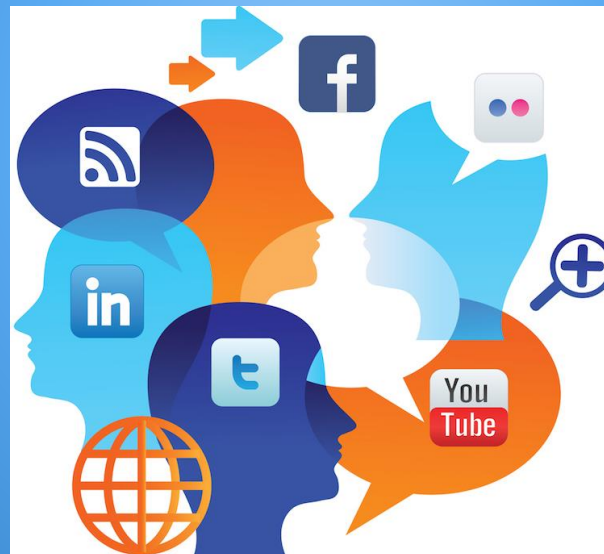


Talking to youth about social media

An information session for parents and teachers



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Human Rights Educator

About Us

Things we do:

- Human Rights Education Project
- Providing Information to the Public
- Research and Education - Not Advocacy
- Resource library and website



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Course Outline

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Digital citizenship
- Legal protection
- Talking to your child or youth
- Understanding specific apps
- Protecting privacy



Monitoring your child online

- 61% of parent check websites teen has been
- 60% have ever checked their teen's social media profiles.
- 56% have ever friended or followed their teen on social media.
- 48% have ever looked through their teen's phone call records or text messages.



Knowing your teens passwords

- 48% know password to teen's email account
- 43% know the password to their teen's cellphone
- 35% know the password to at least one of their teen's social media accounts.



What is Cyberbullying?

“Cyberbullying involves the use of [social media] to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behaviour by an individual or group, which is intended to harm others.”



Citation: Bill Belsey

What is social media?

- Content that is more recently on the Web
- User generated content
- Users create service-specific profiles, designed and maintained by the site or app
- Connections to other individuals or groups online
- Interactive

Examples: Instagram, VSCO, Facebook

Wikipedia “social media” has interesting discussion

What does your child get from social media?



Bullying vs. Cyberbullying

- Cyberbullying is an extension of bullying and involves many of the same behaviours
- Bullying is the problem, not technology.
- Bullying is a problem of human relations; technology amplifies these problems

The 7 Common Types of Cyberbullying:

- 1. *Flaming:*** Sending angry, rude, vulgar messages about a person to an online group or to that person via email or other text messaging.
- 2. *Online harassment:*** Repeatedly sending offensive messages via email or other text messaging to a person.
- 3. *Cyberstalking:*** Online harassment that includes threats of harm or is excessively intimidating.

4. **Denigration (put-downs):** Sending harmful, untrue, or cruel statements about a person to other people or posting such material online.
5. **Masquerade:** Pretending to be someone else and sending or posting material that makes that person look bad.
6. **Outing:** Sending or posting material about a person that contains sensitive, private, or embarrassing information, including forwarding private messages or images.
7. **Exclusion:** Cruelly excluding someone from an online group. (Cyberbullying Survey Section 8)



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Digital Citizenship

- What should you know about using technology?
- How can you prepare students for living in a world of technology?

“Digital Citizenship is the norms of appropriate, responsible technology use.”



Teaching students about “netiquette”

- Teaching etiquette of the internet and technology in different digital contexts
- Teachers/parents have less opportunity to do this because of private interactions with technology
- Netiquette online is as important as etiquette



Cyberbullying and the Law



Cyberbullying and the Law

- Defamation Law, criminal harassment, uttering threats, assault under *Criminal Code*
- School policies and legislation; *Education Act*
- *Alberta Human Rights Act*



Criminal Code of Canada

- In 2014 a Federal Bill changed *Criminal Code* as follows:
 - *Criminal Code* can apply to offences within cyberspace
 - Creates a new *Criminal Code* offence of non-consensual distribution of intimate images
 - Authorizes removal of non-consensual intimate images
 - Restricts use of computer by convicted offender
 - Compels Internet Service Provider to preserve information
 - Police can get investigative warrants to intercept private communications

Alberta Human Rights Act

- Prohibits discrimination in publications, services, employment among other areas
- Focuses on 15 grounds of discrimination, such as race, disability, sexual orientation

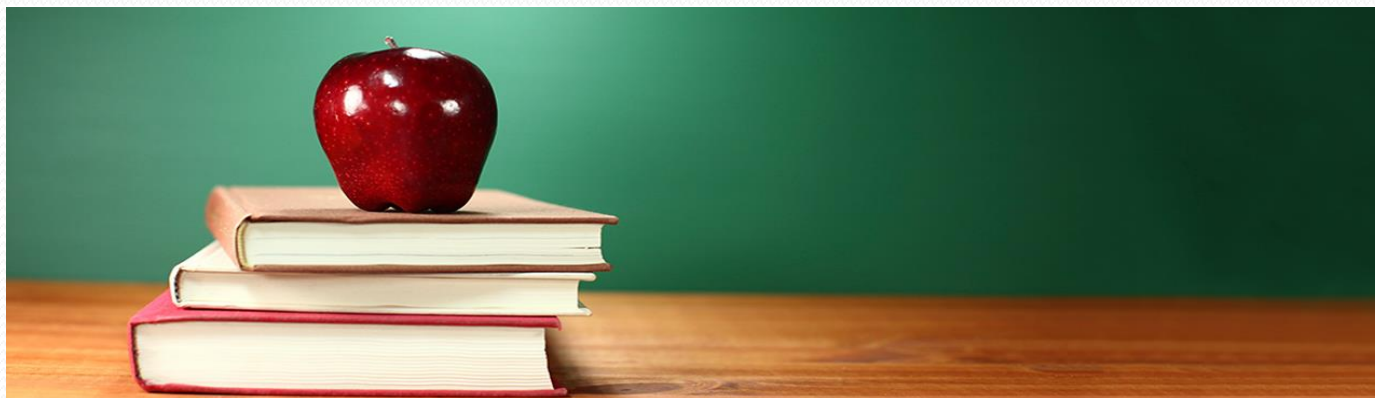


School policies and legislation

Education Act

- Bullying “means repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual’s reputation”

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week in
3rd week of November



Education Act

- Students are required to “refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means”

● Education Act

- School boards must “establish, implement and maintain a policy respecting the board’s obligation under subsection 1(d) to provide welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that includes the establishment of a code of conduct for students that addresses bullying behaviour.”
- Experts comment that Alberta’s law is notable because it requires students to report cyberbullying if they witness it, and includes penalties including suspension and expulsion.

First step to talking to your child about the Internet




Ongoing and open conversation

- Be curious and open to discussion
- Explore the web with younger children
- Limit access to websites
- “Friend” your child/teen on snapchat, facebook, instagram, VSCO, etc.
- Talk about bullying
- Talk about rules
- Talk about risks
- Listen more than you talk
- Have the conversation often
- Discuss online nudity, sexting and sexual content

Ongoing and open conversation



- Be cautious not to punish youth for coming to you with a problem
- Learn about the applications children and youth are using
- Keep the dialogue open



**Some issues regarding
social media**

Frequency

- 8% of students in grades 4 to 11 had sent a sext (sexual text) and 24% reported receiving a sext. These numbers rise as teens get older. (1)
- 65% youth said they would tell a friend about cyberbullying rather than a parent/teacher (2)
- #1 reason kids did not tell parents about being cyberbullied was fear of losing access to the internet (3)

Social media – general issues

- Length of time data is kept online
- Can you delete previous posts?
- Protection of privacy in general
- Exiting programs / apps / social websites
- Posting pictures online
- Location Services
- Posting private information online

Social media – specific issues



1. Instagram
2. Snapchat
3. VSCO
4. Facebook
5. Ask.fm
6. Other?

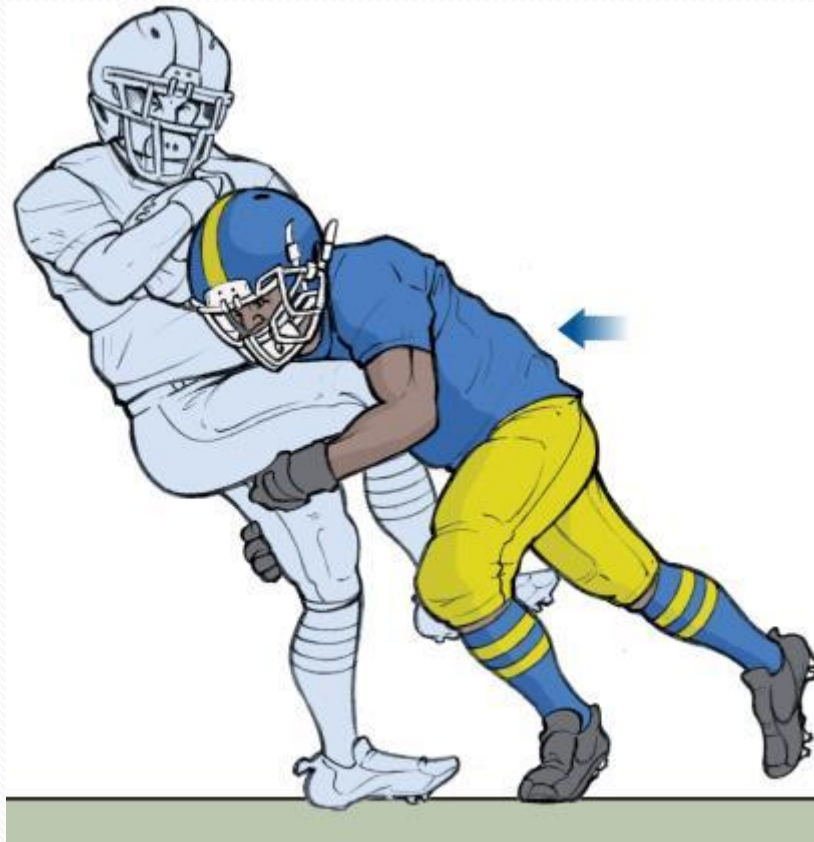
Multiple Avenues to Target Victims:

- Children and youth interact via cellphone, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. and cyber-bullying may happen on all platforms at once.
- In traditional bullying, youth left school, but with social media there is little escape.

Lack of Boundaries within Cyberspace:

- It is possible that a young person could be bullied or blackmailed by an online predator on the other side of the world.
- JH and HS students are in touch with youth at schools across the City

Tackling Cyberbullying



Cyberbullying already in progress

- Encourage youth to talk to someone
- Reassure youth
- Protect physical safety
- Involve school, ISP, police
- Keep messages as proof, including date, username
- Do not reply to the message and do not interact with the bully
- Block, ignore, unfriend user

Preventative Measures

- Ongoing communication
- Consider where computers are located
- Discuss whether children have devices in room at night
- “Friending” your teen
- Model good tech behaviour
- Find out what school administration is doing
- Monitor accounts and teach children to be aware
- Agree to Internet Use Policy with child/youth
- Know your youth’s passwords and account names

Protecting Privacy

- Private information
 - Address
 - Pictures of oneself
 - Photograph location

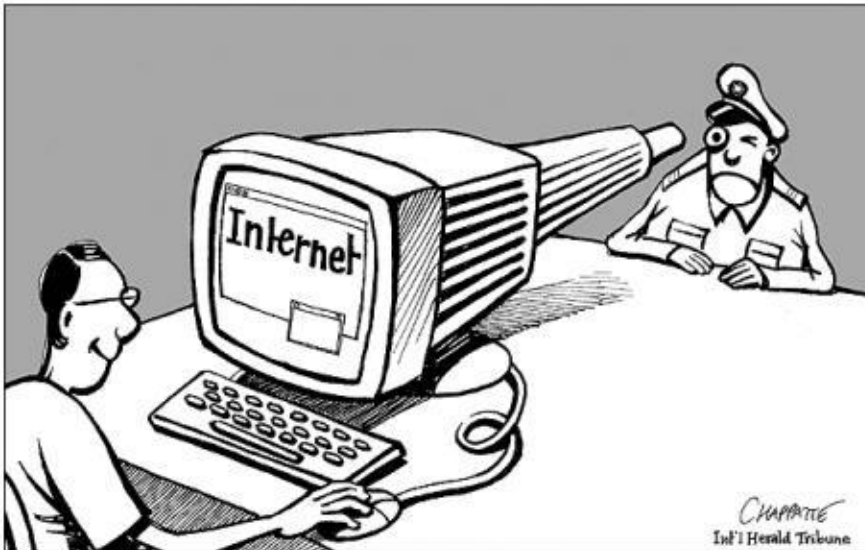


- Use the technology
 - Turn off location settings
 - Use a pseudonym
 - Have fake information for certain websites
 - Never release private info on a public site
 - Know what the apps and sites do

Privacy Laws

- *PIPEDA* amended by *Digital Privacy Act*

- Ground rules for private sector collection, use and disclosure of personal information
- *Applies to all personal information*



Criminal law re cyberbullying & Privacy Laws

- *Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act, SC 2014, c.31*
- Distribution of intimate images
- Use of internet by convicted offenders is prohibited
- Amends many statutes including the CCC

Anyone who publishes, distributes, transmits, sells, makes available or advertises an INTIMATE IMAGE is guilty of an offence

- Nude, exposed genitals, breasts, explicit sexual activity
- Reasonable expectation of privacy

Online Crime Act, s.162.1

Judge can order a warrant to seize copies of a recording, publication that is for sale or distribution

- Voyeuristic recording
- Intimate image
- Obscene or crime comic, or
- Child pornography

False & Indecent messages

- S.371 message in a false name
- S.372 conveying false information, indecent or harassing communications

Online Crime Act, s.371 & 372

Final Thoughts

- Open communication
- Know the social media platforms
- Talk about netiquette and family rules
- Keep up the conversation



Contact information

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