

# KMS ADVISORY TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITY MARCH 2009

Unit: Ethics

Topic: Cyberbullying

Rationale: Bullying is no longer about the strong picking on the weak in the schoolyard. The physical assault has been replaced by a 24 hour per day, seven days a week online bashing. Savvy students are using Instant Messaging, e-mails, chat rooms and websites they create to humiliate a peer.

No longer can parents count on seeing the telltale physical signs of bullying—a black eye, bloody lip, torn clothes. But the damage done by cyber bullies is no less real, and can be infinitely more painful.



Some Cyber Bullying Statistics :

- \* 42% of kids have been bullied while online. 1 in 4 have had it happen more than once.
- \* 35% of kids have been threatened online. Nearly 1 in 5 have had it happen more than once.
- \* 21% of kids have received mean or threatening e-mail or other messages.
- \* 58% of kids admit someone has said mean or hurtful things to them online. More than 4 out of 10 say it has happened more than once.
- \* 53% of kids admit having said something mean or hurtful to another person online. More than 1 in 3 have done it more than once.
- \* 58% have not told their parents or an adult about something mean or hurtful that happened to them online.

Based on 2004 i-SAFE survey of 1,500 students grades 4-8

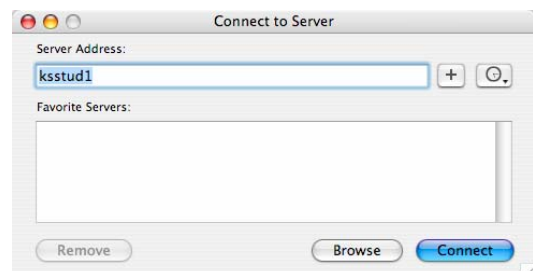
Activity: "Cyberbullying"

Duration: 2 periods during Advisory or HH in March whenever your schedule permits

Procedure:

Before the lesson, download three advisory videos from the ksstud1 server.

- In the main menu, Go > Connect to Server.
- Connect to the 'ksstud1' server.
- When prompted, type your KS user name and password.
- Click on 'public'.
- Go to KMS Resources > KMS Advisory.
- Drag a copy of the three advisory



videos ("angelas\_experience.mov"; "feathers\_in\_the\_windmedium.mov", and "Kitchen\_Video") onto your desktop.

- Eject the 'public icon' on the desktop.
- Be prepared to project the videos from your teacher laptop using an lcd projector or tv.

## Day 1

1. As a class, watch the "Feathers in the Wind" using an lcd projector or tv connected to your teacher computer.
2. Announce that today students will be learning about cyberbullying.
3. Define **cyberbullying for students**:

"Cyberbullying" is harassing, humiliating, intimidating and/or threatening others through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices.

4. Play "Kitchen Video" using an lcd projector or tv connected to your teacher computer for the class.
5. Discuss the following questions with students:
  - What's your opinion about cyberbullying? Is it a serious problem? No big deal?
  - Do you think kids have the right to say anything they want about others on the Internet? Explain.
  - What if it invades that person's privacy, or inflicts harm? Explain.
  - Have you had any direct experience with it? How did you handle it? Was it through emails? Blogs? Instant Messaging? Web site? Discussion groups?
  - Do you think kids say things online that they wouldn't say face-to-face? If yes, why?
  - Do you think cyberbullying is worse than face-to-face bullying? Explain.
  - What's the cruelest thing about cyberbullying? What's the scariest?

Possible answers:

  - It frequently gives the bully anonymity.
  - Cyberbullying moves beyond the school or schoolyard directly into the home.
  - The cyberbully doesn't see the hurt he or she has inflicted. There is no visual or auditory feedback.
  - At the click of a button, vicious gossip or highly personal information can be shared with thousands of people.
  - What positive values are missing when someone bullies online?  
Possible answers: Respect, responsibility, fairness, etc.
  - What about kids who watch as another kid is bullied online? What does that say about them? Their values?
6. As a class, watch the video entitled "Angela's Experience" using an lcd projector or tv connected to your teacher computer. Then discuss the following question.
  - What can you do to stop cyberbullying?  
Possible answers:
    - **Stop**-Don't respond to the cyberbully. Responding only escalates the problem.
    - **Block**- Block the cyberbully or limit all communications to those you can trust. Save any abusive or offensive emails in case action needs to be taken.
    - **Tell**-Tell a trusted adult if you or someone you know is bullied online.

Sources:

"Cyberbullying." Make a Difference for Kids, Inc. 17 Feb. 2009  
<<http://www.makeadifferenceforkids.org/cyberbullying.html>>.

Cyberbullying research, stories, cases, downloads, fact sheets, tips and strategies, news headlines, a blog, and a number of other helpful resources. 17 Feb. 2009  
<<http://www.cyberbullying.us/index.php>>.

I-SAFE Inc. 17 Feb. 2009  
<[http://www.isafe.org/channels/sub.php?ch=op&sub\\_id=media\\_cyber\\_bullying](http://www.isafe.org/channels/sub.php?ch=op&sub_id=media_cyber_bullying)>.

MindOH! - Tools to Stop Bullying and School Violence using Interactive. 17 Feb. 2009  
<[http://www.mindoh.com/docs/FamilyActivity\\_CyberBullying.pdf](http://www.mindoh.com/docs/FamilyActivity_CyberBullying.pdf)>.