

Cyberbullying Discussion Scenarios

1. Three students were involved in a school altercation. Two are Caucasian. One is African American. The principal thought the situation was resolved. Shortly thereafter, the two Caucasian students create a threatening racist profile on a social networking site, lots of cartoons about lynching, link to a newspaper article about a African American man who was drug to death by a car, and racist language – but no specific reference to any student. Other students at school are now linking to the profile and posting racist comments. The African American student finds out, tells Black Student Club, and the principal.

2. Female high school students have created a “We Hate Ashley” profile that includes many significantly ugly comments about Ashley. Many comments are sexually related, referring to Ashley as a “slut” and alleging how often she sleeps around with older men. Other students have linked to and are participating in hurtful comments posted to this site. A teacher reports the site to the principal.

3. Joshua, an elementary school student, posts a very nasty comment online about Andy, which also negatively implicates a teacher. The comment was, “Andy sucks on Ms. Adams (name of female body part).”

4. Middle school student, Sara reports to the principal that an anonymous individual who she thinks is a student in the school has been sending her sexually harassing emails from a Web mail account. She has provided some of these messages. They include questions about her bra size, her virginity, and whether she would be willing to have a sexual “hook-up.”

5. Ben reports seeing Tony using his cell phone in the locker room taking pictures of students while they are changing for PE.

6. A parent brings the principal a disturbing posting she has found online posted by a student. It reads: Philosophy So that’s the only way to solve arguments with all you \$%&*heads out there. I just kill you! God I cant wait till I can kill you people. Feel no remorse. No shame. I don’t care if I live or die in the shootout, all I want to do is to kill and injure as many of you pricks as I can, especially a few people. Like (name of student).

7. Jerry, a high school student, has created a profile that focuses on Sam. Sam has publicly acknowledged that he is gay and is working to establish a Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network chapter at the high school. Jerry’s profile is entirely focused on this. He has used many biblical references to condemn homosexuality and sodomy. Sam and his parents have reported this site to the school and are demanding the school take action to have the site taken down. Sam has had some negative incidents on campus that appear to be related to this site and he is now fearful when he comes to school.

8. Damian has created materials on his profile targeting his math teacher, Mr. Smith. He has taken an image of Mr. Smith from the yearbook and, using a computer graphics program, has created a clip of this image morphing into a devilish-looking character. He also created an image of a math book exploding. His page also presents some very unflattering language describing Mr. Smith.