Cyberbullying Does your child need a bully-proof vest?



Shona J. Holmes

What in the world is a cyber bully?

We're glad that you asked! According to Wikapedia...

A cyber bully is defined as, "the term used to refer to bullying and harassment by the use of electronic devices," such as...



mobile phones





How do cyber bullies attack?



They may send your child a harassing or threatening letter by e-mail.

They may send your child an instant message to the computer or their cell phone.

They may even create a website or chat room about your child!

Why do cyber bullies attack?

Parry Aftab teaches us many kids can fall into one of four categories.

- 1. The Vengegal Angel
- 2. The Power-Hungry or Revenge of the Nerds
- 3. The Mean Girls
- 4. The Because I Can

Still Confused?

Watch this video clip from Netsmartz.org about a cyber bully by clicking on the video clip

below.



This clip is copyrighted by Copyright © 2001-2005 National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. All rights reserved.

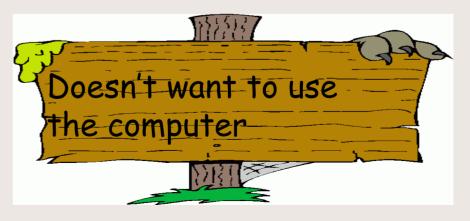
How do I know if it is happening to my child?



Look for the signs!







Now that you know...

What do you do about it?

Get your child a cyber-bully vest!

Of course it's not an actual vest. It's just steps to take to protect your child if they have been cyber-bullied.

7 Steps to Protect

According to BullyOnline.org there are 7 steps you can take to help protect your child.

- 1. Do not respond to the email
- 2. Keep documentation of all the emails.
- 3. Research bullying.
- 4. Get help!
- 5. Be mindful of people who provoke.
- 6. Become observant

and...

7 Steps to Protect cont.

7. Make a decision about whether or not to take action.

Congratulations you've been...



Sources

Aftab, Parry. "Parry's Guide to Cyberbullying". 2006, Bebo, Inc. Accessed 21 Jan 07. http://www.bebo.com/CyberBullying.jsp

Netbullies, http://www.netbullies.com/pages/2/index.htm

Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyberbullying

Willard, Nancy. "An Educator's Guide to Cyber bullying and Cyber threats: Responding to the Challenge of Online Social Aggression, Threats and Distress. Accessed 20 Jan 07. http://www.csriu.org.

All images are courtesy of www.clipartheaven.com