# **BULLY BUSTERS**



Erasmus-



A Cross-National, Co-Participatory Exploration Of Cyberbullying, Young People And Socio-Economic Disadvantage.

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## Introduction to the Bully Busters



- We are a group of young adults trying to prevent cyberbullying from Snapchat to Twitter!
- Social media has been a problem for cyberbullying for quite some time and the Bully Busters may have found a way to stop it.
- For the last 7 weeks, we have been looking at particular findings from the online survey and focus groups about Social Network Providers (SNPs).
- We have used the findings to develop a list of recommendations to these providers in order to make it safer for young people to be online.

### What the online survey/focus groups asked the young people about SNPs?



- 1. 'If you go online, which apps do you use and which sites do you often go to?'
- 2. 'Do you own your own Smartphone, tablet or games console?'
- 3. 'How many times do you go on the Internet on a usual day?'
- 4. 'How much time do you actively spend on the Internet on a usual day?'
- 5. 'Which is the easiest platform to be bullied on and why?'
- 6. 'Did you have any nasty or unpleasant experiences happening to you on the Internet?'
- 7. 'What else might have been helpful for you in dealing with this incident?'
- 8. 'What else would you or other young people find helpful?'

### What is cyberbullying...



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# This is how the Bully Busters describe cyberbullying:

'Cyberbullying is the use of electronic communication to bully a person to typically sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature. It happens on many social networks including Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and also on online games like Fortnite'.

### ...and its effects?



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Cyberbullying has many different effects on young people- mostly negative and here are some of them: Suicide

- Changes in personality
- ◆Low self-esteem
- Losing weight

Changing appearance to try and fit in

#### DO YOU REALLY WANT INNOCENT PEOPLE TO DIE BECAUSE OF YOUR PROFESSION?

### The findings- Smartphone ownership and Internet use



- 95% of pupils have their own Smartphone.
- Two-thirds own a tablet or games console.
- 50% plus go onto the Internet over 10 times a day.
- Just under 40% spend more than 5 hours each day on the Internet.
- 29% of pupils have had nasty or unpleasant experiences online (the online survey was completed in the Summer term of 2018 and during one week in October 2018- students had to think back for the two months previously when answering this question).

### <u>The findings - the four most</u> <u>commonly used Apps</u>



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The findings from the survey revealed that the 4 most commonly used Apps by young people are:

- 1. Snapchat
- 2. Instagram
- 3. YouTube
- 4. WhatsApp

The Bully Busters decided to look at these and make recommendations to them. Firstly, we will show you more of the findings and then

move onto the four Apps and our recommendations.

### The findings- quotes



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Here are some quotes from the pupils relevant to the SNPs to hear:

- "Snapchat, Instagram and Fortnite are all the easiest platforms to get bullied on".
- "This is a dangerous situation for a student, especially a young person- to be in it can be dangerous to their physical and mental health".
- "Social network providers, they should so more to stop people from continuously abusing people online".

### The findings- quotes



- "The people from social media obviously don't care enough as long as they are continuing to make money, because if they did, there would be stricter policies- but obviously the creators don't really care".
- "On Instagram, say if you like a personal picture, there is like a little comment section, so you can comment on the picture and write nasty stuff on it".
- "You can chat to random people on Fortnite and they can bully you like if you are bad; YouTube- people say insulting things anonymously and even if you try and ban the comments, you might want some feedback as to how to improve things, but at the same time, there will be bad messages".



### Why do these four Social Network Providers need to listen?

Millions of children across the UK and the World have access to social media platforms such as Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram • Pupils often do not tell anyone if they are being cyberbullied. • This may be dangerous to some students and their health because it means they have no outlet to tell someone about potential abuse. • People who cyber bully, are putting their victims' mental and physical health at riskthey are placing an incentive for them to hate themselves.

#### Safety features currently in place on Snapchat

You can hide your location in snapchat.

If you think that someone has gained access to your account, please reach out immediately to Snapchat Support. Snapchat

provide a privacy policy.

No one under 13 is allowed an account. You can report something you don't want see.

> You can block people who are rude to you, or you don't know them and they are trying to contact you.

#### Safety features currently in place on YouTube



### Safety features currently in place on Instagram

#### What's Instagram's safety

- Putting your account on private
- if you don't feel safe you could block them
- You have a choice to report someone if you don't feel safe
- You cannot access Instagram if you are bellow the age of 13
- You can chose to not share your location
- You can reach out to your parents to keep you safe.
- You can have a back up account
- You can hide your profile appearance

### Safety features currently in place on WhatsApp

#### What's whatsapp safety

- You can control who can see your information
- If you don't want to interact with someone you can block them
- You have the option to report something if something does not look right
- You have the option to not share your location
- You have an option to chose if you want someone to see your messages
- You can report spams from inside the app

### Safety features recommended by the Bully Busters

Snapchat- it should have a warning before you click on a video.

- should have a verification email to see if people are robots or fakers.
- a warning if you want to send an image.
- a notification if your location is able to be seen.
- a message saying if unidentified person that is not in your contacts, wants to be your friend.
- if someone is reported for a bad reason, they should have a 48hour time ban.
- you can have the choice if you want certain people to follow your snaps/stories.

YouTube- when a video is made, if that person says something bad about your video, they should be blocked from that channel

# Instagram- easier ways to block comments or people

WhatsApp- quick way to report

- content filter
- instant bans
- word filter

General recommendations

- monitor all messages and comments
- have a warning before posting or watching certain pictures/videos because of violence and nudity
- should be a short cut button to report quickly or block a person

### Cyber bullying in the future

#### **\***Where will it be in 10 years?

In 10 years, cyber bullying could escalate, diminish or even completely vanish depending on if we come up with a solution and if we all work together and also depending on what new electrical products are invented.

#### Will we have more problems or will social media providers and us children work with this together to come to a resolution?

Honestly, although us children would love for this cyberbullying to be put to an end, we would need the help and assistance of adults (especially SNPs). It may or may not happen depending on if the SNPs actually listen to our views. However, if they do, we believe that we can put a stop to it or at least decrease to a safe amount.



### SO MANY CHILDREN ARE HAVING THEIR LIVES RUINED PER YEAR BECAUSE OF CYBERBULLYING- ARE YOU GOING TO BE A BYSTANDER OR A <u>BULLY BUSTER</u>?!

### **Acknowledgements**

The Bully busters enjoyed looking at lots of research on the Internet and the following Website was used to create the resource:

<u>http://www.commonsensemedia.org/cyberbullying</u>/what-is-cyberbullying