

Adolescents' interaction on the internet: student and teacher perceptions of cyber bullying

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Keywords: *Cyber bullying, attitudes towards school, perceptions of students and teachers, social adjustment, internet addiction.*

Abstract

The current study has focused on the perceptions of the teachers and students on cyber bullying in the schools of West Bengal, India considering the female perspective. Besides, the study aims to establish the various reasons and cultural differences through secondary data analysis. The mixed methodology approach has been opted for the study. The prevalence of cyber bullying in India has been analyzed and a proper Anti-bullying law has been critically evaluated through this study. This approach will further help to reduce the rate of cyber bullying in the country.

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I. Introduction

The progress in technology has created a space in cyber which is an important portion in daily communications. This is place where teenagers embrace and interact with others and owing to relieve of utilization. Cyber bullying is emerging at an alarming scale in several countries of the world, involving India. They are falling hunt to cyber bullying and the quantity is emerging day by day. The study has focused on the perspectives of teachers and students in accord to cyber bullying and the teenagers who is spending excessive amounts of time in utilizing digital technology and is also at huge risk of being engaged in cyber bullying as a bully or victim.

II. Literature Review

Interactions via Internet

According to Hossain & Debnath (2016), internet represents unparalleled chances for efficient and rapid access to social communication, entertainment and information; this in fact, influences the well-being and health of users. Cyber bullying form differentiates from the traditional oppressing owing to the utilization of electronic communication to threaten, humiliate and harass a person. The victims can either be online peers, classmates or unknown people, where oppressing is undertaken other than face-to-face interaction. Students are heavy users of internet and physicians need to be conscious based on health applications of Internet interaction.

Misuse of Teenagers by contacting through Online

The internet has become essential to the life of adolescent. Teenagers establish and manage contacts and lots of namelessly discuss confidential topics in the privacy of their rooms without the knowledge of their parents. Moreover, hanging out in the rooms of chatting has become a very commonplace for those adolescents. According to Betts, Spenser & Gardner (2017), it is very common for children to interact and to seek information regarding homework or health related information online. Still, concern has been demonstrated in the literature of medical regarding online behavior, especially children to strangers via internet connectivity.

Specific internet forums mainly contribute a supportive social setting for adults interested in sexual interaction with adolescents. On the other hand, Modecki *et al.* (2014) have contradicted that people who violate the minors in chat rooms has been found at a huge number individuals who are imposed with cyber kidding. It has been seen that few adults are modifying to the explosion of communication and information online and most of the teenagers have reached the chat rooms which are only for adults and as per Phukan (2014), about 15.1% has met with minimum one person in personally, whom they have first experienced in cyberspace.

School Adjustment and Cyber bullying

Though cyber bullying takes place outside the environment of school yet it has been observed that it generally affect on children at school as well. As per Imran (2014), many youngsters who experience cyber bullying, it has been seen that they are mainly afraid to go to school to avoid as truancy. Engagement in cyber bullying also provides outcome in young generation feeling minimal safe in school as they get negative behaviors towards their schools. However, Barlett & Coyne (2014) have mentioned that there is emerging evidence that lots of children fulfill both the victim and bully role in cyber bullying, thus, the engagement of cyber bullying has been interlinked with negative approaches of school and learning.

Apparatus of Impact

There are many possible apparatus with the help of which engagement in cyber bullying may put impact on perceptions of young generation of school and learning, these are as follows:

- (a) Trust,
- (b) Self-esteem and
- (c) Discerned peer acceptance

According to Pabian & Vandebosch (2016), trust, self-esteem and discerned peer acceptance previously have been seen to be affected by engagement in cyber bullying and bullying as well as influence school adjustment of young people. In fact, these changeable underpin social communications. Furthermore, potential negotiators in the relationship in between perceptions of school as well as learning and cyber bullying engagement have been noticed. Investigating potential negotiators in such

relationship is perfect as in a part of the difference remains uncounted for, applying the role of other changeable in the relationship.

Cyber Bullying Engagement

Involvement of young generation in cyber bullying has assessed utilizing the experiences of Cyber Victimization and behaviors of Cyber bullying levels. The experiences of Cyber Victimization level composes of threats, personal attacks and sharing private images. However, Del Rey *et al.* (2016) have informed that “Bullying means systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees.” Behaviors of Cyber bullying level comprises of gossip, making videos and sharing without any authority as well as personal attack like making fun of one for their look. Electronic creations of contact have been explained as each and every kind of technology that may be utilized to interact with others. In fact, interpersonal trust and social trust have been utilized to generate trust once again in the bullied persons.

Approaches of the Worth of Learning and the Significance of School

It has been seen that the teachers of some schools have understood the bullied student and supported them and in fact, they has assisted them to understand their way of learning. In fact, they have supported those adolescents in various ways from motivating them to provide proper lessons.

Perception of Students of Cyber bullying

The online technologies are running worldwide, contributing the rapid mode of communication and interaction for all, enticing teenagers towards this to the largest extent. Therefore, this leads to boosting communication among them with the help of Social Networking Sites. As per Yahner *et al.* (2015), the students believe that electronic oppressing is determined by classes and individual scale factors, where the perception of the students of not becoming a bully of cyber bullying constitutes more opportunities to become bully of these consequences.

Impacts of Cyber Bullying on Children

Cyber bullying can affect negative influence on their target by affecting threat on academic as well as physical activities. For example, a ten year old boy demonstrated that though one can not injure other person physically with the help of cyber bullying but mentally with the aid of deprecatory comments. As predicted by Farley *et al.* (2015) it has been seen that adults discern cyberspace as a medium with few restrictions to receive involvement in oppressing activities. The people who have been bullied feel safe to the cause that they are at their own room without the reality that their comments are painful for others and may make them distress.

Anti-bullying Laws in India

In most of the developed countries, cyber bullying is an offense which is to be punished. There lies restricted and strict laws that operate oppose and punish the offenders of cyber most vigorously. For example, Holfeld & Leadbeater (2015) have added that in India, there are no effectual laws to tackle the issue of cyber bullying and different kinds of cyber crimes. It has been seen that a law has been enforced based on the cyber related crime in the year 2013, February in order to secure online frauds and online bookmarking scams.

On contrary, Antoniadou & Kokkinos (2015) have commented that the danger of cyber bullying needs to be neglected because this is the minds of youngsters who are the trounced sufferers. Moreover, it is needed to be announced as a punishable crime in the law of India with severe punishment to the criminal.

III. Findings

Addiction of Internet among the 10+2 Scale Students in West Bengal 100

Internet addiction involves with notwithstanding the urge to expend time on the internet sites and not feeling the significance of without internet. The addiction of internet tends to be very aggressive and nervous, there by affecting bonding at social life, in family and at work as well. Moreover, Holfeld (2014) has mentioned that unhealthy communication in internet usage lies in internet attitude addiction, pathological internet utilization and internet addiction. With about 450 million of internet users, India ranks in the second most position in online market after China. It has been analyzed that by the year 2021, India will possess about 640 million users of internet. Moreover, about 26% of the Indian population has operated in the year 2015, which has been recorded as only 10% in the year 2011 (*Refer to Appendix 1*).

Frequency of bullying among the teenagers

As per the report of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), it has been understood that in the year 2016, there has been about 47, 31,414 consequences of crime in India, where more than 2.8% of the incidences of crime in the year 2015. Of such crimes, the total number of cyber crimes includes about 13218 and creates about 0.29% of the entire crimes. In fact, as per the entire analysis, it has been found that these crimes mainly take place against women and mostly against the teenager girls (*Refer to Appendix 2*).

Causes of Cyber bullying

As per the reports of National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), it has been found that the rationale against bullying or oppressing another stranger, friend or mate is their approach to do something witty. In fact, they do not contemplate the action as serious or offensive to grab hatred toward the other person. It has been analyzed that in West Bengal, especially the students of colleges, who are of outskirts areas are bullied due to their appearances, sometimes, behavior or living status. In addition, attitudes and subjective norms even determine the children oppressing intentions.

Cyber Bullying for Kolkata Children as per the Students

Cyber bullying can result negative influence on their aim by resulting threat on academic as well as physical activities (The Times of India, 2015). The quantity of cyber crimes in the year 2016 is about 480 which are very high in comparison with other crimes in West Bengal. In West Bengal, about 42% of the students have accepted to being oppresses online because they have been found to be suppressed by the others; whereas, about 39% of the students inform that they have done this as they do not like the others. Moreover, about 38.6% have expressed that unpleasant by tagging nasty pictures and about 24% of them have made fun of others as well as about 15.9% have called someone ugly or fat for their physical appearance (*Refer to Appendix 3*).

Perception of Students and Teachers on Cyber bullying

As per the students of West Bengal, about 32% of the kids in Kolkata has noted cruel attitude on being utilization of social media. Even about 18% of them are bullies of cyber bullying and about 40% have accepted that they have oppressed others. As per the perceptions of the teachers, it has been found that Delhi possess the highest percentage of bullies of about 61%, whereas, Mumbai possess about 58% of oppresses.

Measures that the government need to Undertake for Controlling such Issue

In India, the Supreme Court mainly deals with the problem of oppressing and it lies down specific procedures for the security of the students from sexual harassment. In West Bengal, bullying at schools or colleges is determined as violence and it can be in various subtle creations like constant cross talking, fake allegations and many more. In order to cease such trouble among the teenagers of India, especially in West Bengal, the government needs to provide special learning process regarding the laws of Anti-bullying in India. In India, there is no such particular legislation which dispenses with cyber oppressing but there are some provisions such as article 67 of Information and Technology Act which relatively dispense with these matters. As per Pandey (2017), the principal and he teachers need to be held liable in case any act of oppressing occurs in the premises of schools. Moreover, some teachers have mentioned that the school boys are only in departed teenagers but they do not forget that there are various crimes in several cities involving with murders which the teenagers mainly commit.

IV. Conclusion

In the concluding part, it can be demonstrated that for young girls, engagement in cyber bullying negatively accepted approaches of school and learning and such relationship has mediated by discerned peer acceptance. The cyber bullying is a type which is tough to manage as a wide number of people can evidence it within little time. Thus, it desires serious deliberation for their security in the teenagers of West Bengal in India. Moreover, cyber crime is still in their nascent phase though the violence in cyber is rapid emerging. In order to create a holistic loom towards such bullying against the adolescents of India, there needs to be a change in loom of officials and laws.

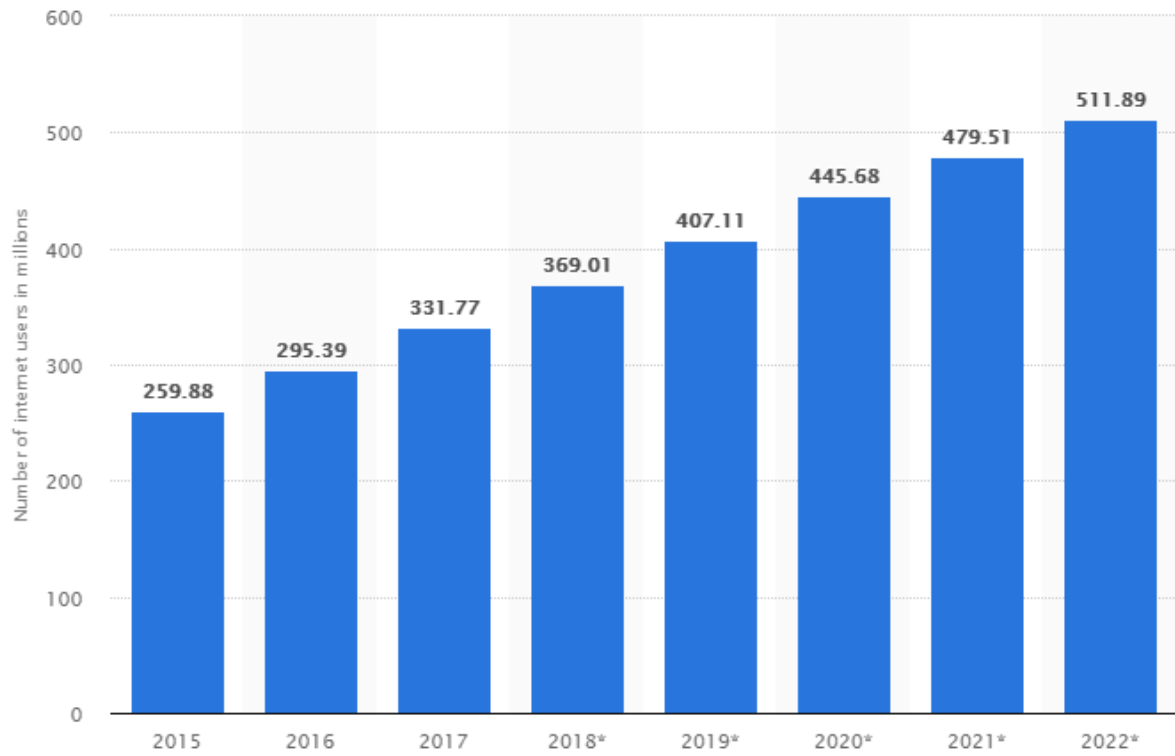
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Appendices

Appendix 1: Addiction of Internet among the 10+2 Scale Students in West Bengal

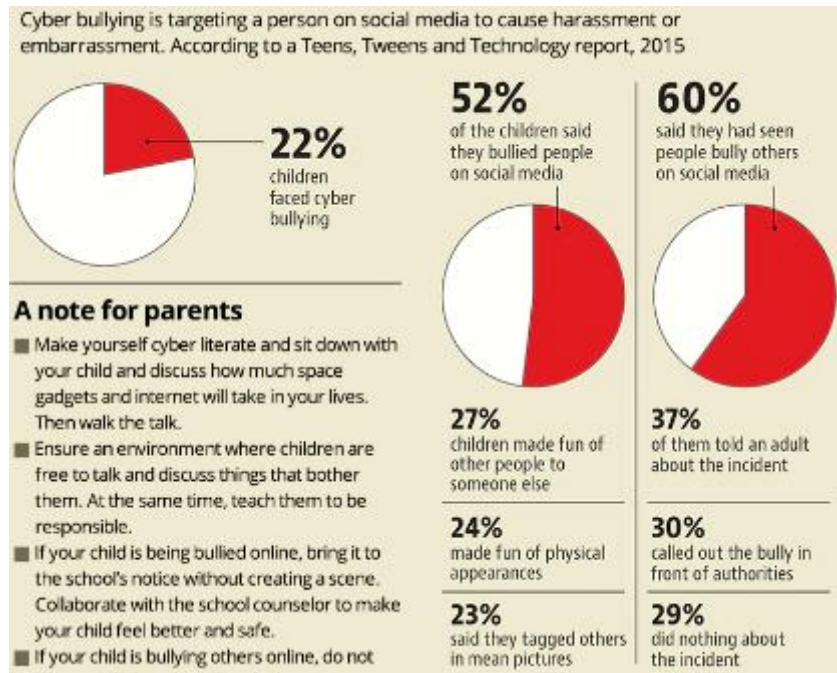


Appendix 2: Frequency of bullying among the teenagers

Year	Total Crime Incidences	Cyber Crime Incidences (incuding IPC,SLL and IT Act)	Crimes Under IT Act,2000	Percentage of Cyber Crimes
2016	4831515	12317	8613	0.25
2015	4710676	11592	8045	0.24
2014	4571663	9622	7201	0.21

Source : NCRB Report Crime in India 2016ⁱⁱ

Appendix 3:



Cyber Bullying for Kolkata Children