BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING, SEXTING, HAZING AND YOU!

Jessica R. Cooper

Oakland County Prosecutor



Bullying...It's not funny

School

- Suspension
- No Graduation
- Transfer to another school

Legal

- Criminally charged
- Criminal record
- Juvenile record

Social

- College
- Future employment
- Suicide





"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good [people] do nothing."







Ethnic Intimidation

- Intimidate or Harass
 - Because of that person's race, color, religion, gender or national origin
 - Causes physical contact with another, or
 - Damages, destroys or defaces property, or
 - Threatens by word or act to cause physical contact or damage property
- 2 year imprisonment and/ or \$5,0000 fine



Stalking

- Two or more unconsented contacts
 - "Stop itleave me alone."
- Victim suffered emotional distress
- The contact would cause a reasonable individual to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, molested
- 1 year misdemeanor, up to 5 years probation and/or \$1,000 fine







Laws Governing Computers and Cell Phones

Use of Someone Else's Computer or Communication Device/Phone

- Shall not Interfere with or Disconnect
- Shall not read or copy message without authorization
- Shall not use electronic device without permission
- 2 Year Felony, plus fine of up to \$5000





Laws Governing (Cell) Phones



- Frighten, Intimidate, Annoy and/or Harass
- Falsely report that a person is ill or dead
- Use Indecent language to suggest lewd act
- Repeatedly call and hang up
- Threaten harm to person or property
- 6 month misdemeanor, plus fine of \$1000

Laws Governing Cell Phones and Computers: Posting a message

- Any medium of communication, including a computer:
 - Unconsented contacts
 - Intended to frighten, terrorize, or harass
 - Cause recipient to feel frightened, intimidated, harassed
 - 2 Year Felony





What to do if you are bullied or harassed!

- Block communications from the bully
- Report the incidents to a parent or teacher or other adult that you trust
- Report the problem to an internet server provider or website moderator
- Instead of deleting the messages save them. Write down the times and the dates
- Cyberbullys are not anonymous they can be found
- Teen Court



Samantha Kelly Bullied to Death: Mich. 14-Year-Old's Suicide Followed Harassment After Rape Claim

(Detroit News and CBS News) Even in death, 14-yearold Samantha Kelly can't escape from bullies.

The young Michigan girl took her own life Monday, collapsing under a wave of taunts and intimidation, says her mother, after the girl accused an 18-year-old high school senior of statutory rape.

On Thursday, CBS News found that it hasn't ended.

A Facebook page devoted to her remembrance has been defaced by gruesome pictures of the girl's head in a noose and one image which reads "It's not rape, if they're dead."

Her shocking death is part of a wave of teen suicides this year in which bullying may have played a part, but according to Dr. Jennifer Hartstein, a New York child and adolescent psychologist, bullying is typically not the full story.

Samantha Kelly



Saying no to bullying - After son's suicide, mom tells his story to help others

Matt Epling

September 15, 2007 - Excerpts BY PATRICIA MONTEMURRI

What happened to Tammy Epling's son could easily be dismissed as a practical joke or rite of passage roughhousing.

After his last day of eighth grade in 2002, Matt Epling was cornered by some high school kids, who poured syrup on him, smashed eggs on his head and roughed him up as part of a "welcome to high school."

Six weeks later, Matt committed suicide in his family's East Lansing home. His parents believe their creative, athletic, accomplished son was humiliated by the assault, felt betrayed by people he knew who lured him into the situation, and felt law enforcement gave his complaint little heed.





Using a Computer to Commit a Crime

- Commit a Crime

 Shall not use a computer to attempt, to conspire with, to solicit, or to commit a
- Does not matter if person is convicted of the underlying crime

crime

 Penalty is tied to the underlying crime, could be misdemeanor or felony, and fine can be up to \$20,000!



Can I really get in trouble for things that I post to my facebook account...even if I'm just kidding?

- Posting threatening message
 - 2 years
- False report of Terrorism
 - 20 Year Felony
- False report of a Bomb
 - 4 year Felony
- Extortion
 - 20 Year Felony



There are many activities that require us to reach a certain age.

- Vote (18 years old)
- Driving (16 years old)
- Tattoo (Before 18 years old need parental consent)

Contract (18 years old)







- Age of "consent" is 16, but...
- Child Sexually Abusive Material is the depiction of someone under the age of 18 years





Sexting

- The act of sending sexually explicit photos electronically, primarily between cell phones.
- Crimes
 - Creation
 - Solicitation
 - Possession and
 - Dissemination (distribution)



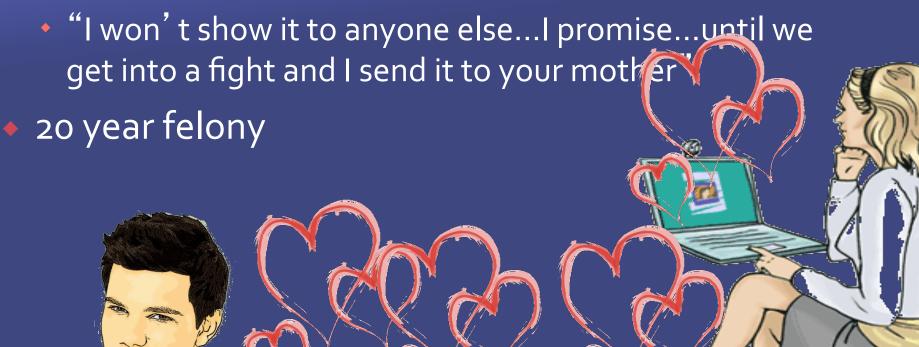




- Creation:
 - Taking Pictures with a Camera Phone Sexually explicit photos
 - Anyone under 18 years of age
 - Without clothes, partially nude = child pornography
 - Including yourself
 - 20 year Felony

Solicitation:

- "..persuades, induces, entices, causes,,"
 - "Please, please can I have a photo?!"



Possession of Child Sexually Abusive Material

- "Knowingly possesses"
 - Keeping the photos
- 4 Year Felony



Distribution of child sexually abusive material

- A person who distributes......
 - Just hit send
- 7 Year Felony



Criminal Penalties:



- Creating
 - 20 years
- Soliciting
 - 20 years
- Distributing
 - 7 years
- Possessing
 - 4 years

Who Cares if I Commit One of these Crimes?

- Current School
 - May affect whether you can continue to attend your current school
- Colleges
 - May affect whether you are accepted
- Future Employers
 - Will definitely affect how future employers view you

And let's not forget the other people involved....

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY









What if I just send the pictures to my boyfriend, but he sends it to others? Why am I guilty of something?

Legal:

 Anyone under 18 who takes a sexually explicit picture of themselves has just created child pornography. The law does not care if you intended to send to only one person or 50.

Daily reality:

You have no control over the image after it is sent. The cases we see at the Prosecutor's Office usually happen when the couple breaks up. In a moment of anger the boyfriend sends the photo to his friends, her brother, her friends, her parents or even the new boyfriend.





What if I get a picture from someone, but I did not ask for it?

- Let an adult know that you received the unwanted image – a counselor, teacher, your parents, your school officer.
- Do not show it to another student.



My girlfriend and I only sent the pictures to each other. How are you going to find out?

Short answer: We frequently do. You may even tell us. We have cases presented for:

- Extortion /Blackmail want favors, money, parents' credit card information or threaten to forward photos
- Misappropriation phones are "borrowed" during practice or school by a friend, who knows that the pictures are on there, and the friend forwards pictures
- Eavesdropping camera phone is used through vents and holes in the wall and images are captured without your knowledge



Orange County Man Who Admitted
Hacking Into Personal Computers
Sentenced to Six Years in Federal Prison for
'Sextortion' of Women and Teenage Girls

- Mijangos pleaded guilty in March 2011 to computer hacking and wiretapping.
- Mijangos specifically admitted that he used malicious software to hack into a teenage girl's computer which gave him control over the victim's webcam.
- He also admitted that in April 2009, through the use of malware, he intercepted portions of a private conversation by listening through the microphone on a victim's computer.







Feds: Michigan teen cyberstalked for 5 years for nude

pics

Tresa Baldas, Detroit Free Press 8:02 a.m. EDT October 16, 2014

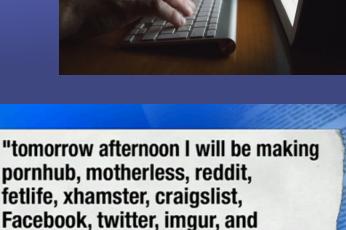
The Michigan teen had sent naked pictures of herself to a man named Bruce Powell in Florida, records show. She was just 13 when the cyber-stalking started

For the next five years, the girl received nonstop text messages and emails from strangers, demanding she send them nude pictures of herself – or they would post the explicit pictures they already had of her on the Internet.

Scared and intimidated, she complied – but suffered silently.

Twice, she attempted suicide. She pleaded with the stalkers to stop.

In a cautionary tale that's unfolding in U.S. District Court, the FBI says it has arrested a Florida man who was part of a years-long extortion scheme that involved taunting and blackmailing a teenage girl in St. Clair County.



...Friday night, I will leak your pictures, name, phone number, and identity."

Instagram accounts of you...

Think it won't happen to you?

- So did High School Musical actress Vanessa Hudgens – until the release of personal photos damaged her career,
- So did Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe until photos of his drinking were being circulated,
- So did Olympic athlete Michael Phelps until the image of him using drugs cost endorsements,
- So did Representative Anthony Weiner until semi-clad photos forced him to resign from the United States Senate.

Jessica Logan



• The image was blurred and the voice distorted, but the words spoken by a young Ohio woman are haunting. She had sent nude pictures of herself to a boyfriend. When they broke up, he sent them to other high school girls. The girls were harassing her, calling her a slut and a whore. She was miserable and depressed, afraid even to go to school. At 18 years old she hung herself.......

Hope Witsell was a 13-year-old middle school student. She had taken a topless photo of herself and texted it to a boy she liked to get his attention, but unfortunately everyone at her school -- and the nearby high school -- had seen the picture within a matter of days. Witsell quickly became the subject of bullying.

Hope was grounded for the summer and suspended from school for a week. She lost her title as student advisor to the Future Farmers of America. The pressure began to take a toll on Hope, who wrote in her journal, "I'm done for sure now. I can feel it in my stomach. I'm going to try and strangle myself. I hope it works." Hope died in the fall of 2009, just after the beginning of the new school year.

Hope Witsell

'Sexting' bullying cited in teen's suicide



Why do they want your picture?

 They may want to collect your picture to trade.

 They may want it for their own "collection".

They may want to meet you.





Serial Sex Offender Admits Using Facebook To Rape and Murder Teen

Peter Chapman, a registered sex offender, was sentenced to life in prison for kidnapping, raping, and murdering Ashleigh Hall, 17, whom Chapman courted and lured to her death using Facebook.

Chapman was arrested in October 2009 for a minor traffic violation and later led police to the body of a girl, Hall, he had kidnapped, raped, and murdered just hours earlier. Police found Hall 'strangled and dumped in a farmer's field near Sedgefield, County Durham,' the Times Online reports.

According to the Telegraph, Chapman, 33, fooled the girl into thinking he was 'Peter Cartwright, or DJ Pete, a 17 year old laborer living in the Stockton on Tees area.'

The Telegraph goes on to report:

[His fake Facebook profile] attracted interest from 14,600 visitors, almost 3,000 becoming online "friends" and all of whom were females ranging from the age of 13 to 31. He would then attempt to redirect them to private chatrooms where he would invite them to provide sexual explicit details.



Lose control of the images..... And who is looking at them

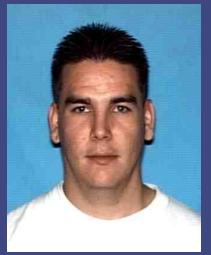
Sexual Offenders Registry (Just a sample).

















Lose control of the images..... And this who may get them next

Sexual Offenders Registry (Just a sample)

















Lose control of the images..... And who is looking at them

Sexual Offenders Registry (Just a sample).









