

Cyber Bullying Prevention in Learning Institutions: Systematic Approach

Dr. Manju Sharma.¹

¹ Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, College of Engineering & Computer Science, Jazan University, Jazan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Abstract

Cyberbullying has been identified as a biggest problem for the last decade. In this paper we will discuss some recent findings and focus on general concepts within the area. This paper covers issues like repetition and power imbalance, types of cyberbullying, age, cyberbullying and traditional bullying, motives for and impact of cyber victimization, coping strategies, and prevention/intervention possibilities. Understanding the characteristics and methods of typical cybercrimes can help us better arm ourselves with the information and resources needed to reduce risks, improve cyber-security, and protect our online identities. However, hackers, phishing fraudsters, and other cybercriminals seized the chance to profit greatly from this chaos. Phishing assaults and cybercrime complaints have skyrocketed throughout the epidemic, putting a great deal of people & small organizations at danger of identity theft, credit card fraud, or data breaches.

Keywords: Cyber-security, cyber-bullying, identity theft, credit card fraud, or data breaches.

1. Introduction

In today's digitally connected world, cybercrime is a pervasive and constantly changing threat that includes a broad range of illegal activities carried out via electronic means. Data breaches, identity theft, online fraud, and cyberbullying are just a few of the many issues that the global cybercrime landscape poses to people, companies, and governments. This study examines the complex network of cybercrimes, looking at their causes, incentives, and detrimental effects on society.

2. What is data-breach?

A data breach is any security incident when sensitive or private information, such as Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, medical records, or customer information, is accessed by un-authorized persons; this includes corporate and personal data (financial information, intellectual property, health records). Only security lapses that jeopardize data confidentiality are considered data breaches.

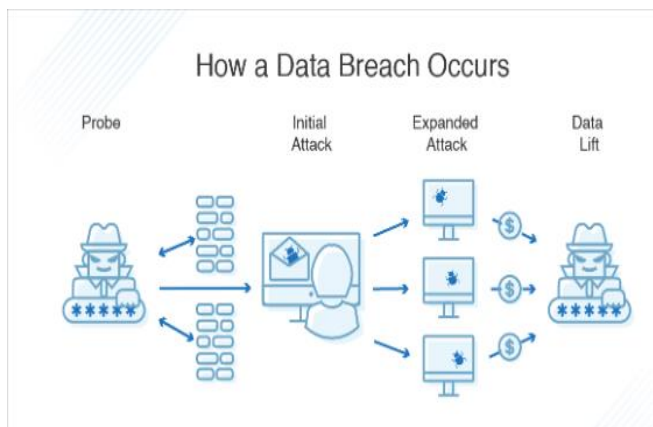
A distributed denial of service (DDoS) assault that overwhelms a website, for instance, is not considered a data breach. However, both the actual theft of hard drives, thumb drives, or even paper files containing sensitive information, as well as ransom ware attacks that lock up a company's client data and threaten to sell it for money, constitute data breaches.

The following are the main causes of data breaches:

Innocent errors, such as when a worker emails private information to the incorrect recipient.

Malicious insiders, such as resentful or fired staff members or avaricious staff members amenable to outsider bribery

Hackers, are malevolent outsiders who deliberately conduct cybercrimes in order to steal data.



Other goals may be pursued via data breaches. Competitive companies may have their trade secrets stolen by dishonest businesses. Nation-state actors have the ability to penetrate government networks and obtain confidential data regarding military operations, sensitive political transactions, or national infrastructure. In certain cases, hackers get access to private information merely to destroy or alter it.

3. Cyberbullying

In the digital era, cyberbullying—a painful form of online misconduct—has become a common and worrisome occurrence. It entails intimidating, harassing, people by using electronic communication platforms including social media, messaging applications, and online forums. Cyberbullying, in contrast to traditional types of bullying, crosses physical barriers and allows offenders to attack their victims relentlessly and anonymously, frequently with terrible psychological consequences. This study intends to investigate the intricacies of cyberbullying, encompassing its frequency, underlying incentives, psychological effects on targets, and societal ramifications. By bringing this urgent problem to everyone's attention, we can raise awareness, create practical preventative measures, and encourage a more courteous and safe online community.

Why is cyberbullying becoming a major issue?

‘Cyberbullying is a growing problem because increasing numbers of kids are using and have completely embraced online interactivity. A remarkable 95% of teens in the US are online, and three-fourths (74%) access the Internet on their mobile device. They do so for school work, to keep in touch with their friends, to play games, to

learn about celebrities, to share their digital creations, or for many other reasons. Because the online communication though this problem has been around for well over a decade, some people still don't see the harm associated with it. Some attempt to dismiss or disregard cyberbullying because there are “more serious forms of aggression to worry about.” While it is true that there are many issues facing adolescents, parents, teachers, and law enforcement today, we first need to accept that cyberbullying is one such problem that will only get more serious if ignored.’ [9]

‘Characteristics of cyberbullies and victims of cyberbullying: The current study will investigate the characteristics of cyberbullies and cybercities. Existing studies have predominantly looked for, on the one hand, relationships between age, gender, internet use and involvement in traditional bullying, and on the other hand, involvement in cyberbullying. Others have looked into other possible predictors of involvement in cyberbullying, such as psychological characteristics and relationship with parents, although much of the existing knowledge comes from studies on internet harassment by Ybarra (2004) and Ybarra and Mitchell (2004).’ [8]

Real Life Examples of Cyberbullying

CASE-1

Jairo is a 16-year-old boy from a town in Seville who faced severe bullying because of his physical disability. He has a prosthetic leg due to a wrong operation. His classmates continually make fun of him and his disability. Not only did they trip him, but they also tried to take it off in the gymnastics class. On the other hand, in the social networks, there were photos of him manipulated with computer programs with bad words that made Jairo not want to go to school. Due to the suffering caused by this type of behaviour, Jairo asked to change schools and is currently at another institute [4].

CASE-2

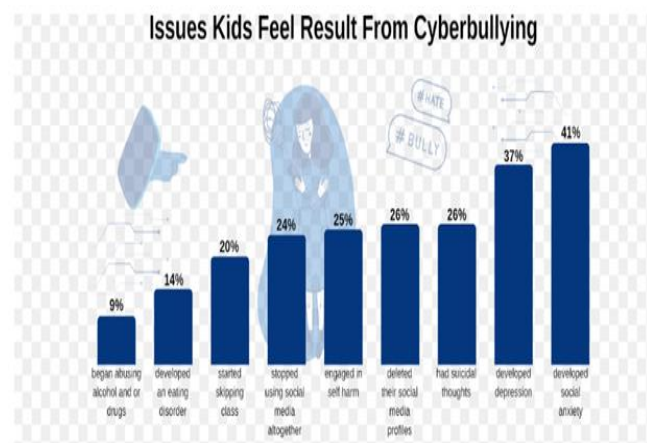
After years of psychological aggression, in 2003, Ryan, then fourteen years old, decided to commit suicide. He did so because he was supposedly gay. It all started because a friend of his published online that he was homosexual. Because of this,

he did not stop receiving jokes, ridicule, and humiliation from his classmates. This case helped to approve the Harassment Prevention Act [5] in Vermont of the US States months after his death [6].

Victim Demographics in Cyberbullying Statistics:

While no audience is immune to cyberbullying, some are more vulnerable than others. Even if it's not their fault, it's important to understand the realities regarding cyberbullying that affect various groups.

Contrasts between different demographics aren't restricted to gender either. Individuals who identify as being a part of the LGBTQ community are significantly more vulnerable, with over 50% stating they have been subjected to online abuse and cyberbullying. LGBTQ are shown to be at increased risk of cyberbullying from strangers, too, including attempts at public humiliation and embarrassment. While social understanding of LGBTQ issues increases, so does the abuse [10].



The graph shows the findings of a study on the relationship between several emotional problems in children & cyberbullying. The study draws attention to the alarming connection that exists between cyberbullying and a host of detrimental outcomes for kids. 41% of kids who said they had experienced cyberbullying also said they had started abusing drugs or alcohol. According to 37% of the respondents, the cyberbullying caused them to develop an eating disorder. 24% of the kids who reported being cyberbullied said they had completely skipped school. Among the victims, there was a notable increase in social media withdrawal: 26% reported they had completely

ceased using social media, and another 26% had deleted their social media accounts. Of the kids who were cyberbullied, 26% said they had considered suicide. Among the victims, there was also a rise in social anxiety (25%) and sadness (37%). Few restrictions should be considered when analysing this graph like Self-reported experiences, which are prone to bias and subjectivity, form the basis of the data & Confounding factors, such as a child's mental health state prior to being cyberbullied, are not considered. Cybercrime in India cannot be solved by using conventional crime-fighting techniques. The following are some measures to stop cybercrime:

Use complicated passwords: Don't write down your login credentials; instead, use different combinations for different accounts.

Maintaining secrecy in online profiles: Ensure that your social media accounts—on sites like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and others—remain private. Check your security settings one more time. When posting information online, exercise caution. Anything that is posted online stays there forever.

Protect your mobile devices: Many people are ignorant of the fact that hazardous software, like computer viruses, might be installed on their mobile devices. Software should only be downloaded from reliable websites. Maintaining the most recent version of your operating system is also essential. Use a safe lock screen and install antivirus software as well. Otherwise, in the event that you lose your phone or set it down for.

Data protection: To safeguard your information, encrypt important files like tax returns and bank statements.

Safe online identity: People should exercise caution when it comes to safeguarding their online identities. You should use great caution when disclosing personal information online, such as your name, address, phone number, and/or financial information. Make sure the websites are safe before making any online purchases, etc. This includes enabling privacy settings on social networking sites that you use or visit.

Using security software to protect computers:

Several different kinds of security software are needed for basic internet security. Two essential elements of security software are firewall, antivirus programs. It sets restrictions on who can use the internet to access the computer and interact. Assume that a firewall acts as a kind of "policeman," keeping an eye on any data that tries to enter or exit the computer through the Internet.

4. Conclusion

Cyber laws in India and around the world need to be updated and improved all the time as people become more dependent on technology. The pandemic has also forced a significant percentage of workers to work remotely, which has increased the demand for app security. To stay ahead of the imposters and halt them in their tracks, legislators need to go above and beyond. Cybercrime can be controlled, but only with the cooperation of governments, Internet or network service providers, middlemen like banks and online retailers, and most importantly, the general public.

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