

## Cyber Bullying Article

### Cyber Bullying is more prevalent

Cyber bullying is more popular in today's society due to the fact that it is not face to face, it is aimed at the emotional psychological side of bullying where smaller, weaker people can hurt or affect people without the threat of physical retaliation.

The facts speak for themselves with almost 1 in 4 children in Australian schools being bullied by cyber and face to face bullying said Becky Whittaker. Figures have shown that children who are bullied show signs of depression up to three times more than the average child, she said these figures are not good with an estimated two hundred million

children around the world suffering from bullying. There is a potential for disaster, and a fact to support this would be young people who bully have a one in four chance of having a criminal record by the age of thirty.

A large portion of Australian children have mobile phones with internet access to social networking sites. Many of these children are at a young age some in years as low as year three. The accessibility of these sites via mobiles makes bullying almost a round the clock occurrence with victims facing constant harassment inside and outside of school.

Although it seems we can't completely eradicate bullying, Telstra has invested three million dollars to combat the emerging issue of youth cyber safety online and on mobile phones. But although large amounts of money and efforts are being invested in the Spotlight on Cyber Safety Program it still cannot keep up with the speed at which technology emerges, travels and moves. Children are constantly updating their phones with new applications and different software which makes it very hard to protect youth while online.