

**42% of kids
have been Bullied
while online**

**More than 50%
of Bullying
incidents
go unreported**

**Over 19,000 kids
attempt suicide
every year
stemming
from Bullying**

**Google your
children's name
to see if they are
being Bullied**

Resources:

www.netsmartz.org
www.cybertipline.com
www.michiganicac.com
www.connectsafely.org

National Cyber Hotline -- 1-800-843-5678
MACE Hotline -- 1-586-469-5151 Press 1



Cyber Bullying is REAL, and
may already be in your home!

Presentations:

If you are interested in having one of our M.A.C.E. Deputies give a Cyber Bullying presentation, please go to the Macomb County Sheriff's Web-Page, www.macombsheriff.com and click on **Find Forms** on the lower left hand side. Then click on **MACE Request Form**.

Fill out the form and follow the instructions to submit it. You will then be contacted by a representative from the M.A.C.E. Unit to get more details and schedule your presentation.



M.A.C.E.

Macomb Area Computer
Enforcement Task Force

Cyber Bullying

Anthony M.
Wickersham
Macomb County Sheriff

WWW.MACOMBSHERIFF.COM



**Anthony M.
Wickersham**
Macomb County Sheriff

Cyber Bullying is real and studies show that it could be affecting your children. Cyber Bullying takes on many forms and levels of intensity, but do not discount the impact that it may be having on your children.

The Sheriff's Office takes this issue very serious, and we want to do all we can to make sure you and your children are properly informed.

Our M.A.C.E. Unit has developed a specific Cyber Bullying presentation that we can cater to a variety of ages. If you know of a group that could benefit from this, please follow the instructions on the back of this flyer to have a M.A.C.E. Deputy contact them.

What Is Cyber Bullying?

Cyber Bullying is defined as the use of cell phones, instant messaging, e-mail, chat rooms or social-networking sites to harass, threaten or intimidate someone.

Is Cyber Bullying A Crime?

Cyber Bullying can be illegal in some situations, as when it involves a threat to a person's physical safety, when it involves coercion, when it involves an act based hate or bias against certain persons or nationalities, and when it involves sexually explicit images of minors.



Warning Signs That Your Children Are Being Bullied:

- They don't want to go to school
- They don't want to use the computer
- They become aggravated or depressed after using the computer
- They are jumpy or nervous when they receive a text message

What Can Parents Do?

- Make sure your children know that Cyber Bullying is not okay or normal behavior.
- Teach your children to think twice before sending text messages or posting anything online. What they "mean" doesn't always come across that way.
- Help your children understand that if they wouldn't say what they are texting or posting to someone's face, then they probably shouldn't send the message.
- Instruct your children to always ignore the bully. Responding to them is the worst thing they can do. It gives the power to the bully.
- Continue to talk with your children and develop a rapport, so they feel safe talking to you about Bullying.
- Develop a plan that doesn't involve your children losing their cyber privileges. If they are afraid of losing access to their social lifeline, they will be less likely to share issues with you.

Parent Reminder:

Unlike traditional Bullying that happens during school hours, Cyber Bullying can occur 24 hours a day, giving your children no reprieve from the stress it can cause.