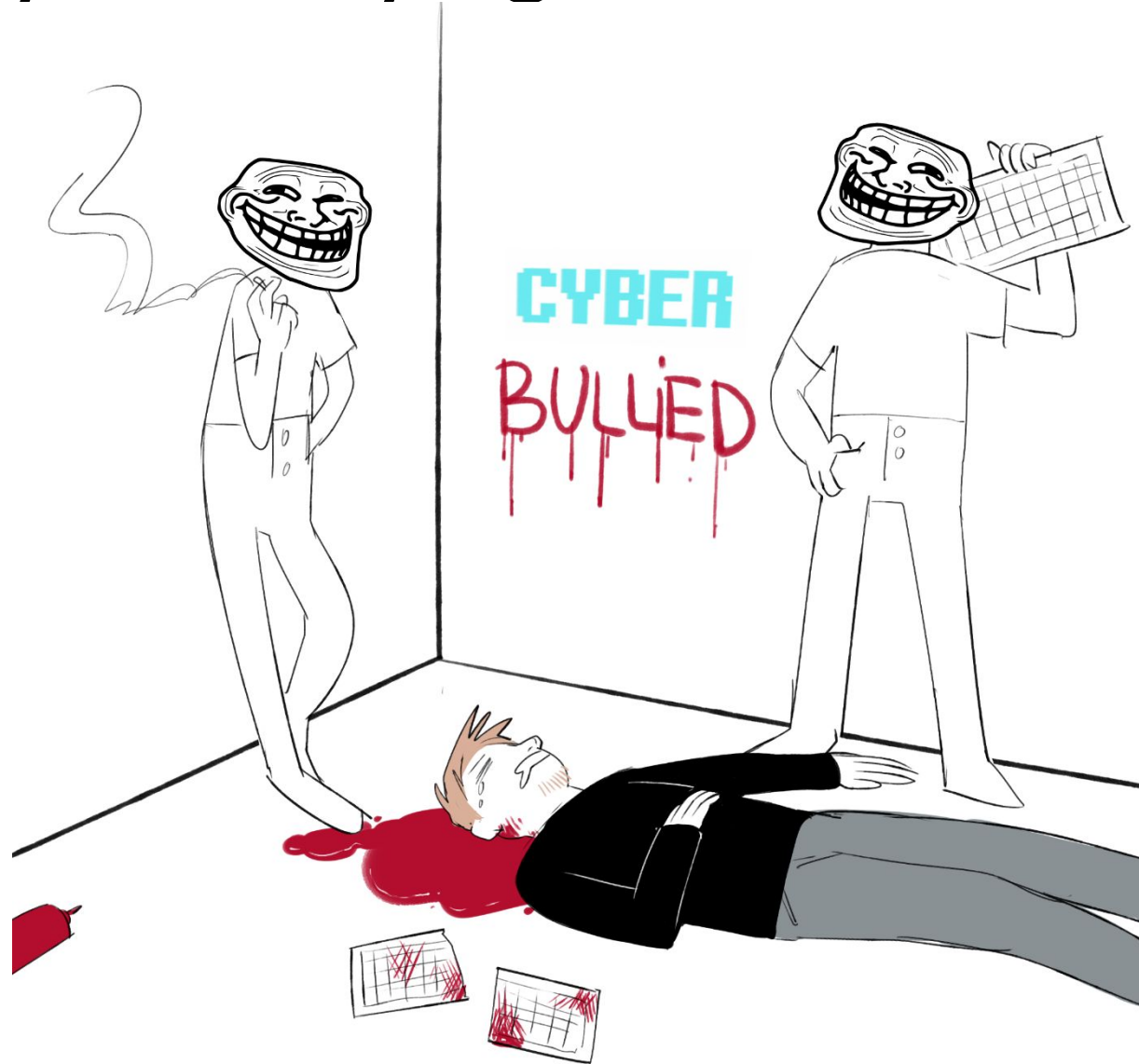


Cyberbullying



What cyberbullying is?



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- Cyberbullying or cyberharassment is a form of bullying or harassment using electronic means. Cyberbullying and Cyberharassment are also known as online bullying. It has become increasingly common, especially among teenagers. Cyberbullying is when someone, typically teens, bully or harass others on social media sites.

Why is Cyberbullying Such a Serious Problem?



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- Despite the absence of physical contact or audible insults, cyberbullying can be even more traumatizing than traditional forms of bullying. Through social media and mobile communications, bullying can now potentially be viewed by all of a child's friends, family, and acquaintances. As a result, the embarrassment, shame, and other more severe consequences of bullying can become even more severe.

Is Cyberbullying a Crime?



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- Until the mid-2000s, no laws specifically addressed cyberbullying. But legislators have not been blind to the increasing number of high-publicity incidents, including tragic results in certain cases (suicides and school shootings, for instance). Laws have sprung up in some states, but many of these laws often leave enforcement in the hands of school officials. As such, cyberbullying may often be treated as a civil, rather than a criminal matter.

Examples of State Cyberbullying Laws



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- Although cyberbullying is considered a relatively new form of harassment and intimidation, most states have school sanctions (and some have criminal penalties) for cyberbullying or electronic harassment in general. However, only about a dozen of those states have school sanctions for acts of cyberbullying committed off-campus. Below is a sampling of state laws addressing cyberbullying:
 - *California, Florida, Missouri.*

What Are the Penalties for Cyberbullying?



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- The penalties for cyberbullying are as wide-ranging as the laws discussed above. Depending on the state and applicable laws, sanctions could range anywhere from civil penalties, such as school intervention via suspensions and/or expulsions, to jail time for criminal misdemeanors and even felonies.

Thanks for watching!!!

