

Name

Date

## Decision Analysis of Cyberbullying Protection

Article: Mean Messages

From: <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/news/story/0,28277,1037935,00.html>

This article discusses how to keep students safe from bullying in cyberspace. Cyberbullies use e-mail and the Internet to target and humiliate students. This bullying is becoming more frequent as students use the Internet more. This problem will keep growing so it is important for students to know more about cyberbullies. They need to know how make decisions on using the Internet safely and protecting themselves from cyberbullies.

Some students are so afraid of reading hurtful e-mails about themselves that they stop using e-mail or avoid using the Internet. This is not the best way to handle cyberbullying because these students need to know how to use the Internet for school and work. Other students change their e-mail accounts often to avoid seeing any annoying or cruel e-mail messages. This is not a good solution either. The best solution for dealing with cyberbullies is education. Learning safe ways to use the Internet makes it easier to avoid becoming a victim. Every student need to take responsibility for knowing how to deal with hurtful messages. Then, students can continue to use the Internet and still protect themselves.

After reading this article, I have tips to use every time I use e-mail. I will recommend these tips to other students to help them learn how to safeguard themselves. The tips provided in this article are easy to apply for everyone. The tips are:

1. Be private.  
Do not share your passwords, pictures, or secrets with anyone else.
2. Take five.  
Do something you like for five minutes before replying to a cruel or hurtful message.
3. Stop, block, and tell.  
Stop before you reply to a mean or bullying message. Block senders who send these kinds of messages. Tell a parent or teacher about the message.
4. Save the evidence.  
Save copies of bullying messages.
5. Google yourself.  
Every week or so, search for your name to see if it shows up in any unwanted places. If it does, tell a parent or teacher.