

WHAT IS CYBERBULLYING?





It is when one child targets another child using interactive technologies such as:

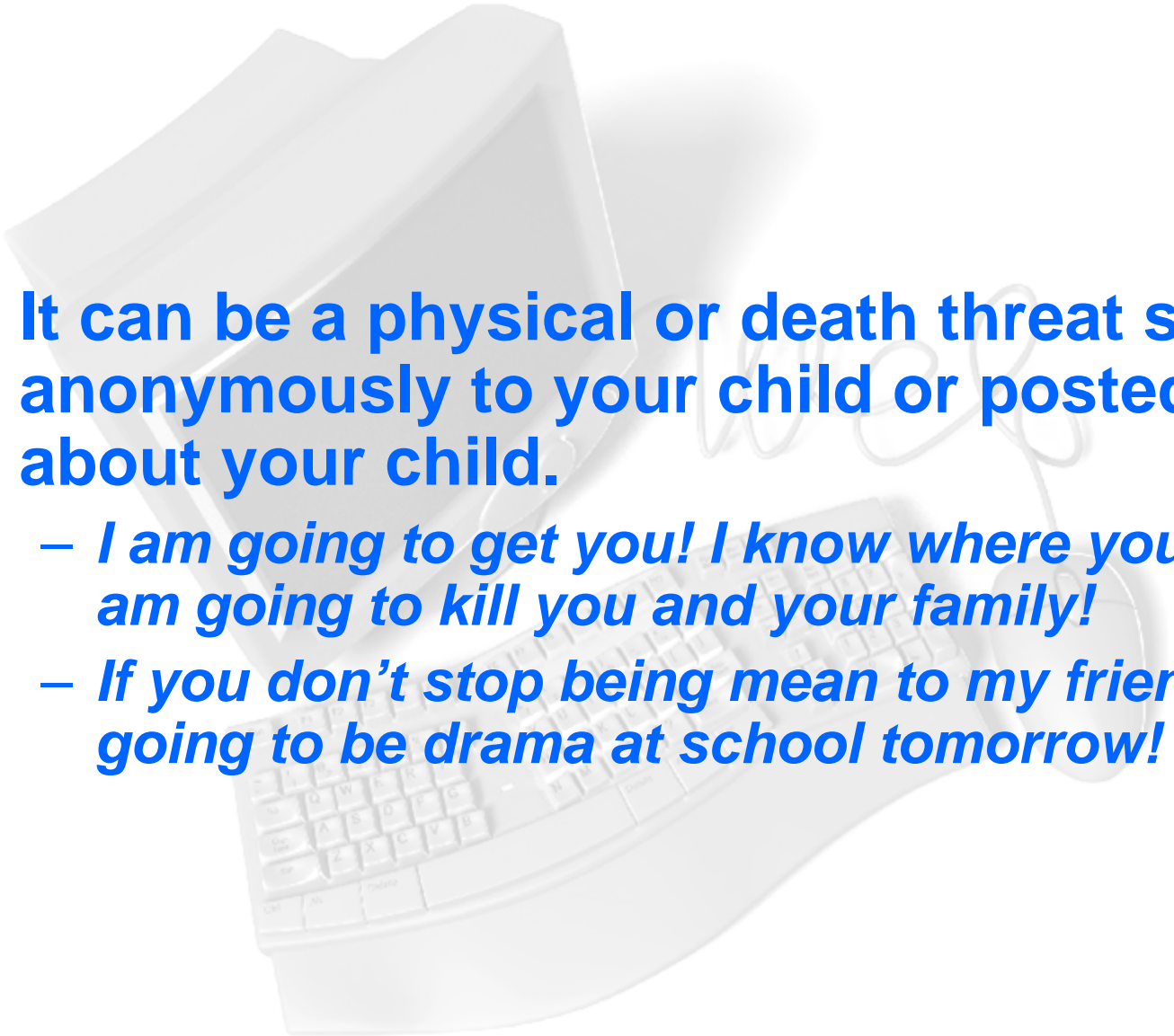
- **Cell phones**
- **Text messaging devices**
- **Interactive games**
- **Instant messaging**
- **Password and ID theft or**
- **Cyber Bashing websites**

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- A grayscale illustration of a computer workstation. It includes a CRT monitor in the upper left, a keyboard in the lower center, and a mouse in the lower right. A mouse cord is visible, looping upwards and to the left. The background is white with a soft shadow under the monitor.
- **Cyber bullying can be more long lasting than school yard bullying.**
 - **It can follow children anywhere they use their cell phones or log onto the internet.**

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- A grayscale illustration of a computer workstation. It includes a CRT monitor in the upper left, a keyboard in the lower center, and a mouse on the right. The monitor is tilted slightly to the right. The keyboard is a standard QWERTY layout. The mouse is a two-button mouse with a cord that loops back towards the keyboard.
- **It can be a hateful message to your child: anonymous or signed....**

- ***I HATE YOU. EVERYBODY ELSE HATES YOU TOO. YOU SHOULD JUST DIE.***

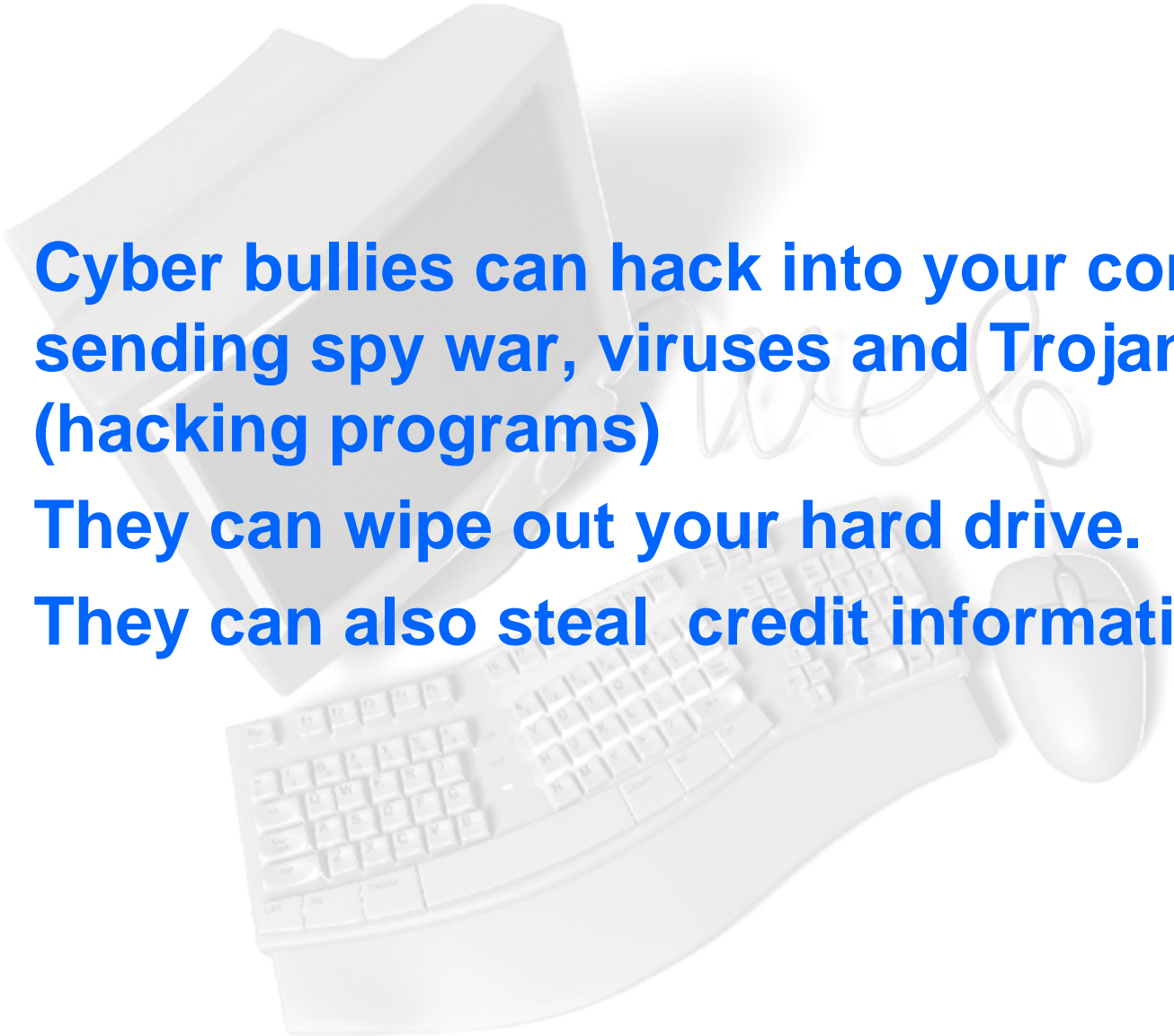
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- **It can be a bashing website where other kids can vote for the ugliest and most unpopular kid.**
 - *Ugly, Fat! Ugly and Fat!*
 - *See pictures of the five ugliest fat kids.*
 - *Vote for the ugliest fat kid by clicking here.*

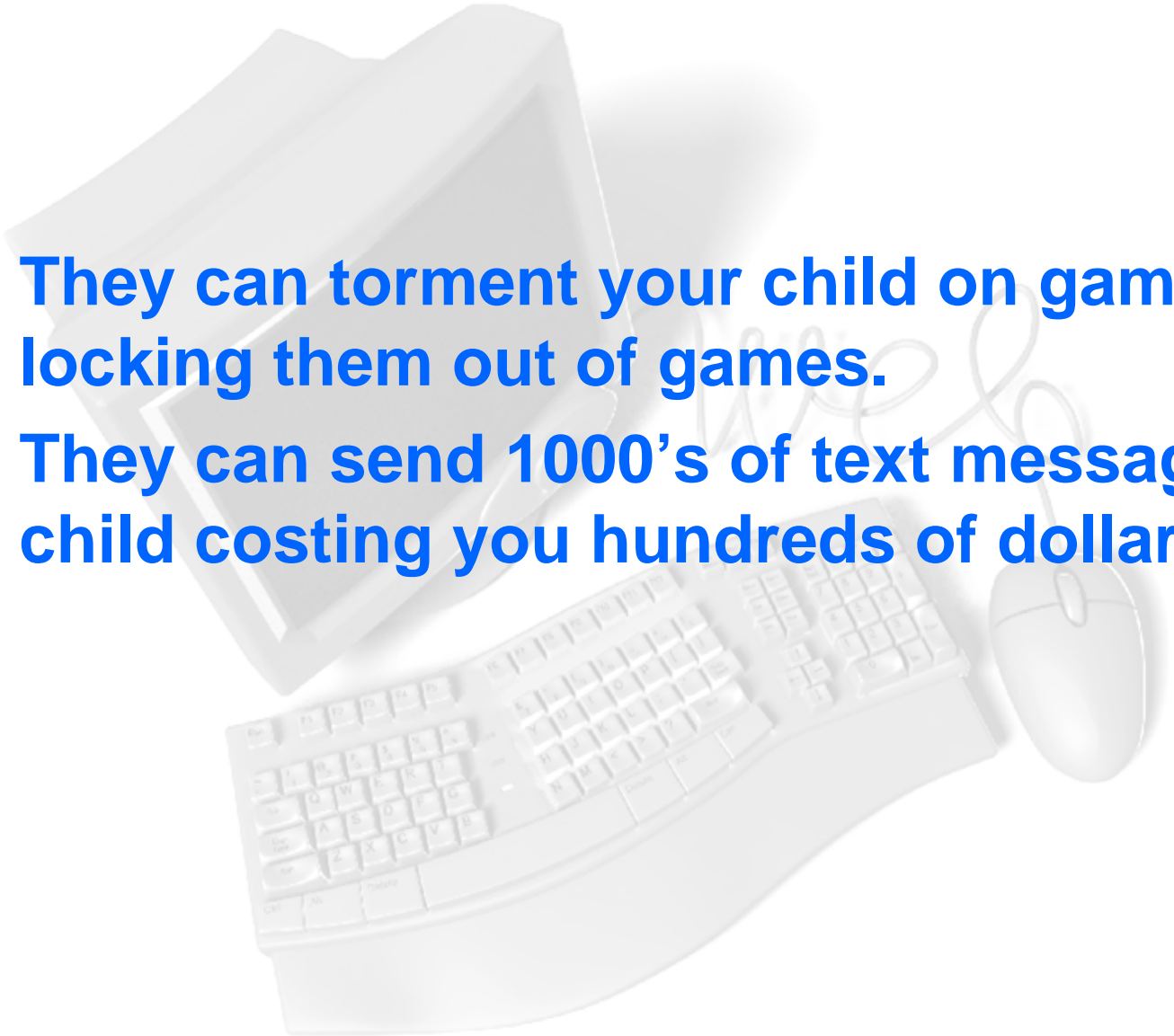
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- **It can be a physical or death threat sent anonymously to your child or posted online about your child.**
 - *I am going to get you! I know where you live and I am going to kill you and your family!*
 - *If you don't stop being mean to my friend there's going to be drama at school tomorrow!*

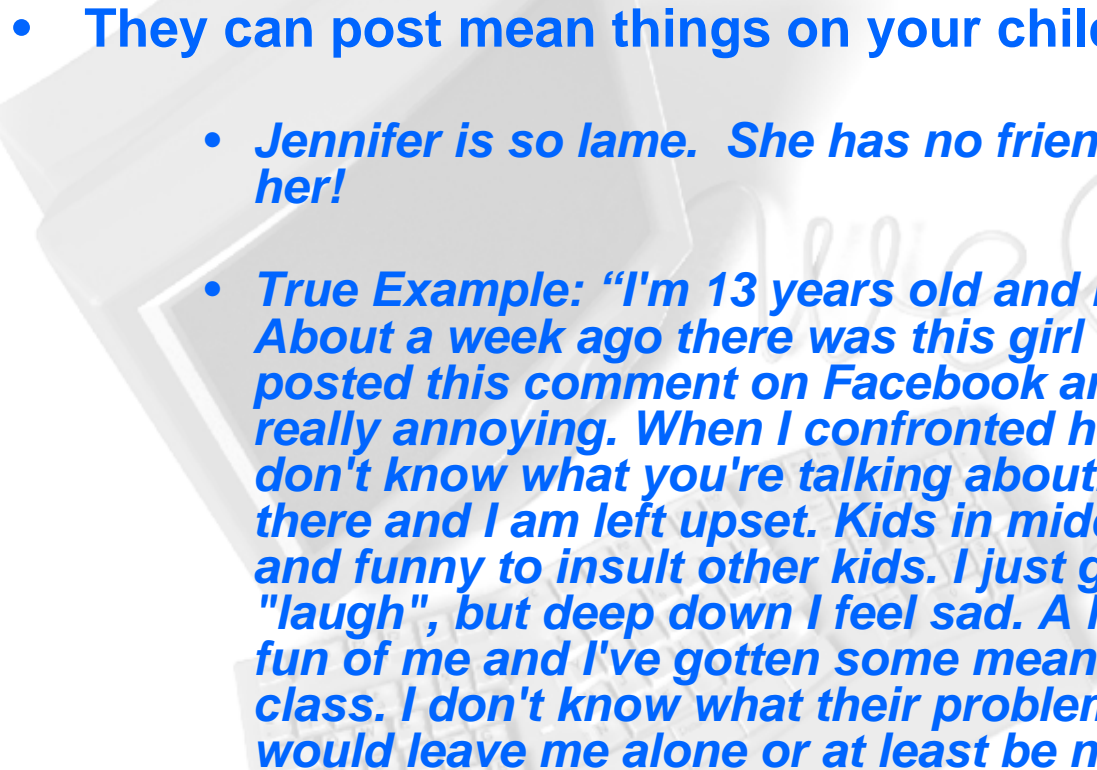


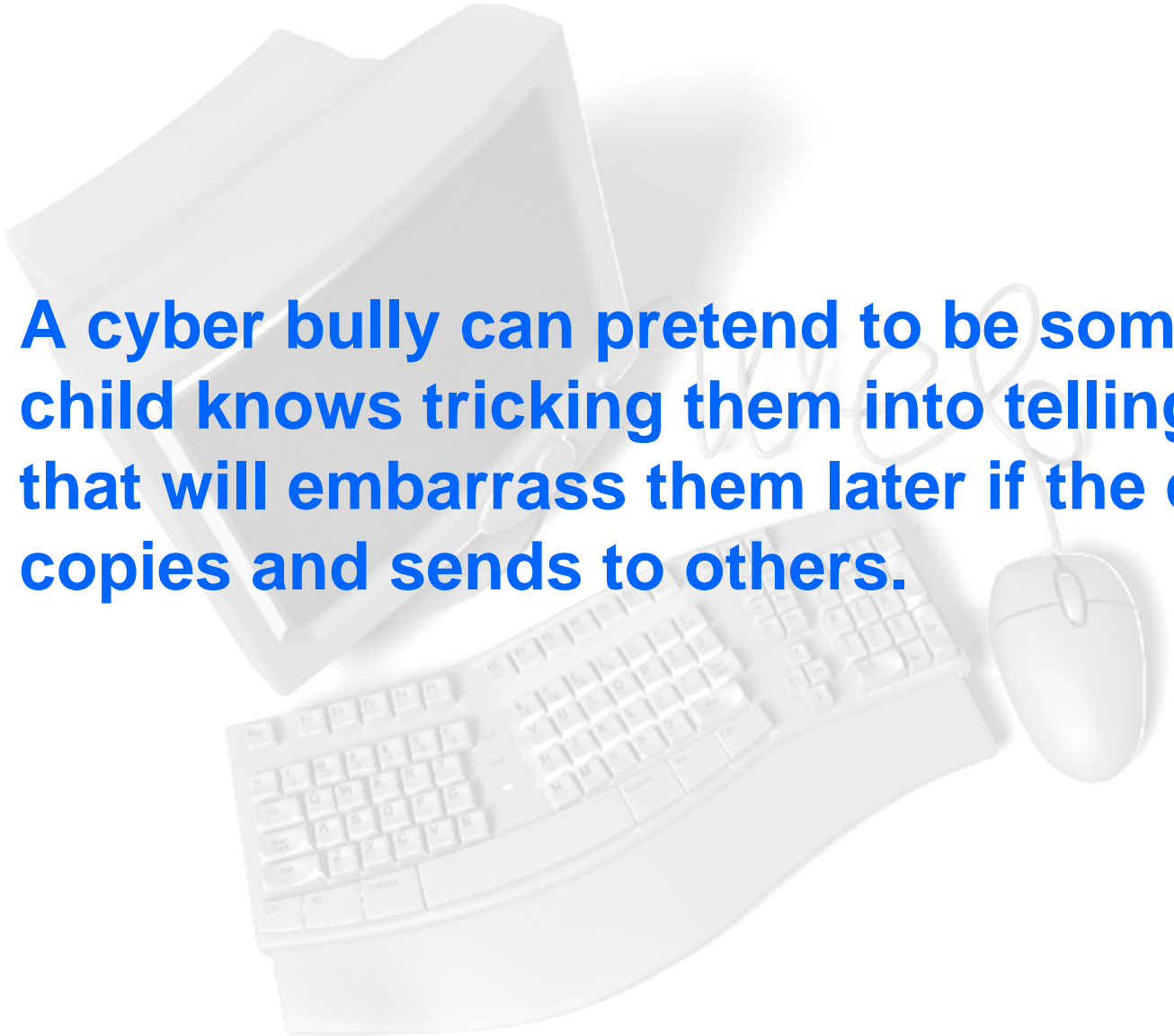
- **A cyber bully can steal or guess your password:**

- **Changing the password and locking your child out of their own account,**
- **Posing as your child and sending rude messages to your child's friends,**
- **Sharing it with others.**

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- **Cyber bullies can hack into your computer sending spy war, viruses and Trojan horses (hacking programs)**
 - **They can wipe out your hard drive.**
 - **They can also steal credit information.**

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- They can torment your child on game sites locking them out of games.
 - They can send 1000's of text messages to your child costing you hundreds of dollars.

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- They can post mean things on your child's "Wall" or "Blog".
 - *Jennifer is so lame. She has no friends and everyone hates her!*
 - *True Example: "I'm 13 years old and I'm in the 7th grade. About a week ago there was this girl in my grade who posted this comment on Facebook and it said that I was really annoying. When I confronted her about it, she said "I don't know what you're talking about." The comment is still there and I am left upset. Kids in middle school find it cool and funny to insult other kids. I just go along with it and "laugh", but deep down I feel sad. A lot of kids like to make fun of me and I've gotten some mean texts from kids in my class. I don't know what their problems are, but I wish they would leave me alone or at least be nice to me."*

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- **A cyber bully can pretend to be someone your child knows tricking them into telling secrets that will embarrass them later if the cyber bully copies and sends to others.**



- **Cyber bullies can post provocative things about your child online at:**

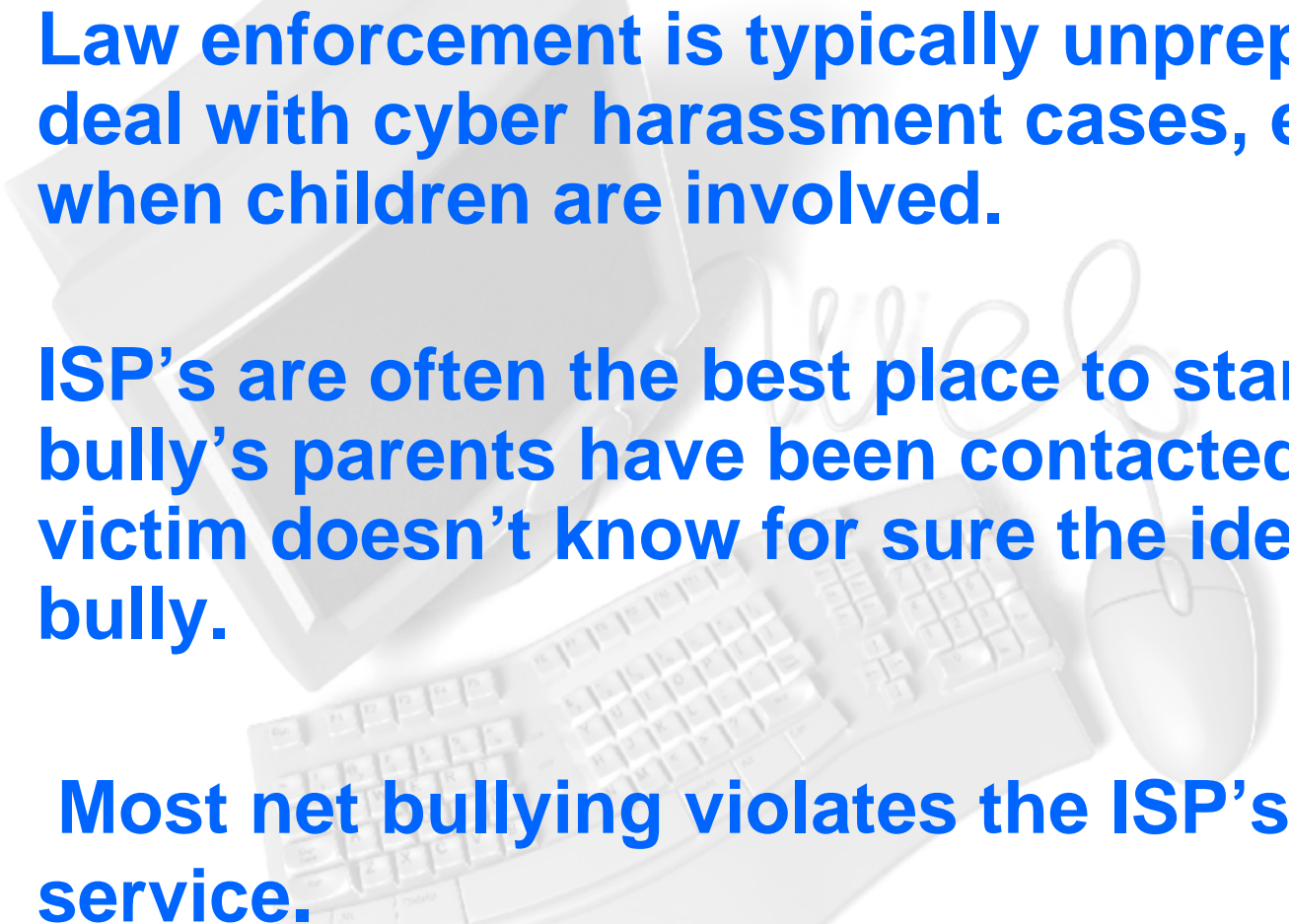
- **Hate group sites**
- **Pedophile group sites**

Did you know that 99,000 Pedophiles were removed off Facebook this summer and those were ones using their real name!

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- **Cyber bullying is limited only to the imagination and bandwidth of the kids.**

Where do you report cyber bullying?

- Schools have limited authority to address actions that take place outside of school.
- Since net bullying occurs from the bully's computer after school it is outside of the scope of a school's authority.

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- **Law enforcement is typically unprepared to deal with cyber harassment cases, especially when children are involved.**
 - **ISP's are often the best place to start, after the bully's parents have been contacted, or if the victim doesn't know for sure the identity of the bully.**
 - **Most net bullying violates the ISP's term of service.**

Cyber Bullying Prevention



Prevention occurs in two different ways.

- **Prevention Suggestions for Technology:**
 - Add monitoring software
 - Set software controls to limit access
 - Net Nanny
 - Add kid safe browsers
- **Prevention Suggestions Through Education:**
 - Learn about computer safety, computer basics and sites where cyber bullying can take place.
 - Put your computer in a public place so you can monitor and see what your kids are doing.
 - Limit and control kids access .

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- **Teach your kids to stop, block and tell them not to become an unwitting accomplice of a cyber bully.**
 - **To think before they click**
 - **To respect others online**
 - **To Bing, Google or Yahoo themselves often**

Questions

