



MISSION STATEMENT: To ensure that every Colorado student, parent, teacher and community member has access to a safe and anonymous way to report any concerns to their safety or the safety of others, with a focus on early intervention and prevention through awareness and education.

What is Cyber Bullying?

Cyber bullying can be described as any derogatory comments, threats or rumors aimed to hurt or cause social isolation and exclusion which occur through emails, social network sites, blog sites, text messages, instant messaging, chat rooms, cell phones, video posts, etc.

Cyber-bullying is particularly destructive and painful because as one student tells Safe2Tell, "It never ends. It is everywhere you go. At home, at school, on the weekend, wherever you carry your cell phone or use your computer, everyone has access to hurt you."

According to the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) of CU Boulder:

- 43% of teens have been victims of cyber bullying
- 29% of teens did nothing about the bullying
- 92% of teens knew their cyber bullies from school
- Nearly 30% of teens wanted to seek revenge on those who cyber bullied them
- Only 11% of teens talked to their parents about incidents of cyber bullying
- Girls are cyber bullied more than boys
- Cyber Bullying occurs most often through instant messaging, followed by chat rooms and e-mail

Cyber-bullying situations have escalated from mean statements and taunting - to students blackmailing one another over inappropriate photos posted on the internet. Other incidents have included students posting violent fights on YouTube with one planned attack involving 6 cheerleaders that violently assaulted a fellow-student. Another recent case of cyber-bullying resulted in the suicide of a young woman after a student's parent posed as an on-line romantic interest to gain information about her daughter's conflicts at school.

Safe2Tell receives consistent reports of cyber-bullying and encourages awareness, monitoring and pro-active intervention with a positive, strength-based approach.

Make sure students are aware that information shared through electronic devices becomes public information that cannot be removed from the internet. Special Agent Susan Payne advises students, "Never send any message in electronic format that you would not want to appear on the front page of the newspaper tomorrow morning."

Internet Safety Tips for Parents

- ✓ Be aware of your child's internet activity
- ✓ Keep computers in high traffic areas in the home, to avoid isolation
- ✓ Know passwords and check activity
- ✓ Be involved in web pages
- ✓ Always confirm that contacts are legitimate
- ✓ Stay informed and aware
- ✓ Communicate safe practices to your Child

Find other tips and information at:

<http://www.netsmartz.org/index.aspx>

<http://www.isafe.org/>

Make a Safe2Tell
web tip!

Log-in to

www.safe2tell.org



How Does Safe2Tell Help?

School threats posted on MySpace lead to the arrest of a student and the recovery of weapons and a hit list, preventing a planned school attack.

Drug transactions communicated through text-messages help parents identify their child's addictions and sources leading to a law enforcement investigation.

A male student propositioned by an adult through his personal web page, reports the offense which results in the investigation of a city official.

Extensive cyber-bullying is revealed through a web-tip which helps prevent a planned fight after school.

Find out how you can do more to support Safe2Tell at www.safe2tell.org

School Safety Resource Center

Safe Schools Training

April 15th

Colorado Springs Marriott

Register online at:

www.colorado.edu/cspv/safesch

Safe2Tell Partners with AARP For Volunteer Staffing

Safe2Tell has partnered with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to staff our administrative office with part-time volunteers. This endeavor was made possible by a federal grant, assisting seniors with on-the-job training, which increases their marketable skills for future full-time employment. We are proud to forge this partnership and warmly welcome our volunteer staff!

NEW Safe2Tell WEB SITE GOES LIVE:



*Student Resources
Help for Parents
Staff Support
Web-tips
What can Safe2Tell do for you?
Log-in
Learn
Let us Hear You*

Susan Payne, Executive Director

www.safe2tell.org

Jo McGuire, Program Manager

719.520.7435

P.O. Box 49296

Natasha Sansoni, Communications

Colorado Springs, CO 80949