

## Questions/Answers: Dr. Justin Patchin On Cyberbullying

1. I've heard a lot about Discord from teens/adolescents. I'm very unfamiliar with this platform. Have you heard about any cyberbullying in this arena?
  - Here is a blog we have written to help gain an understanding of the platform:
    - [Discord: A Chat App Not Just for Gamers, https://cyberbullying.org/discord-chat-app-gamers](https://cyberbullying.org/discord-chat-app-gamers)
2. Many students are learning from home now. Do you have any bullying data with e-learners?
  - Unfortunately, no. Data is currently being collected, but the information will not be available on our site until later this summer. I invite you to check back then.
3. For the kids who stayed at home because of CB, what proportion of them were also bullied offline? The issue might not be cyberbullying but rather a combination of both traditional and cyber bullying exposure.
  - To mitigate this discrepancy, we asked students to specifically state whether they stayed home due to bullying or cyberbullying in separate questions in case it was a contributing factor.
4. Do you know the rates of cyberbullying amongst homeschoolers? I've heard it occurs at a lower rate in homeschooling groups and many choose to homeschool instead of attending a traditional school
  - We have some information from our 2016 study. This is what we found for the percentage of individuals cyberbullied in the last 30 days in each four schooling situations:
    - Private school: 23.4%
    - Homeschool: 17.9%
    - Public school: 15.5%
    - Online classes: 12.0%
5. How do we help High-Functioning Autistic (HFA) teens who have been bullied to recover?
  - I don't have an exact answer for this question because I am unaware of any research exploring this specifically, but support is needed to stop these behaviors. It is also helpful to empower the youth to respond in a meaningful manner when these instances occur.
6. I am completing my dissertation which focuses on the need for policies when addressing cyberbullying off school property. The purpose of this case study will explore the perceptions of middle school leaders in Kansas on how they feel their school should address cyberbullying when it occurs off school property but still affects the student in school. I am curious what your thoughts are this topic
  - I have many thoughts on this topic — are you familiar with the pending Supreme Court case that is specifically addressing this? I'd like to direct you to my post here regarding the topic: <https://cyberbullying.org/snapchat-speech-bl-mahanoy>

7. Is it more of a correlation between bullying and suicide as opposed to cause/effect?
  - Due to very little longitudinal research that can properly help to identify the temporal ordering, we do not know, but it seems likely.
8. What psychological factors characterize young people who are victimized by bullying that experience suicidal thoughts and how are they different from those who are victimized then attempt suicide? Here are a couple of papers we have written that also cite other research on this relationship:
  - <https://cyberbullying.org/bullying-suicide-research>
  - <https://cyberbullying.org/bullying-cyberbullying-and-suicide>
9. Can you address the Dark Triade in addressing who the bully is?
  - We have not done research on this specific topic; however, I can direct you to others who have here:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=0%2C50&q=dark+triad+bullying&btnG=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C50&q=dark+triad+bullying&btnG=)
10. Do you have a recent research article discussing interventions and prevention of bullying and cyberbullying? If yes, is it just related to cyberbullying or do you also address in-person bullying?
  - I like this review paper: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42380-019-0007-4>
11. You spoke about bullying occurring more frequently at school rather than online (cyber). However, considering the slide about cyberbullying being more likely to instill a greater sense of fear in students and making them feel unsafe at school, perhaps we should consider the intensity of risk rather than just incident frequency? Although involving more variables and adding complexity to the research, I think this would be helpful to investigate for practitioners and families alike.
  - I agree there is variation in fear and that general fear is different from specific fear. More research is necessary.
12. Are there any resources or research available specifically about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) youth who are either cyberbullying others or are victims of cyberbullying? The best way to address it, etc.?
  - Here are some of what we have written on the topic. I hope you find it useful:
    - <https://cyberbullying.org/helping-kids-autism-spectrum-disorder-bullied-cyberbullied>
    - <https://cyberbullying.org/cyberbullying-and-asd-youth>
13. I think zero tolerance policies can be narrowly tailored and effectively enforced; wouldn't it be better than discretionary?
  - I feel like every case is different, so requires a personalized approach rather than a one-size-fits all.