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The Impact of Digital Citizenship on Gendered Cyberbullying

Emergent Research Forum (ERF)

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Abstract

The Internet's ubiquity and accessibility have opened up possibilities for limitless user interaction and collaboration; however, it has also expanded the likelihood for negative online behaviors, including cyberbullying and online harassment. Cyberbullying manifests as gendered and non-gendered behaviors. This research seeks to center on this notion of gendered and non-gendered cyberbullying and offer digital citizenship as a mechanism to mitigate the negative behaviors. We draw on social Learning theory (SLT) and a set of two complementary theories: the online disinhibition effect and Bandura et al.'s theory of moral disengagement to explore digital citizenship and its impact on gendered and non-gendered cyberbullying. We examine the role of digital citizenship as a behavior modification for non-gendered and gendered cyberbullying. This research-in-progress is proposed to enhance our understanding of how digital citizenship can play a role in gendered and non-gendered cyberbullying behaviors.

Keywords

Digital citizenship, gendered cyberbullying, non-gendered cyberbullying.