

Student: Name Henry Barrett
School: E.L. Haynes
Grade: 5
Topic: Cyberbullying

My name is Henry Barrett and I am a 5th Grader from E.L.Haynes Middle School. I like to play video games online. While playing, someone kept teasing me. I felt intimidated but I was able to get out of the situation by leaving the game. I don't have to share anything to play video games. But some popular apps, like Facebook are completely built from your information. Cyberbullying is a serious problem that sometimes causes young people to commit self harm. The best solution is to tell a trusted adult or organization about the problem and ask them to help fix it.

Cyberbullying is common. According to the Megan Meier Foundation, 59% of U.S teens are bullied or harassed online. Among kids who have been bullied, 64-75% say that it hurt their self esteem. Also, one out of four girls and one out of ten boys committed self harm over their bullying. It was also found that people who get cyberbullied are two times more likely to attempt suicide. This shows that cyberbullying is a serious problem that has big effects on the victims.

Secondly, the problem is serious and growing. Since people are forced to stay inside, 95% of teens use the internet. According to Cyberbullying.org, 21% of kids reported being cyberbullied in 2010. The same study showed that in 2019, 37% were bullied online. That shows that the problem has nearly doubled in 10 years.

Finally, most of the current solutions aren't working. But reporting the incident would make the cyberbullying percentage go down because most bullies would stop. The National Crime Prevention Council reported that only 1 out of 10 kids report their problem. This means that 9 out of 10 don't report their problem and instead suffer silently. Cyberbullying.org says that half of tweens who told a parent were able to stop the abuse. Also, 30% of tweens were able stop cyberbullying on their own by reporting it to the website or app, but almost 27% don't know how to report it. This shows that kids are afraid or unsure about how to fix the problem, so people should help tweens report cyberbullying.

In conclusion, cyberbullying is common and has serious effects on kids and teens. Victims that encounter cyberbullying and report it to a trusted adult can stop the problem. However, there is room to improve by helping kids feel comfortable asking for help. You can help stop cyberbullying by communicating with your child about online activities, and help them feel confident enough to report when they feel threatened.

Word Count: 430