CYBER BULLYING

Cyber bullying allows a level of anonymity. Children who would never say certain things in person can now make attacks or threats anonymously. A bully can more easily hide their identity or use an alias to trick their victims into thinking they are someone else.

Cyber bullying eliminates the safe haven of "home." Children used to be able to retreat to safety of their home to escape traditional bullying, but in the always-connected world of today that is not always the case. Physical walls cannot block text messages, instant messages, social networks, emails and other forms of instantaneous communication. The constant barrage of attacks can greatly increase the stress on a victim of cyber bullying.

Cyber bullying attacks can have a greatly magnified audience and a permanent impact. With the click of a button, embarrassing images, sensitive information, or even misinformation can be sent to hundreds, thousands, even millions of people. This greatly increases the potential damage one instance of cyber bullying can have. Once something is made public on the Internet it can be impossible to remove it, leaving a legacy of the event that can haunt an individual for years.