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MANAGING CYBER BULLYING IN VIRTUAL WORLDS FOR EDUCATION ONLINE

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ABSTRACT

Because of possible risks to a child's safety and well-being, online educational virtual worlds have promise that is presently not being realized. This article aims to better understand the behavioural and psychological problems that school students experience while they are online, especially in relation to cyber-bullying, and what remedies are presently available. We offer suggestions based on our knowledge of how cyber bullying should be handled in educational virtual environments, using a hybrid approach that includes policy, technology, and non-technology based remedies. Educational Virtual Worlds (VWs) on the internet have potential that is presently unrealized in our classrooms. Concerns about student safety and welfare have been cited by Education Departments and schools with whom we have talked. Surprisingly, virtual worlds are regarded as a means to establish secure and low-risk settings in other application areas.

KEYWORDS: Cyber-Bullying, Cyber-Victim, Educational Virtual Worlds, E Safety, Online Education.

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