

## Cell Phones and Youth Quick Statistics

- 97.9% of children surveyed have a cell phone<sup>1</sup>
- 47.4% use cell phone to access the internet<sup>1</sup>
- 61% report using cell phones for taking photos<sup>1</sup>
- 18% students in middle school report being cyber-bullied at least once in the previous months<sup>2</sup>
- 51% of preteens and 35% of teens tell their parents if they have been cyber-bullied<sup>2</sup>
- 44% of preteens and 72% of teens have told their friends about being cyber-bullied<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>”By cell phone – sure! Report on Children’s Cell Phone Use.”

<http://www.pelastakaalapset.fi/nettivilhje/english/Cell%20phone%20use%20Eng.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>”Cyberbullying.”

<http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/adult/indexAdult.asp?Area=cyberbullying>

## Learn More about Cyber- bullying

### Stop Bullying Now!

<http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/>

### ProtectKids.com:

<http://www.protectkids.com/>

### FBI Publication A Parent’s Guide to Internet Safety:

<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>

### Protecting Kids Online:

<http://www.center-school.org/pko/>

### National Center for Missing & Exploited Children:

<http://www.missingkids.com>

### Microsoft – Protect your family:

<http://www.microsoft.com/protect/family/default.aspx>

### Federal Trade Commission – How to Protect Kids’ Privacy Online:

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec08.shtm>

# Cell Phones and Youth



## Protecting Our Children

## What are cell phones used for?

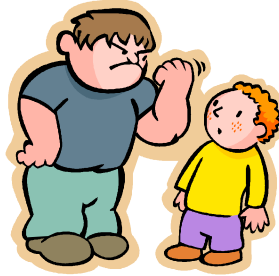
Cell phones are used for a variety of ways of communication.

Some of these uses include:

- Talking
- Text messaging
- Playing games
- Accessing the internet
- Taking photos
- Recording videos



## How can youth be targeted by bullying and/or predators through their cell phone?



Text messages can be sent to multiple phones in seconds

- o Messages can contain cruel comments or pictures/videos of individuals

Photos can be taken with or without a person's knowledge.

- o These photos can be instantly sent to other cell phones, email addresses, and posted on the internet.

## What can adults do to help protect children?

- o Teach your children about cyber-bullying – what it is and who to tell
- o Know to whom your children text and talk to on their cell phones
- o By receiving detailed cell phone bills, you can view all activity on your child's phone
- o If a child confides in you that he/she is made uncomfortable in any way, report the abuse
- o Educate yourself and others about cyber-bullying
- o Do not rely solely on child-protection software – this is a great tool, but does not fully protect them
- o Ask your children about how they use their phone – they can teach you a lot