Pull the plug on cyberbullying!!

cyber bullies

What are Developmental Assets:

Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets are concrete, common sense, positive experiences and qualities essential to raising successful young people. These assets have the power during critical adolescent years to influence choices young people make and help them become caring, responsible adults.

The more assets young people have, the greater their academic achievement and the less likely they are to engage in risky behaviors. This holds true for young people of all racial, economic and geographic subgroups.

For more information on Developmental Assets visit www.middletownyouthservices.org ,

www.middletownyouthservices.blogspot.com ,

or www.search-institute.org.

RESOURCES:

Cyberbullying.us provides cyberbullying research, fact sheets, tips and strategies, news headlines, a blog, and a number of other helpful resources on their comprehensive website.

stopcyberbullying.org info about why some people cyberbully, and how to stop yourself from cyberbullying.

www.wiredsafety.com info about what to do if you are cyberbullied.

www.stopbullyingnow.com has info about what you can do to stop bullying.

Contact:
Middletown Youth Services Bureau
Melissa Robinson, MSW
1 Wilderman's Way
Middletown, CT 06457
(860)347-8594x4542

DEVELOPED BY:

Youth 4
Change

Youth 4 Change

TECHNOLOGY: THE BULLY'S NEW PLAYGROUND

CYBERBULLYING

Middletown Youth Services Bureau
1 Wilderman's Way
Middletown, CT 06457

860-347-8594

Youth 4 Change is a group of young people who are determined to make positive changes in our community.

This brochure was put together as part of the "2010 Developmental Assets Youth Leadership Program." The program was facilitated by the Middletown Youth Services Bureau and was based on the curriculum "Participatory Action Research" curriculum.

During the six week program, six Middletown students learned research skills and put those skills into action by researching issues surrounding cyberbullying.

For more information on this project please visit the Middletown Youth Services Bureau at www.middletownyouthservices.org

WHAT IS CYBERBULLYING?

A means of indirect aggression in which peers use electronics to taunt, harass, insult, threaten, and/or intimidate a peer.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH OUR YOUTH??

♦ 42% of youth have been cyberbullied.

♦ 48% of 16-17 year olds report that their parents know very little or nothing about their online activities.

♦ Females are twice as likely to be cyberbullied when compared to males.

(statistics gathered from the National Crime Prevention Council)

SOME EXAMPLES OF CYBERBULLYING

♦ Sending mean or threatening emails, instant messages, or text messages
♦ Blocking someone's email for no reason
♦ Tricking someone into revealing personal or embarrassing information and sending to others
♦ Breaking into someone's email or instant message account to send cruel or untrue messages while posing as that person
♦ Creating websites to make fun of another person such as a classmate or teacher or
♦ Using websites to rate peers as prettiest, ugliest, etc.

YOUTH PREVENTION:

♦ Don't pass along cyberbullying messages and block communication with them

♦ Report cyberbullying to a trusted adult

♦ Don't forget that even though you can't see a cyberbully or the victim, it causes real problems. Delete cyberbullying. Don't write it. Don't forward it.

PARENT PREVENTION

♦ Keep your home computer in an open area.

♦ Make sure they don't include any personal information in their online profiles.

♦ Discuss cyberbullying with your kids and talk to them about how to handle cyberbullying if they are faced with it

♦ Don't be judgmental: the main reason kids don't tell adults when they are cyberbullied is fear of losing technology privileges.

♦ Consider not letting your kids have social networking accounts.

♦ Never assume your kid is not bullying.