

## **ABC's of Cyber Bullying for Students** by Patti Agatston, Ph.D

- A** *Avoid* posting or sending mean comments toward others online.
- B** *Block* the senders who repeatedly send nasty comments or messages to you.
- C** *Clarify* the intent of a message that bothers you.  
Maybe the sender was just joking.
- D** *Delete* mean messages or comments, but be sure to save the evidence should the cyber bullying continue.
- E** *Encourage* your friends to post positive comments and messages online.
- F** *Forward* abusive messages to the internet service provider so that it can warn the abuser.
- G** *Generate* a positive cyber atmosphere by avoiding disrespectful treatment of others.
- H** *Help* others who are targeted by posting positive or encouraging messages.
- I** *Invite* a classmate who has been targeted online to participate in an activity with you.
- J** *Join* with others to stamp out cyber bullying by addressing it in student leadership groups.
- K** *Keep* a record or log of cyber bullying incidents to assist you in reporting the incidents.
- L** *Limit* the "friends" on your social networking sites or buddy lists to people you know in the real world.
- M** *Make* a public service announcement or start a campaign in your school to prevent cyber bullying.
- N** *Name* aggressive, mean, online behavior as cyber bullying when you see it. It is not just "playing around."
- O** *Open* your eyes to bullying incidents everywhere.
- P** *Protect* yourself by using the privacy features on social networking sites.
- Q** *Quickly* report cyber bullying that includes threats of violence or self-harm, sexual exploitation, or harassment. Report to a trusted adult or the police.
- R** *Respect* others in the real world and the digital world.
- S** *Support* targets of bullying online and in the real world through words of support and offers of help.
- T** *Tell* an adult at home and at school if you or your classmates are being cyber bullied.
- U** *Understand* how words can be weapons and choose yours wisely.
- V** *Verify* with the sender that it is okay before you forward their message to others.
- W** *Write* an article for the school newspaper about cyber bullying to educate other students about this problem.
- X** *"X" amine* your own behavior online. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Y** *Yelling* online is viewed as rude. Avoid typing in all caps.
- Z** *Zip* your lips and your keyboard when it comes to gossip and rumors!

<http://www.cyberbullyhelp.com>