

SUBMISSION No. 142

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12 April 2011

Hello. I have just completed a survey about privacy and cyber bullying online. I have a fb account. I think the problem is caused by people's homelife, and because they are bored. I think that in alot of ways, authorities are over-the-top when it comes to privacy and filtering. fb is a great tool when used properly. i think the thing that we can address is how people RESPOND to bullying. it is much easier to ignore it and to delete that person from your fb, than to respond and get in a fight, but it seems that too often people chose to respond and get themselves into a mess. the bully wants a reaction so bullying would decrease if people didn't respond. other things people need to know about is not to add strangers onto their fb. ALL my friends i know of have added 100+ strangers. also not to 'meet' people online. if something serious happens, people should not be too embarrassed to go straight to their parents or teachers or in some cases police.

the main purpose of my email is to express my concern that fb and other similar sites will be too restrictive, and they wont be able to be enjoyed as much. atm they are great the way they are. it's kind of like how when i was little there were heaps of monkey-bars around, but now they are hard to find. i guess this is because kids started hurting themselves and people sued. this means that they can't be enjoyed anymore.

i think parents immediate reaction is to protect their child and blame fb when something happens. but i know for example some1 got pushed off a bridge because she met up with some1 she was talking to on fb. she didn't even know the person. but it was stupid to add a stranger onto her account anyway, it's obvious people aren't who they say they are. this type of thing is easy to avoid if you have common sense. her mum reccomended that kids don't even put their photo on their account?! so i almost wasn't allowed to even have my real name there?! i just don't want fb to be something that is a pain to use, rather than the great thing that it is now. might i suggest that the site is edited a little. rather than making it so easy to add some1, saying 'confirm' or 'ignore', say something like 'i know this person' and 'i don't know this person'. personally i think most kids already have enough education and common sense, but i am from a small circle of people so it could be different elsewhere.

please let social networking live! thanks:]