

SUBMISSION No. 126

Hello, my name is Rachel. I am 14, going on 15 in a few months.

I just took the cyber safety survey and thought i would email you to give you some feedback on it and tell you a bit about my experience and opinions about the situation.

Firstly, i thought the survey was a great idea! in fact, i found out about it through my school. i was really impressed and pleased that they had made the information for this survey available to us students.

Now onto the matter at hand...

cyber safety, as you very well know, is a big thing! it isnt to be taken lightly, not anymore anyway. being bullied in one way or another, whether it be threatened, teased, embarrassed...it happens ALL of the time. it is just as common, if not more, as sending someone, maybe a friend or whoever, a compliment online. last year we had a police officer and someone else (i cant remember who) come to our school and discuss with my year all about cyber safety. i found this incredibly beneficial and it really got me thinking about how i act online. unfortunately it didnt get through to my peers to the same extent. in my opinion, going to the parents about this issue, well, its a good idea, but its not going to work as it should. going to teachers about this issue, well, same as going to parents. somehow, someday, every single teenager needs to be gotten through to. i dont know how this would work, but its the only way to stop problems such as cyber bullying. its that or just take every teenager off the internet, but thats never going to happen is it?

parents definitely do need some insight into what their child or children are doing on the internet and teachers should also be aware of what goes on. but they cant really stop or change things like they should, there are many ignorant parents out there. i would know as my dad is one of them. im not saying i act irresponsibly on the internet, because i dont, im not that....immature. but MANY people do the wrong thing on a regular basis.

as i said before, i found this survey to be, well, wonderful!!! what you need to be doing, the government, people in authority, i dont know....but what they need to do is come to us teens and just ask us the best way to get through to us. asking other adults isnt very smart because what they were taught or told and their ideas are probably quite different to a teenagers. i know this email is incredibly informal. i am not the best when it comes to my writing (or in this case, typing) skills, and so i am sorry.

i do hope this survey idea goes to plan, and that this email was of some use.