CYBERBULLYING AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Schools have been facing huge problems about bullying today. It has been a problem ever since but that at this age, the nature and violence of the consequences seem to be more surmounting than ever before. This is one reason why the Department of Education has to finally come up with the DepEd Child Protection Policy. The policy talks about sanctions to be done to teachers and students who commit violence or bullying to a student.

Today, besides the traditional bullying we are all aware of such as physical and verbal abuse happening in schools, another form of bullying that is very alarming is cyberbullying. Cyberbullying happens in many ways such as the following:

1. Posting/liking/sharing social media status that says bad words about a person.
2. Posting/liking/sharing photos or videos that humiliate other persons.
3. Chatting with a person and verbally abusing him/her via the chat conversation.
4. Playing video games online and bullying the other players.

The above mentioned are just some forms of cyberbullying. There are still many others. Worse, for situations where online gamers have been committing violence against one another, the problem seem to be getting worse especially for students. One recent crime was that committed in Bulacan where a student was mobbed to death only because of an online game. Psychologists say that violent online games have adverse influence to the psyche of young people.

In this case, the call for stronger advocacies against cyberbullying should be given prompt attention so that this problem will be faced and given appropriate solutions as well. Teachers, as well as parents, should continue to guide and counsel the young ones of the proper utilization of the internet and all the online activities they engage in especially social media and gaming. Everyone should be responsible enough to use this medium in the right way to prevent and avoid further violence and bullying committed in the cyber world. Be mindful of how children and
teenagers are using the internet and be sensitive when they seem to be getting way out of control in using it.

References:

