

Article Review on Self-control and Cyber Bullying Among Sports Fans

Link to Article

<https://www.cybercrimejournal.com/pdf/Shadmanfaatetalvol13issue1IJCC2018.pdf>

BLUF:

Research indicated that the causes of cyber bullying are related to lack of self-control, bad parenting, and association with peers. This research utilizes various surveys and psychological scales to correlate to the results. The results indicate that lack of self-control is a prime factor in cyber bullying. This research also pertains to principles of social sciences in determinism, skepticism, and objectivity. By understanding this research, rates of cyber bullying can be reduced, and more positive human behaviors can be facilitated.

Principles of Social Science

Cyber security and the social sciences play a role in understanding how psychological effect of lowered self-control and outside influences leads to increased offending of cyber bullying. The three principles associated with the topic of sports fans' lack of self-control and external influence leading to cyber bullying relates to the principles of objectivity, skepticism, and determinism. It is crucial that all scientific studies are conducted with an unbiased opinion. This is because the research done to determine the rate at which cyber bullying is committed focuses on a multitude of variables such as ethnic background and team favoritism.

Another key principle of social sciences linked with the topic of sports fans' self-control causing cyber bullying is skepticism. Skepticism relies on confrontation and questioning of research. "For instance, the majority of data gathered on what ethnic groups are subjected to more offending and victimization of cyber bullying are primarily conducted in the United States." (Shadmanfaat, 2019) Skepticism focuses on the errors of the data the research was based on. In this case the skepticism focused on the geographic location the testing was conducted in.

The final principle of the social sciences displayed in the topic is determinism. Determinism defines human behavior based on events an individual experiences. One of the key points in this article is to identify the cause of cyber bullying based on differential association. Differential association is a cause and effect from events that play role in

human behavior. Determinism and differential association are similarly described and are closely associated with prior events causing human behavior.

Research Question, Hypothesis, and Variables

The research questions that were used are questions directed towards the effects of lowered self-control, bad parenting, and differential association with peers. The questions were asked to determine the consensus among rivaled sports fans on whether cyber bullying is the result of self-control, bad parenting, and differential association with peers. To determine the consensus of rivaled sports fans on whether low self-control influences cyber bullying the question asked was, "Does self-control influence an individual's decision to cyber bully rivals?" (Shadmanfaat, 2019). The questions asked for each of the categories were arranged in that format, direct and simple yes or no questions.

This research hypothesizes that lower self-control will result in offending cyber bullying. Additionally, the article hypothesizes that influence from troubled peers has direct impact on cyber bullying. Moreover, poor parenting will cause less self-control. Lastly, examining the effects of self-control and differential association will result in more effective predictors of cyber bullying.

The independent variables of this scientific investigation are self-control, bad parenting, and differential association. These variables were suspected to be a cause in the cyber bullying of sport rivals. The dependent variable is the potential for cyber bullying towards rival sport fans. The dependent variable will be determined based on how the independent variable affects it. Assessment of these variables will determine if the

hypothesis on the cause of cyber bullying among sport fans being self-control, bad parenting, and differential association holds true and becomes theory.

Research Methods, Data, and Analysis

Surveys were distributed throughout Iranian Persian universities to gain systematic data on rival sports fans. The surveys distributed contained questions used for the research question to gain information on whether self-control, bad parenting, and differential association had any influence on rival fans cyber bullying. Not only does the survey provide answers to the research questions, but on demographics, such as gender and age. The data provided from the survey will be used to determine if self-control, bad parenting, and differential association have a role in promoting cyber bullying.

To gain further knowledge on the effects of an individual's lack of self-control, bad parenting, and differential association, a scale was used to measure the extent of these variables. The scale used to determine self-control in individuals is a low self-control scale developed by Grasmick and associates. This scale measures different personality traits in a range from agree to disagree. A similarly constructed scale was used to assess the effects of bad parenting on an individual's likelihood of offending. Lastly, the differential association scale measures the actions of an individual based on the actions their peers are likely to commit. The rate at which cyber bullying is conducted among the surveyed individuals is also determined based on a scale. The scale ranges from how frequently cyber bullying is committed by the sport fans.

Analyzing the data relied on the relationship between the variables and how they relate to increased cyber bullying. A mediated analysis was made to determine which factors directly boost the rate of cyber bullying. The results for the analysis show that lack

of self-control has a significant impact on cyber bullying and that bad parenting, and differential association, cause the lowering of self-control; thus, having a significant indirect impact that causes cyber bullying.

Four Concepts Related to Social Science

The four concepts of social science that relate to this article are research methods, Behavioral theory, psychodynamic theory, and cyber offending. The research methods were a key factor in this article studying the cause of cyber bullying through the survey research method. Behavioral theory is another concept that relates to this article because it supports the claims of differential association being a factor in cyber bullying. “This is because behavioral theory suggests that behavior is learned from interactions with outside forces, like peers.” (Cherry, 2025) Psychodynamic is another theory that reinforces the hypothesis that bad parenting is a cause for cyber bullying. “Early events of such as parental abuse, lack of correction, and not monitoring children can cause negative human behaviors.”(Shadmanfaat, 2019). Cyber offending, another concept, is caused by innate character traits. So, when someone offends cyberbullying a likely cause is a lack of self-control. Another key character trait that is inferred to impact cyberbullying.

Social Challenges

Marginalized groups that are affected from this research are primarily affect the demographic of individuals without parents and increase judgment among middle eastern individuals. This is because the research excludes orphans, individuals without parents, implying individuals who have lost their parents are deemed a threat to society. This is

because the research from the article concludes that lack of parental control is catalyst of cyberbullying. Another social group that this research affects are middle eastern individuals. This is because the surveys of this research were conducted in an isolated non-diverse setting. Which only sought the answers from students in Iran and Persia. Without further research middle eastern individuals will be deemed offenders of cyber bullying.

Societal Impact

Understanding factors that might contribute to cyber offending can greatly reduce cyber bullying and enforce positive behaviors within the sporting community. According to Wenli and associates, “self-control is directly proportional to parental behaviors such as abuse and neglect.” (WenLi et al., 2025). Understanding that the human trait of self-control can be negatively affected by poor parenting will cause parents to be more attentive to their children and use corrective disciplinary actions. Lastly, this article serves the purpose of mitigating sporting violence online. Cyberbullying has caused victimization of fans across the world and understanding how it originates will enforce better treatments for self-control.

Sources

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