Book title:

Cyberbullying across the globe: gender, family and mental health.

Chapter title:

Family relationships and cyberbullying

Authors: Sofía Buelga¹, Belén Martínez-Ferrer², Gonzalo Musitu²

1 University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

2 University of Pablo de Olavide. Seville, Spain

Abstract

This chapter analyzes the relations between family and cyberbullying, a type of technological harassment among peers which is of growing concern in the scientific community, and also in today's society. First, this chapter describes the associated family functioning dimensions as predictor factors of cyberbullying, particularly the family climate (cohesion, expressivity and conflict) and parents-children communication. It also examines the role of parental socialization styles and their continuity with parental styles on the Internet: authoritarian style, laissez-faire, permissive and authoritative. One section in this chapter describes parental styles of parental monitoring of online use, and the various types of parental mediation strategies used by parents to control their children's cybernetic conduct. This chapter ends with a section on preventing cyberbullying in the family itself. It concludes that parents-children communication is a dimension that helps create a positive family climate in which to implement emotionally suitable socialization styles and, in short, to prevent risk conducts in children.

Keywords: Family relationships, Family Climate, Family communication, Parental styles, Cyberbullying, Adolescence.