

Dear Congressman Hastings,

Recently an article from the New York Post, “Twisted Bullies’ Web of Violence”, copied below, brought to light a very sad wave of events beginning to occur in the United States. This type of violence called “cyberbashing” already has a hold in the UK with escalating internet violence beginning to happen all over the world. The lawsuits are beginning to fly.

The preamble to our Constitution says, “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, **establish justice, insure domestic tranquility**, provide for the common defense, **promote the general welfare**, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.” If vulnerable young citizens receive no justice, no tranquility, and their general welfare is taken from them by internet violence, who will protect them, unless adults in authority, such as you, come to their aide.

I believe it is time to initiate a law to protect victims of online bullying. State Legislatures cannot handle internet laws. These online bullies, cyberbullies via cyberbashing, not only brutalize their victim once on a playground or street, but also victimize their victim twice by posting their assaults and illegal activities online. Then the victims are bullied repeatedly as thousands of others make, sometimes-obscene comments, about the video and assaults. To make matters worse, anyone, from anywhere in the world can view these videos. **It is an international shame and an international embarrassment.**

Websites and Organizations such as, i-Safe.org, WiredSafety.org, BullyPolice.org (Bully Police USA), Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, etc., are calling for restraint on the websites allowing this human garbage on the internet. When YouTube.com and other websites allow crimes against kids, be it bullying or assault, to be shown on their websites in the name of entertainment under the guise of Free Speech (for bullies only), the people of this country suffer another denigrating evolution towards societal breakdown. What will come next? Will video rapes be the next internet craze?

I believe both Democrats and Republicans can come together to make a law that will make parents, victims of bullying, society, law enforcement and even website owners happy. No one wants a lawsuit and when a law is applied to protect victims, laws benefit those who may not knowingly encourage victimization. I do not believe YouTube.com (now owned by Google), likes this type of video violence on their site – give them a law and they can enforce it on their users with the force of law.

For any further information about bullying, cyberbullying or any bullying topic, please email me at Brenda@jaredstory.com. I would enjoy helping to write this law in some way as I and my volunteers have helped state lawmakers write passing anti bullying laws in several states during the last few years.

Sincerely,

Brenda L High
www.jaredstory.com (Jared’s mom)
www.bullypolice.org (Founder, Co-Director)
509-547-1052
Cell 509-302-8888

TWISTED BULLIES' WEB OF VIOLENCE



How it works

- School bullies beat up a fellow student while being videotaped.
- The image is then posted on the internet.
- It solicits comments and exacerbates the



- It solicits comments and exacerbates the victim's humiliation.
- **First appeared:** 2003 in Great Britain; 2005 in the United States.
- **Lehman HS beating (left):** Viewed **11,894 times**
- **B'klyn Tech beating (below):** Viewed **1,000 times**

Online beating vids a kid fave

EXCLUSIVE

By PHILIP RECCHIA
 The brutal handiwork of schoolyard bullies is becoming a popular form of online entertainment among Big Apple kids.

freshman of Middle Eastern descent as he emerges from the Tremont East diner across the street. They then shove him against a brick wall while he cowers from their blows. At least two other



EXCLUSIVE

By PHILIP RECCHIA

The brutal handiwork of schoolyard bullies is becoming a popular form of online entertainment among Big Apple kids.

Not-so-amateur videos posted on Internet sites like YouTube.com show teenage students being beaten down while their classmates look on with more amusement than concern.

This disturbing phenomenon, known as "cyberbashing," began in Great Britain around 2003, and has only migrated to the U.S. in the past year, where it's spreading like wildfire, says Parry Aftab, executive director of Internet watchdog group WiredSafety.org.

In one locally produced video, a mob of pupils from Lehman High School in the Bronx punches and kicks a

freshman of Middle Eastern descent as he emerges from the Tremont East diner across the street.

They then shove him against a brick wall while he cowers from their blows. At least two other students, meanwhile, scramble to capture the twisted action on cell-phone cameras.

The final, edited product, which runs nearly three minutes, comes complete with a hip-hop soundtrack and opening title — "Mamood Had a Bad Day!"

A similar video shows one male student from Brooklyn Technical High School taunting another, significantly shorter boy into a bare-knuckles brawl. Then, as about 20 classmates look on, the bully knocks his "opponent" down before punching and kicking him repeatedly in the head.

That shocking spectacle, which was shot directly across the street in

Fort Greene Park, has generated nearly 1,000 viewings.

"The plain old schoolyard fight isn't enough for these bullies and their cohorts anymore," said Aftab. "They're looking for attention online, and to get it, their fight videos have to be more violent than the hundreds of others being posted each day around the world."

In the New York City metro area alone, The Post found a dozen more school beatings posted

online.

"Many of these videos are staged events, like mini reality shows," said Stephen Daley, founder of radKIDS, which teaches physical resistance to bullying. "Since they remain online for everyone to see, the chances of even more violent retaliation become infinitely greater."

Debra Shaw, director of the newly opened New York State Chapter of BullyPolice.org, which seeks to prevent bullying

through parental monitoring and legislation, says cyber-bashing is no mere case of boys being boys.

"What we're seeing are often criminal assaults," she told The Post. "If a parent beat his own kid the way these kids are beating their classmates, that parent would be arrested and the child taken by authorities."

Additional reporting by
Susannah Cahalan
philip.recchia@nydpost.com

