





## The role of education in combating online violence





Education is a powerful tool that is needed for one to develop and explore concepts that are more philosophical, theoretical or artistic in nature. Education also plays a pivotal role in combating online violence hence, the importance of acquiring education. Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to education regardless of race, sex, language or religion. It also highlights the importance of education as a fundamental human right, and calls for the equal access and opportunity to education for all. By teaching students about the dangers of cyberbullying, sexting and other forms of online abuse, we can empower them to make responsible decisions and to protect themselves and others. Education plays a crucial role in combating online violence by promoting digital literacy, raising awareness, fostering a culture or respect and empathy, only to mention but a few.



Digital literacy refers to the ability to effectively use digital technologies, including computers, the internet and other digital tools. It is a combination of both technical and cognitive abilities in using information and communication technologies to create, evaluate and share information. Education can equip individuals with the necessary skills to navigate the online world safely and responsibly. This includes understanding how to protect their privacy, recognizing and avoiding scams and cybercrime and understanding the legal and ethical implications of their online actions. By understanding how information spreads and recognizing potential risks, individuals are better prepared to identify and respond to online violence and without this education, people may be at risk of being victimized or exploited in the online world.

This highlights the critical need for education

in order to navigate the ever-changing digital landscape.



Education raises cybersecurity awareness which is important in combating online violence.

Cybersecurity awareness is the knowledge and understanding of the potential risks associated with using the internet and digital devices. It includes being aware of common cyber threats, such as phishing scams, malware, and ransomware, and knowing how to protect yourself from these threats. It also includes being familiar with best practices for keeping your devices and data safe, such as using strong passwords, backing up your data, and installing updates. By being aware of the potential

risks and taking steps to protect yourself, you can help keep your

data and devices safe.





Education can help individuals protect their personal information and devices, reducing the risk of becoming targets of online violence. By teaching about password security, phishing scams, and safe browsing habits, educational programs can empower people to protect themselves online. The knowledge and understanding of the risks associated with the use of technology is crucial in order to protect yourself and your data from potential threats





Education can play a powerful role in encouraging individuals to become active bystanders and intervene when they witness online violence. Bystanders are often the first to witness or become aware of a harmful situation, and they have the potential to intervene and make a difference. Training programs can teach students how to safely and effectively support the victim, report the incident, or engage in online discussions to counter hate speech and misinformation. When given the proper knowledge and tools, bystanders can be a source of support and protection for those who are being harmed. In addition, education can help to create a culture of accountability, where bystanders feel a responsibility to speak up and take action when they witness injustice.



It is important to note that combating online violence requires a multi-faceted approach involving education, legislation, technology, and community engagement. By prioritizing education and incorporating these strategies into curricula at various levels, we can contribute to a safer and more inclusive online environment.



## Safety n Us

Leading the way to end systematic violence and exploitation against children in the digital society.

+263713863914 help@safetynus.org www.safetynus.org