Cyberbullying Among Youths in Malaysia

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Abstract: Cyberbullying is a relatively new phenomenon that poses a serious problem, because anyone can become a victim of cyberbullying. Due to the special technical possibilities of social media, it can have long-term effects on the victims, especially on the well-being of young people. The aim of this study is to collect data on related topics such as demographic profiles, social media use, experiences of cyberbullying, attitudes towards cyberbullying and suggestions to curb cyberbullying in Malaysia. An online questionnaire survey was conducted with 50 respondents. The results show that bad things are done to the victims of cyberbullying, causing emotional disturbance and trauma to the victims. Rule utilitarianism and action utilitarianism are used in certain cases to solve the ethical problem of cyberbullying. Although there is no specific law against cyberbullying in Malaysia, there are certain laws such as the Computer Crimes Act 1997, the Communication and Multimedia Act 1998 and the Penal Code to combat cyberbullying. The solution has also been highlighted through awareness campaigns to prevent cyberbullying. For the concerned parties, developing concrete strategies to reduce cyberbullying among youths in Malaysia should be a major concern.

Keywords: Cyberbully, social media, Campaign, Computer Crime Act, Wellbeing

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Introduction

The word "bully" was used as early as the 1530s. bully is used to describe a person who is overly aggressive, the bully towards the victim. Bullying involves the use of physical, verbal or other forms of abuse to gain a sense of superiority and authority over the victim. Verbal and physical attacks as well as gossip and rumours are examples of bullying (Mishna et al., 2020).

It is widely recognised that bullying is the systematic and repeated use of aggression by peers (Burton et al., 2013) and is a purposeful act of aggression in which unequal power relations are exploited to inflict pain or gain material for social advantage (Frey et al., 2009). However, as technology has advanced, new forms of aggressive behaviour have emerged, such as cyberbullying. It is widely recognised that social media serves as a source of social acceptance and reinforcement due to its widespread use by people of all ages.

People can use this platform to communicate ideas, interact socially, build relationships, gain the attention of others and create a social image. Over-engagement in social media has become a "psychological imperative" to help people cope with the pandemic and satisfy their need for human interaction, as social distancing has become the new norm in the current global crisis of the COVID -19 outbreak (S. Singh et al., 2020). The pandemic and the new digital reality collided at the same time, forcing people to deal with both problems simultaneously.

Schools and businesses now use numerous online platforms to conduct business, so more and more people are present online without intending to be. This has led to an increase in cybercrime, including cyberbullying. While cyberbullying has been a common form of online harassment for some time, the pandemic is believed to be responsible for the increase in reported cases of cyberbullying. It has affected people's physical, psychological and emotional well-being (Barlett & Rinker Brendan Roth, n.d.) .

Consequently, many young people are already at risk of cyberbullying and will continue to be exposed to the need to use social media to carry out their daily activities in this pandemic. It is important to protect them from the dangers of cyberbullying. When it comes to protecting personal information, procedures should be put in place to ensure its privacy and security (Thseen, 2021) . Combating cyberbullying requires the use of appropriate technologies and pedagogical approaches. These proposals should also be revised as they apply to all cases of cyberbullying, not just those that occurred during the pandemic. Bullying prevention initiatives are becoming more effective as we know more about the causes of bullying and the specific strategies used by bullies. With the acceleration of technological progress, it will be more difficult than ever to develop effective prevention measures against cyberbullying

Identification Of Issue

Cyberbullying in Malaysia

According to (Ahmad Ghazali et al., 2020), there is a strong correlation between cyberbullying and factors such as age, loneliness, self-esteem and empathy, with male youths in Malaysia more likely to be involved in cyberbullying than females. In Penang, Malaysia, the prevalence of cyber victimisation and cyber perpetrators in the last month of cyberbullying experience is 31.6 per cent. However, the prevalence more than doubled when limited to experiences in the last three months (Ahmad Ghazali et al., 2020). These findings show how serious cyberbullying is in Malaysia. Due to the combination of leisure and domestic pressures, the introduction of MCO has inadvertently increased these symptoms (Basir et al., 2020). According to Datuk Dr Amirudin Abdul Wahab, Chief Executive Officer of Cyber Security Malaysia (CSM), society needs to be more sensitive and prepared to deal with the growing problem of cyberbullying, which causes more harm than physical bullying.

According to the Malaysian Institute for Youth Development Research, cyberbullying increased by an incredible 55.6% in 2013 alone. It is believed that 389 cases of cyberbullying occurred among teenagers, with an average of 62.3% of victims having been cyberbullied, while the remaining 37.7% had never been cyberbullied.

In addition, since the introduction of MCO, many teenagers aged 15-25 have spent their study time at home and used the internet for educational purposes. In addition, young people need a break from scrolling through social media platforms such as Tiktok, Instagram and Twitter. However, these youths are vulnerable to cyberbullying as the internet is a borderless space. If left untreated, cyberbullying can have a variety of negative consequences for individuals. Therefore, this study examines the problem of cyberbullying among children, the variables that contribute to it and the measures that can be taken against it.

Types of cyberbullying

Numerous studies have been conducted to gain a better understanding of the issue, and several of them have divided the broad term "cyberbullying" into specific types.

According (Kapersky, 2021; Nambiar P, 2020; Securly, 2021). The categories are highlighted below:

- Exclusion: an intentional act of excluding a person.

- Harassment: Persistent pattern of unpleasant or threatening online messages intended to cause harm to another person.

- Outing: Public disclosure of sensitive or intimate information about another person without their consent in order to dishonour or humiliate them.

- Trickery: The gesture of (unknowingly) enticing someone to reveal or publish their personal

information.

•   Cyberstalking: The use of the internet or other virtual methods to deliberately harass and threaten a victim, which may occasionally be accompanied by physical stalking.

•   Fraping: When a victim of bullying uses your child's social media accounts to post inappropriate things on their behalf, this is called fraping. When friends share funny posts on each other's pages, it can be harmless, but it can also be very damaging. For example, a bully might use another person's profile to spread racist or misanthropic remarks, damaging their reputation.

•   Camouflage: A bully who knows the victim personally develops a fictitious internet presence or identity with the sole purpose of bullying another person. He may choose a new persona and images to deceive the victim.

•   Dissing: Actions of a bully who knows the victim and reveals compromising information about the target in public posts or private discussions to destroy their reputation or damage their relationships with others.

•   Trolling: The bully attempts to deliberately upset others through inflammatory comments on social media.

•   Flaming: Directly posting or sending insults and obscenities to the victim to provoke them into an online confrontation.

Hate comments

Hate speech is any expression intended to insult, demean or incite hatred against a group or class of people because of their race, religion, colour, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic origin, disability or national origin. (Ward, 2021) This section describes the case of Thivyaanayagi Rajendran, a 20-year-old woman from Bukit Mertajam. It all started with a Tiktok video in which Thivyaanagi and a foreign colleague acted out a scenario from a Hindi song for entertainment purposes, which was perceived by online users as dating. The video was originally posted by one of her colleagues before it was re-uploaded by a Facebook user under the title "Joke Oruvan" with the Tamil caption "How did this girl fall in love with a Bangla. everyone will undoubtedly bless you". Over 300 comments criticised her for dating a foreigner. (Nambiar P, 2020) Her uncle, K Sathyaseelan, reported the incident to the police for further investigation. To put an end to the nasty comments,

Thivyaanagi's family wrote to the Facebook user asking him to delete the video. However, the user refused and demanded a video apology. On the same day, at around 9:30pm, Thivyaanagi's brother discovered her younger sister hanging in her bedroom. She committed suicide and wrote a note apologising for embarrassing her family. She stated that her actions were triggered by Joker Oruvan's behaviour. The poor young woman had been in a wonderful relationship with her partner for three years and was supposed to get married at the end of the year, but it never happened. Her family wanted justice for her death and called on the government to take the matter more seriously.

Sexting (harassment, outing)

Sexting is a form of cyberbullying that combines outing and trickery to obtain sexually explicit photos or videos of the victim. The perpetrators then disseminate and circulate the sensitive content. (M. M. Singh et al., 2017) This section discusses the case of a 22-year-old woman from Jempol, Negeri Sembilan. It begins with her meeting Mohamad Fazrul Mohd Fuzi, a 26-year-old man from Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan. To demonstrate their love for each other, the two exchange sexual photos of each other. On one occasion, the 22-year-old woman expressed her desire to end their relationship. Mohd Fazrul was furious and refused to accept the reality. He then threatened to spread private pictures and videos of his ex-girlfriend via WhatsApp if she did not get back to him. Raya Muhammad Amirul Noor Hashimi, Deputy Public Prosecutor, took the matter to court and Mohd Fazrul was fined RM3,500 after he pleaded guilty. (A. H. A Manap, 2021) From this incident, we can conclude that sexting can lead to harassment and cyberbullying.

Hack

According to an Ipsos survey on global problems predicted for 2020, 51% of Malaysians said it was likely that their personal online accounts would be hacked in that year. (R. Hirschmann, 2023) The case discussed in this section is that of Keem Ooi, a self-taught baker who impressed her fans on social media with her innovative cakes and pastries. (T. A Yusof, 2020) Faced with her sudden fame, Ooi asked for a 'blue tick' on Instagram to verify her account. One day, she received a direct message (DM) in her inbox that appeared to be from Instagram asking her to click on a link to verify her email address and confirm the verification process. Thinking it was nothing out of the ordinary, Ooi followed the instructions. After noticing an unexpected login to Turkey, the hacker deleted all photos on @keempossible. As a result of this incident, Ooi lost her six-year-old account and was forced to create a new one.

Cyberstalking

Cyberstalking is a particularly serious form of cyberbullying as it can include threats of physical harm to the target. It can involve surveillance, false accusations and threats and is often associated with offline stalking. It is a criminal offence and the perpetrator may face a restraining order, a suspended sentence or even imprisonment. (Securly, 2021) This section is about the modesty of former Miss Universe Malaysia Sabrina Beneett. The former beauty queen's ill-treatment came to light when she suddenly broke her silence on social media, stating that she had been subjected to years of persistent harassment, threats and stalking by the perpetrator.

The 31-year-old psychology and communications student said the perpetrator followed her activities and used many fictitious social media accounts to harass her, even threatening to "destroy" her. She stated that the harasser identified the places he saw her and even identified the friends she was with and the clothes she was wearing, although she made an effort not to post her whereabouts on social media when she was out and about. She said the offender used many fictional personalities to leave filthy obscenities and violent language on her

social media pages, including mocking her modesty. Under Section 509 of the Penal Code, anyone who knowingly insults the shame of a woman by words, sounds, gestures or the display of an object is liable to imprisonment for up to five years or a fine of up to $5,000, or both. As a result, a 33-year-old unemployed man was convicted by the Magistrate's Court after pleading guilty and paying a RM1,200 fine on the spot at the Jalan Duta Magistrate's Court (Thasha Jayamanogaran, 2021).

Impact of cyberbullying

Abusive behaviour among young people is an ongoing problem that can cause physical and psychological harm to those involved. The impact of cyberbullying on victims is more severe than traditional bullying because cyberbullying can take place around the clock and information can be disseminated more quickly to a larger population through social media. Bullying can have devastating consequences that vary from person to person, as the threshold for different types of bullying, the intensity and frequency depends on the individual.

Eating disorders and sleep disorders are classified as physical effects of cyberbullying. An eating disorder is when a person experiences serious disturbances in eating behaviour, such as skipping meals or binge eating, or when they worry about their body shape and weight. Cyberbullying can increase the risk of bulimia nervosa and anorexia nervosa by increasing the likelihood of dieting and dysfunctional weight control practises to cope with body dissatisfaction and low self-esteem (J. H. Marco, 2018). Cyberbullying can disrupt a person's sleep patterns. Adolescents who were victims of cyberbullying also reported more overall sleep problems, excessive sleep, insomnia, inadequate sleep and parasomnias (Rzewnicki et al., 2020) .

In addition, depression and anxiety, low self-esteem, and suicidal thoughts and self-harm are classified as psychological effects of cyberbullying. Victims of cyberbullying may develop depression, anxiety and other stress-related disorders. The added stress of dealing with cyberbullying on a regular basis can rob them of their happiness and satisfaction. According to one study, 93% of cyberbullying victims showed severe effects, with most victims expressing sadness, hopelessness and powerlessness (Nixon, 2014).

Furthermore, cyberbullying often focuses on what already makes victims vulnerable. Victims of bullying may develop a strong dissatisfaction with themselves. This can lead them to begin to doubt their worth. Researchers suggest that cyberbullying can lead to psychological maladjustment and low self-esteem because young people have a strong psychological need to belong and be accepted by their peers.

Targets of cyberbullying may hurt themselves in some way because of their overwhelming feelings. For example, some people hurt themselves by cutting or burning themselves. In fact, studies have consistently found a link between bullying and self-harm. Suicide is also encouraged by cyberbullying. Young people who are regularly bullied by their peers through instant messaging, texting, apps or social media may believe that the only way to relieve the pain is to end their lives.

Target Community and Context of Study

In addition to the fact-finding, a self-administered online questionnaire via Google Forms was used to collect young people's perceptions of cyberbullying. The link to the questionnaire was shared in WhatsApp groups and on Instagram. This approach enabled the collection of relevant data in a relatively short time and proved practical as the students had access to the young people's age groups. It took about five days to collect all the relevant information.

Participants

A quantitative survey was chosen to collect data on cyberbullying among adolescents. The 50 respondents were 70% female and 30% male. The target groups for data collection on cyberbullying in Malaysia are youths aged 15 to 24 years. About 64% of them fall into the 22-24 age group. The majority of the respondents (58%) have a Bachelor's degree. Moreover, the majority of the respondents are Malays (96%). According to the findings, 68% of the respondents are active users of social media and their daily internet usage ranges from 9 to 18 hours.

Those who are considered victims of cyberbullying and have experienced bullying others online are also our target group. In addition, to protect the anonymity of the respondents, only some personal variables such as gender and age were collected.

Measures

Sections A and B began with demographic information such as gender, age, highest educational attainment, race and religion. This section also asked about frequency of internet use in hours and whether or not they were active social media users.

Sections C and D collected information about respondents' experiences as a bully, victim and/or bystander. The survey began by asking respondents if they had ever been bullied in their lives, bullied someone or witnessed a bullying situation (dichotomous; yes or no). If the question was answered in the affirmative, the respondent had to answer a series of questions. For example, if the question about cyber victimisation is answered in the affirmative. In this case, the following questions are asked: "frequency of cyberbullying", "perpetrator of cyberbullying", "type of cyberbullying experienced", "cyberbullying platform", "measures against cyberbullying" and "impact of cyberbullying". If cyberbullying is answered yes, the following questions are asked: "Reason for participating in cyberbullying" and "Form of cyberbullying".

Sections E and F captured respondents' perspectives on cyberbullying, bullies and victims. Respondents were given response options on five Likert scales ranging from 0 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Section G began with the question on measures to curb cyberbullying in Malaysia. This section contained multiple choice

answers where more than one answer could be selected. Finally, the question asked for further suggestions, if any.

Issue Analysis and Critical Thinking

Most popular platform used for cyberbully

It is common for young people to use online social networking sites (SNS) to socialise. These sites make up a large part of their daily internet use (Campbell, 2012) . Another aspect is that social networks make it easier for cyberbullies to target their victims. The figure above shows the result of the most popular platform for cyberbullying. Instagram (52.4%) has the highest percentage. Twenty-two out of 42 respondents have experienced being bullied on Instagram. Twitter is also the most popular platform among respondents with 45.2%. These platforms are a good place for people to socialise and have fun. However, people still get hurt and most victims do not know who did it or who did it to them (Johnson et al., 2016).
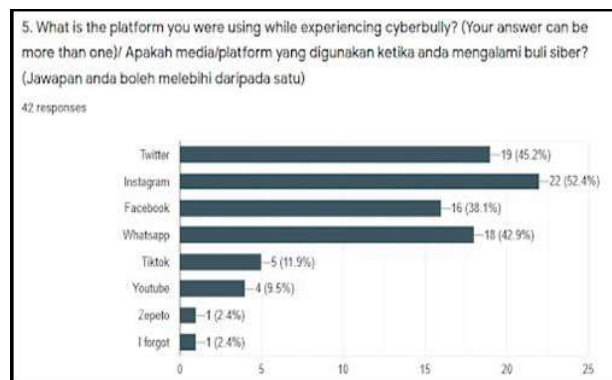

Figure 1. Platform distribution of respondents.
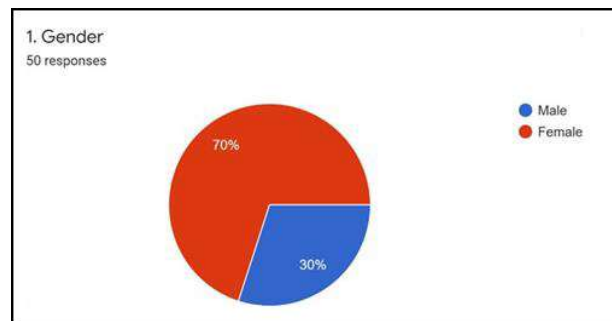
Gender of respondents

Figure 2. Gender distribution of respondents.

Figure 2 summarises the demographic characteristics of the respondents by gender; the results show that 35 (70%) of the respondents were female and 15 (30%) were male. This indicates that a larger proportion of female

than male youth participated in the study. It also means that there are more female adolescents than male adolescents.
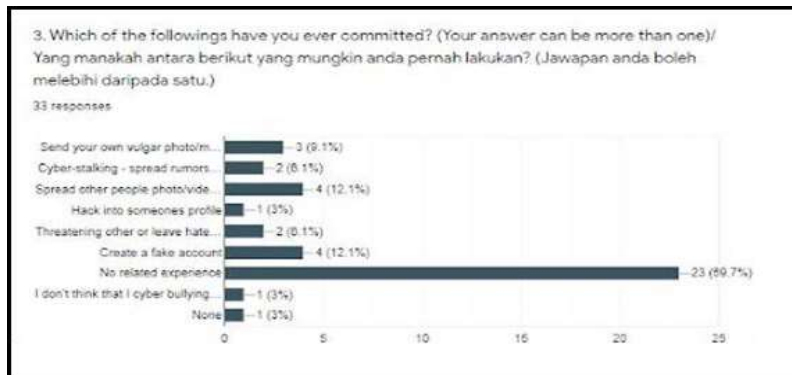
Cyberbully activities

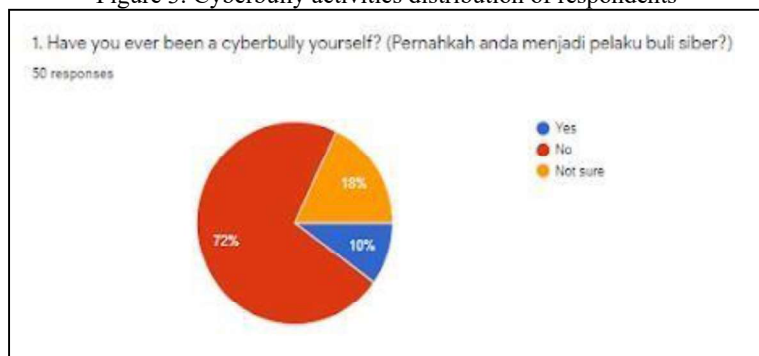Figure 3. Cyberbully activities distribution of respondents

Figure 4. Cyberbully distribution of respondents

Figure 3 shows the survey results on cyberbullying committed by the cyberbullies of 33 respondents. 23 out of 33 respondents have not had any experience in this regard. When asked if they had ever been bullied, 36 of the 50 respondents answered that they had never been bullied (see Figure 4). It could be that 23 of the respondents have never bullied anyone, are victims of cyberbullying or observers; therefore they have no experience in this regard.

Impacts of cyberbully on individual

Due to societal pressures and the prevalence of sexually explicit content among women, the consequences of cyberbullying are particularly severe for women (Wachs et al., 2021) . Figure 5 shows the result of the survey on the impact of cyberbullying among 43 respondents who have been bullied once. It can be seen that 81.4 %, i.e. 35 out of 43 respondents, feel insecure and sensitive towards their environment after being bullied. 39.5% of the respondents feel anxious when they receive messages or emails. As (Thseen, 2021) notes, experiences of cyberbullying can cause lower self-esteem, discomfort and sadness, social anxiety, loneliness and depression.
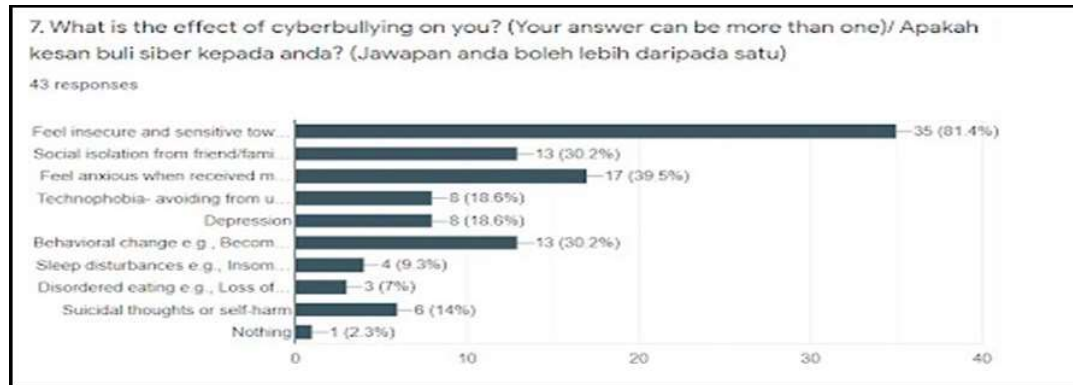
Figure 5. Impacts of cyberbully distribution of respondents

Islamic Pespectives

In Islam, Allah, the Exalted, has said that Islam does not restrict its people to being good only to each other, but even protects all, irrespective of race, culture and religion, including the creatures of the universe, as mentioned in Surah Al-Mumtahanah, verse 8. People who perform good deeds in their lives are loved by Allah, the Exalted, and are rewarded. The present generation shows that it does not practise the teachings of Prophet Muhammad SAW regarding morality and good deeds. It is obliged to show and practise the good personality of Prophet Muhammad SAW without trying to act with a contrary practise just for the sake of other interests and benefits.

"Allah does not forbid you from dealing justly and kindly with those who did not fight against you in the matter of religion nor drove you out of your land. Surely Allah loves the doers of justice (those who deal with equity)." (Surah al- Mumtahanah, verse 8).

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "Anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should not harm his neighbor, and anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should entertain his guest generously and anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should talk what is good or keep quiet. (i.e. abstain from all kinds of evil and dirty talk). (Riwayat al- Bukhari: 6018).

In this day and age, trolling and throwing hate comments seems like it has been normalizing in the community as people expect the ones who make mistakes should receive hate comments and deserve to be frustrated. Many people believe that suffering, whether physical or emotional, is a necessary part of regaining one's moral character (Timothy J. Legg, 2020) . In this hadith, Rasulullah SAW stated the correlation between saying good things and someone's faith in Allah SWT. This is because guarding our tongue against talking bad and using it for saying good things is one of the signs of faith.

Thinking before speaking out or commenting on any issues is necessary as it might harm the listeners' mental

and physical. A simple message could hurt one heart as mentioned from a famous quote that the tongue is the sharpest weapon in the world that will kill anybody without bloodshed.

"Today We shall put a seal on their mouths, and their hands will speak to Us and their feet shall bear witness to what they had been doing." (Surah YaSin, verse 65).

This command is given in regard to the obstinate guilty who will refuse to confess their crimes, lie to witnesses, and also refuse to acknowledge the authenticity of their book of conduct. This command is given to obstinate offenders who will refuse to confess their crimes, lie to witnesses and also refuse to acknowledge the authenticity of their book of conduct.

The words used will be etched in the heart of the listener. Posting a status on social media that angers others is not a good measure to counter hateful situations. Spread awareness and remind each other that all things in this world, the words we use, the messages sent and the posts on social media, will be scrutinised in the akhirah and each person's limbs will be witnesses to the misdeeds and good deeds. Therefore, it is a good thing to maintain consistency by doing good things instead of posting hate comments that lead to strife and destroy the community. Cultivating respect and love for others is a good way to create harmony in the community.

Code of Ethics

Cyberbullying is an ethical problem that can lead to emotional injury for many young people, including suicide (Peled, 2019) . There are three types of theories that can be used in society to solve ethical problems. People who believe in virtues such as utilitarianism, deontology and ethics think this way. However, much attention is given to the utilitarian method of solving ethical problems.

Utilitarianism

Utilitarianism is also characterised by justice and impartiality of actors. The happiness of all people counts equally. When maximising the good, it is the good considered impartially. My good does not count more than someone else's good (Cekić, 2018) . When making a decision, one considers the needs of other people as well as one's own. Rule utilitarianism and action utilitarianism are two types of utilitarianism. Both ways of dealing with bullying are different and work in different ways.

• Action utilitarianism: As a rule, the conclusion is ethically correct because it is based on the decision of the majority, regardless of utilitarian beliefs. So the first strategy in cyberbullying would be to apologise to the victim for what the bully has done. Personal apologies or other media such as letters could achieve this goal. Focusing on the four types of bullies can also help stop cyberbullying. Enrolling vindictive bullies in peer counselling groups can teach them not to take the law into their own hands. Unwitting online bullies can also be enrolled in mentoring and counselling groups to help them. This would help them learn to control themselves

instead of bullying others. To solve these two types of bullying, it is best to act utilitarian.

• Rule utilitarianism: Compared to action utilitarianism, this approach values both benefits to society and fairness. Power-hungry nerds are the most dangerous bullies because they can bully their peers using technology. Their actions are subtle and they do not inform anyone about their actions. Therefore, rule utilitarianism best solves cyberbullying by prosecuting the culprits. Moreover, rule utilitarianism can solve the bullying of mean girls (Shaheen Shariff, 2008) . School staff can deal with the girls because most of these situations involve the same school. School administrators can punish the bullies, helping to end the problem and set an example for future girls who want to follow in their footsteps.

In this way, the decision-making process goes beyond the self-interest of the individual by considering the interests of others. There are two types of utilitarian approaches: rule utilitarianism and action utilitarianism. Rule utilitarianism is the more traditional approach. In terms of how they solve bullying cases, the two techniques differ somewhat.

Law on Cyberbullying in Malaysia

Malaysia doesn't have an explicit cyber law against cyberbullying. According to (MARTIN CARVALHO, 2021) , the MCMC continues to work on anti-cyberbullying legislation. In the absence of a specific law, there are provisions in various laws such as the Computer Crimes Act 1997, the Communication and Multimedia Act 1998 and the Penal Code that can be used to combat cyberbullying.

Computer Crimes Act 1997

• Section 3: Unauthorised access to computer material - Persons may be charged under section 3 of the Computer Crimes Act 1997 if they use a computer to do something with the intention of gaining access to a programme or data that doesn't belong there and they know at the time of using the computer that it doesn't belong there. An offence under this section need not be directed at a particular programme or data, a particular type of programme or data, or a particular computer. It need not be directed at a particular programme or data—- fifty thousand ringgit fine or five years imprisonment or both.

• Section 4: Trespass with intent to commit or facilitate the commission of another offence - This states that a person who commits an offence as in section 3 with a view to doing something which causes damage or fraud or dishonesty as defined in the Criminal Code [Act 574] is guilty of an offence under this section. It does not matter whether the offence is committed by someone else or by himself. It is immaterial to this section whether the offence to which it relates is committed at the same time as the unauthorised access is secured or at a later time. Under this section, a person who commits an offence is liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years, or to both.

• Section 5: Unauthorised alteration of the contents of a computer - Section 5 of the Act states that a person who does anything which he knows alters the contents of a computer without permission commits an

offence. He or she is guilty of an offence. For this part of the Act, it does not matter whether the act in question relates to a particular programme or data, a programme or data of any kind, or data in a particular computer. For this section, it does not matter whether an unauthorised modification is permanent or temporary. The Penal Code states that anyone guilty of an offence under this section may be fined up to one hundred thousand ringgit or imprisoned for up to seven years. If the offenders cause damage, they can be fined up to one hundred and fifty thousand ringgit or imprisoned for up to ten years.

Communication and Multimedia Act 1998

•   Section 211: Prohibition on provision of offensive content - The Communication and Multimedia Act of 1998 states that no content applications service provider, or anyone else who uses a content applications service, can put up content that is offensive, indecent, obscene, false, menacing, or menacing with the purpose of annoying or harassing another person. Subsection (2) of this section says that if you break subsection (1), you're guilty of an offence and could be fined up to fifty thousand ringgit or imprisoned for a year or both. If the offence isn't ended after you're convicted, you could also be hit with a fine of one thousand ringgit for every day or part of every day that the offence goes on.

•   Section 233: Unauthorised use of network facilities or network services, etc. - Under the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998, section 233 provides that a person who, by means of network facilities or network services or application services, knowingly makes, creates or solicits and causes to be made any comment, solicitation, suggestion or other communication of an obscene, indecent, false, threatening or abusive character with intent to transmit the same, with intent, harass, abuse, threaten or victimise another person, or initiates a communication using an application service, whether continuously, repeatedly or otherwise, which communication, with or without disclosure of his identity and with intent to harass, abuse, threaten or victimise a person at any number or electronic address, commits an offence.

In addition, subsection (2) of this section provides that a person who knowingly provides an obscene communication for commercial purposes through a network or application service to a person or who permits a network or application service under his control to be used for an activity described in paragraph (a) of this section commits an offence.

Subsection (3) of this section states that a fine shall be imposed if a person is found guilty of an offence under this section. The fine shall be up to fifty thousand ringgit or one year imprisonment or both. A fine of one thousand ringgit shall be imposed for each day that the offence continues after conviction.

Evidence Act 1950

Section 114A of the Evidence Act 1950 could also help protect against cyberbullying and the other things mentioned above. Under this, anyone who appears in a publication by his name, picture or pseudonym, or helps to facilitate the publication or republication of the publication, is presumed to have done so, unless it can be proved that he did not do so. This is known as the "presumption of publication" As they have an account with a network provider, they are presumed to have made or shared the publication unless it can be proved otherwise.

Anyone who owns or has control of the computer from which a publication originates is presumed to be responsible for its publication or disclosure. This applies unless the person can prove that he or she was not.

Although there are a number of laws against cyberbullying in Malaysia, perpetrators often go unpunished because there is not enough evidence. It has been very difficult to prosecute the perpetrators. "I did not do it" is one of the justifications given by the perpetrator. This is the most common response from people when a hate or threatening message is linked to their Facebook, Twitter or other internet account. According to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, it is almost impossible to take action against someone if they only deny any responsibility. Moreover, no victim of cyberbullying has filed a complaint yet. For fear of being bullied again, victims remain silent. If a victim reports bullying, they face further victimisation or ostracism.

Solutions and Strategies

The issue of cyberbullying has attracted a lot of attention in order to eradicate this phenomenon. Cyberbullying takes place online, but the consequences are just as severe as physical bullying. This issue should be discussed more to educate parents, young people and children about the dangers of cyberbullying and how to deal with it if they become victims. Campaigns have been launched to educate society and promote its ideals. Awareness campaigns, whether traditional (posters or pennants) or interactive (mobile apps, virtual reality or augmented reality), all have the same goal: to educate the public about the multimedia act (Manshor, 2014), the consequences for victims (Abas Ainna, 2018), the way out in Islam (Ab Manaf & Muhammud, 2022) and the legal right (Ikhsan et al., 2012), especially in eradicating this problem.

Malaysian celebrities have responded by participating in the "End Cyberbullying and False Information Dissemination" campaign, which seeks to combat cyberbullying and the dissemination of false information on social media (Norazlinda Mohammad, 2021) Although this is a joint effort, it is important that everyone takes preventive action, as prevention is always better than cure. Individuals who are victims of cyberbullying can take the following steps to ensure their safety: ignore the perpetrator, take screenshots of evidence, inform a trusted person, report the perpetrator and block them. As a society, we can work together to create a safer online environment that is free from cyberbullying. Avoid anyone who tries to stalk you (Haryani Haron, 2010).

Conclusion

The use of social media is an important part of any society, especially during the industrial revolution. 4.0. However, immoral behaviour on social media leads to its misuse with the aim of violating cultural norms and laws. The symptoms of cyberbullying, which is an increasingly common trend that needs to be addressed, can have a significant impact on society. One of the contributions of this study is that it reconciles the Western and Islamic perspectives on harmonious interaction on digital platforms. Cyberbullying is a serious problem because anyone can be a victim of cyberbullying. Cyberbullying can have long-term consequences for its victims.

Therefore, we need to think carefully about what we share or say that could hurt others. To prevent cyberbullying and make the internet a safer environment for everyone, parents, schools and children need to work together. The survey shows that most respondents want a healthy online environment that is free from cyberbullying.

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