Cyberbullying in a diverse society: comparing Jewish and Arab adolescents in Israel through the lenses of individualistic versus collectivist cultures

# Details

## Year

2016

## DOI

10.1007/s11218-016-9339-9

## Issued

2016

## Language

English

## Volume

19

## Issue

3

## Start Page

## End Page

## Authors

Lapidot-Lefler N.;Hosri H.

## Type

Journal article

## Journal

Social Psychology of Education

## Publisher

Springer Science and Business Media LLC

## Topics

Risks and harms

## Sample

The current study included 901 participants: 501 Israeli Jewish adolescents and 400 Israeli Arab adolescents, all junior high school and high school students. about 60 % of the adolescents are junior high school students, and about 60 % are girls, with no significant ethnic differences.

## Implications For Educators About

Other

# Abstract

The purpose of this study was to examine the differences in cyberbullying (bystanders, victims, bullies) between Jewish and Arab adolescents in Israel. The findings could uncover critical implications for children, educators, and policymakers for understanding Cyberbullying in a diverse society. In particular, the differences in cyberbullying between collective and individualistic societies and the effect of gender bias on the likelihood of engaging in cyberbullying. Two cultural contexts in Israel were explored: one representing a collectivist orientation (Arab-Muslim and Arab-Christian culture), the other representing a more individualistic orientation (Jewish culture). The study included 901 junior high and high school students (501 Jewish-Israelis and 400 Arab–Israelis), which filled in an online cyberbullying survey. Findings revealed that
Jewish adolescents reported being cyber victims and cyber bystanders more than Arab
adolescents, yet contrary to expectation, Arab adolescents reported being cyberbullies
more than Jewish adolescents. Contrary to expectation, no gender differences in being a
bully were found among Jewish adolescents, while among Arab adolescents, girls
reported higher bullying than boys. The cultural difference was significant among girls,
revealing that Jewish girls were higher than Arab girls on by standing and victimization,
yet Arab girls were higher than Jewish girls on bullying in cyberspace. The cultural difference was not significant among boys. Using online communication as a theoretical framework, this study observed aspects of cyberbullying in the diverse and multicultural society of Israel through the lenses of individualistic versus collectivist cultures. The findings and their implications are further discussed and shed more light on cyberbullying in a diverse and multicultural society.

# Outcome

Lapidot-Lefler and Hosri (2016) found that Jewish adolescents reported being cyber victims and cyber bystanders more than Arab adolescents, yet contrary to expectation, Arab adolescents reported being cyberbullies more than did Jewish adolescents. Further, different hierarchies of types of cyberbullying were
found by ethnicity. Among Jewish adolescents, bystanding was highest on the hierarchy and bullying was lowest, while among Arab adolescents, bystanding was highest and victimization was lowest. Jewish girls reported higher cybervictimization than Jewish boys, while no differences in cybervictimization
were found between Arab boys and girls. Similarly, Jewish girls reported higher bystanding than Jewish boys, while no differences in cyberbystanding were found between Arab boys and girls. no gender difference in bullying was found among Jewish adolescents, while among Arab adolescents, girls reported higher bullying than boys. The study found a gender difference in cyberbullying among Arab adolescents: more Arab girls reported they had cyberbullied than Arab boys, Jewish girls, or Jewish boys. In contrast, rates of cyberbullying were similar among Jewish boys and Jewish girls. gender difference among Jewish
cyber victims: Jewish girls reported that they were victims and bystanders more than did Jewish boys. No gender difference was found among Arab cyber victims. In addition, Jewish girls reported more cyberbullying than Arab girls