

Growing Up With Media: Problem and Aggressive Behavior 2010

Internet Solutions For Kids

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This is the forth in a series of 8 bulletins summarizing findings from the Growing up with Media (GuwM) Study. The purpose of the series is to provide a comprehensive overview of the descriptive findings from this longitudinal study.....

Introduction

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What is Growing up with Media?

- ◆ A longitudinal online survey of a representative national sample of 1,588 young people, ages 10 through 15 at baseline, who use the Internet regularly.
- ◆ “Regular Internet use” was defined as using the Internet at least once in the past 6 months from any location.
- ◆ Parents and guardians first completed a short online survey; approximately 5 minutes.
- ◆ Parents were a member of the Harris Poll Online (HPOL) opt-in panel and residents of the U.S.
- ◆ With parental consent, youth completed an online survey; approximately 25 minutes.
- ◆ Youth sample was stratified based on age and sex.
- ◆ Adult participants received \$15 and youth a \$20 gift certificate.
- ◆ Data were collected across three time points:
 - Wave 1: August – September, 2006
 - Wave 2: September – December, 2007
 - Wave 3: August – December, 2008
- ◆ Data were weighted to match the U.S. Population of adults with children between the ages of 10 and 15 years.
- ◆ Propensity scoring was applied to adjust for the adult’s (i.e., recruitment target) propensity to be online and in HPOL.

A full report on the methodology of the GuwM study is posted online at: [url for Methodology Bulletin].

Bullying

There were slight differences across time among bullying in real life. Two types of bullying in real life were queried:

- ◆ Not let another person your age in your group anymore because you were mad at them
 - At Wave 1, 33% *ever* reported bullying by not letting another person in one’s group
 - At Wave 2, 27% *ever* reported this behavior
 - At Wave 3, 25% *ever* reported this behavior
- ◆ Spread a rumor about someone, whether it was true or not
 - At Wave 1, 28% *ever* reported spreading rumors about someone else

- At Wave 2, 25% *ever* reported this behavior
- At Wave 3, 25% *ever* reported this behavior

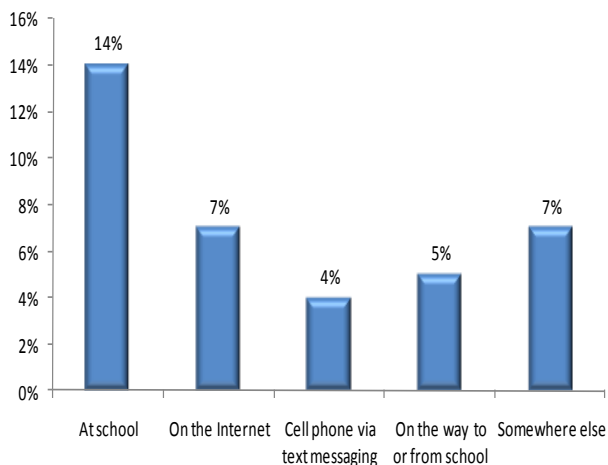
School was the most frequent location for bullying others.

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how often they had bullied someone.

- ◆ Five locations of bullies were queried: School, On the Internet, On cell phones via text messaging, On the way to or from school, Somewhere else

Bullying is defined for youth as: When a person repeatedly hits, kicks, threatens, or says nasty or unpleasant things to other people. Another example is giving someone the 'silent treatment' or purposely not talking to them to make them feel bad. These things can happen at school, online, or other places young people hang out. It is **not** bullying when two young people of about the same strength fight or test each other.

Figure 1: Definition Based Reported Bullying: Wave 3



Delinquency

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how many times have they been delinquent in real life. Five behaviors were queried:

1. Banged up or damaged something that did not belong to you
 2. Started a fire on purpose, where you wanted something to get damaged or destroyed
 3. Broken into someone else's house, building, or car
 4. Lied to someone to get something that you wanted, or to get someone to do you a favor, or to get out of doing something you didn't want to do
 5. Taken something that was valuable, like shoplifting or using someone else's credit card, when no one was looking
- Delinquent behaviors remained relatively stable across time. The most commonly reported delinquent behavior among

youth was lying to someone to get something you wanted, which was reported by about half of youth (42-47%). This was followed by 17-19% of youth that reported they banged up or damaged something that did not belong to them.

Reported delinquent behavior in real life	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Banged up/ damaged something not belonging to you	19%	18%	17%
Started a fire on purpose	3%	3%	3%
Broken into someone else's house, car, building	2%	3%	2%
Lied to someone to get something you wanted	47%	42%	45%
Taken something that was valuable (shoplifting)	6%	7%	8%

Truancy

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how many times have they been truant in real life.

At Wave 2, about 1/5 of youth (19%) reported staying out all night – this increased to 1/4 of youth one year later. There was an increase in youth who ditched or skipped school from 9% to 13% and 16% at 12-month and Wave 3, respectively. 3-5% of youth reported running away from home.

Reported truancy in real life	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Run away from home	3%	2%	5%
Ditched/ skipped school	9%	13%	16%
Stayed out all night	---	19%	25%

Sexual and non-sexual Assault

Sexual violence is broadly defined to include completed acts of sexual violence (including rape and other types of sexual assault such as forced kissing or touching); attempted sex acts; abusive sexual contact (e.g., intentional touching); and non-contact sexual abuse (e.g., verbal sexual harassment, exposure to pornography)¹⁰. In all of these cases, the victim is non-consenting or unable to consent or refuse. Although there is some overlap between intimate partner violence and sexual violence, sexual violence is committed by a wider range of perpetrators.

[Kim note – pull references from printout]

[can we merge all these below?]

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how many times have they been involved in assault, including sexual, in real life.

Three behaviors were queried:

1. Kissed, touched, or done anything sexual with another person when that person did not want you to
2. Hurt an animal on purpose, like cutting off its tail, hitting or kicking it, or killing it for fun
3. Been in a fight in which someone including yourself was hit

The most commonly reported assault of others in real life by youth was being in a fight where someone was hit, including the respondent.

- ◆ Wave 1 –26%
- ◆ Wave 2 – 19%
- ◆ Wave 3 – 23%

Less commonly reported among youth (2-3%) was hurting an animal or kissing, touching, or doing anything with another person when they did not want you to.

Reported assaulting others in real life	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Kissed, touched, or done anything with other person when they <u>did not want you to</u>	2%	2%	3%
Hurt an animal	3%	2%	2%
Been in a fight where someone was hit, including yourself	26%	19%	23%

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how many times have they been involved in assault in real life. Four behaviors were queried:

1. Shoved, or pushed, or hit or slapped another person your age
2. Threatened to hurt a teacher
3. Threatened someone with a weapon (gun, knife, club,
4. Used a knife or gun or some other kind of weapon like a bat to get something from someone else

The most commonly reported assault by youth was shoving or pushing, or hitting or slapping another person your age- which did decrease over time.

- ◆ Wave 1 –39%
- ◆ Wave 2 – 29%
- ◆ Wave 3 – 30%

About similar percentages of youth reported threatening to hurt a teacher, threatening someone with a weapon, or using a knife, gun, or other weapon to get something from someone else – 2%.

Reported assaulting others in real life	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Shoved, pushed, hit, or slapped someone your age	39%	29%	30%
Threatened to hurt a teacher	2%	2%	2%
Threatened someone with a weapon	1%	2%	2%
Used knife, gun, or other weapon to get something from someone else	1%	2%	2%

Youth were asked in the last 12 months, how many times have they been involved in other types of assault in real life. Three behaviors were queried:

1. Gotten into a fight where a group of your friends were against another group of people
2. Hurt someone badly enough that they needed to be treated by a doctor or nurse
3. Stabbed or shot someone

These types of serious assault were less common – 1% of youth reported they stabbed or shot someone. Slightly more common was getting into a fight where a group of your friends was again another group of people (9-10%).

Reported assault in real life	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Gotten in a fight where a group of your friends was against another	9%	9%	10%
Hurt someone badly enough they needed a doctor or nurse	2%	3%	2%
Stabbed or shot someone	1%	1%	1%

We asked youth, how old were you the first time you stayed out at night even though you knew your parents would not want you to?

- ◆ At Wave 1, the mean age was 12.1 years old, with a range of 3-17 years old.
- ◆ At Wave 2, the mean age was 13.3 years old, with a range of 3-17 years old.
- ◆ At Wave 3, the mean age was 14.1 years old, with a range of 2-17 years old.

We also asked youth, how old were you the first time ditched or skipped school?

- ◆ At Wave 1, the mean age was 12.2 years old, with a range of 3-15 years old.
- ◆ At Wave 2, the mean age was 13.2 years old, with a range of 4-17 years old.
- ◆ At Wave 3, the mean age was 14.0 years old, with a range of 4-17 years old.

We asked youth about the most serious fight they were in which someone was hit in the past 12 months, the majority of

youth reported this fight was with a friend or someone they know- 64% at Wave 1 to 63% and 75% at Wave 2 and Wave 3, respectively. 1/4 of youth (26%) reported this was with a parent, brother, sister, or other family member at Wave 1 – this decreased to 14% at Wave 3.

We also asked youth about the most serious time they were in a fight, to select all of the following consequences that happened.

1. I got in trouble with my parents or caregivers or other family members
2. I got in trouble with school, like being suspended or getting detention
3. I was arrested for a crime or involved in the juvenile justice system
4. I got in trouble with someone else
5. I didn't get in any trouble

Getting in trouble with a parent or caregiver was the most common disciplinary action.

- ◆ Wave 1 –38%
- ◆ Wave 2 – 41%
- ◆ Wave 3 – 49%

...Closely followed by getting in trouble at school – 36% at Wave 1 slightly decreasing to 33% at Wave 3.

However, over 1/3 of youth (37-41%) did not get in any trouble.

Most serious fight characteristics	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
With whom...			
Total stranger	5%	9%	8%
A friend or someone I know	64%	63%	75%
A girl/boyfriend or date	7%	5%	4%
Parent, brother, sister, or other family member	26%	23%	14%
Someone else	21%	19%	13%
Got in trouble...			
With parent/ caregiver	38%	41%	49%
At school	36%	31%	33%
Arrested for crime/ involved in juvenile justice system	5%	3%	3%
Got in trouble with someone else	14%	9%	10%
Didn't get in any trouble	37%	41%	37%

Youth were asked, thinking about the last month you were in school, on how many days did you carry a weapon, like a gun, knife or club, to school.

At Wave 1 and Wave 2, 2% of youth reported carrying a

weapon to school – which decreased to 1% at Wave 3. There was notable variance in certain weapons carried to school, such as a rifle, shotgun, or other type of gun (9% at Wave 1 to 21% at Wave 3) and someone other kind of weapon (2% at Wave 1 to 25% at Wave 3).

Weapon use characteristics	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
In past 30 days, number of days carried a weapon to school...			
0 days	98%	98%	99%
1+ days	2%	2%	1%
In past 12 months, carried a weapon to school...			
Type of weapon...			
Handgun	17%	17%	21%
Rifle, shotgun, or other type of gun	9%	19%	21%
Club, stick, bat, or pipe	15%	35%	21%
Knife or razor	58%	86%	93%
Some other kind of weapon	2%	29%	25%

We asked youth, how many of your close friends have been arrested or done things that could get them in trouble with the police?

- ◆ At Wave 1, the mean .42, with a range of 0-10 friends.
- ◆ At Wave 2, the mean .73, with a range of 0-20 friends.
- ◆ At Wave 3, the mean .84, with a range of 0-20 friends.

Online aggressive behavior

We asked, thinking about things you have done in the last 12 months, how many times have you done the following when you are on the internet? Six behaviors were queried:

1. Made rude or mean comments to anyone online
2. Spread rumors about someone online, whether they were true or not
3. Made aggressive or threatening comment to anyone online
4. Tried to someone else to talk about sex online when they did not want to
5. Asked anyone online for sexual information about themselves when that person did not want to tell me – really personal questions, like what his or her body looks like, or sexual things he or she has done
6. Asked anyone to do something sexual online when the other person did not want to

The most common type of online aggressive behavior among youth was making rude or mean comments to anyone online — from 19% at Wave 1 to 17% and 24% at Wave 2 and Wave 3, respectively.

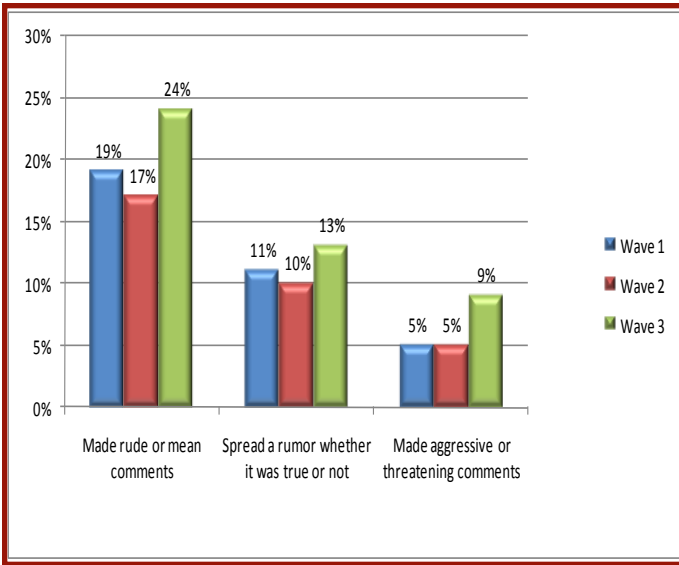


Figure 2: Harassed others online in last 12 months

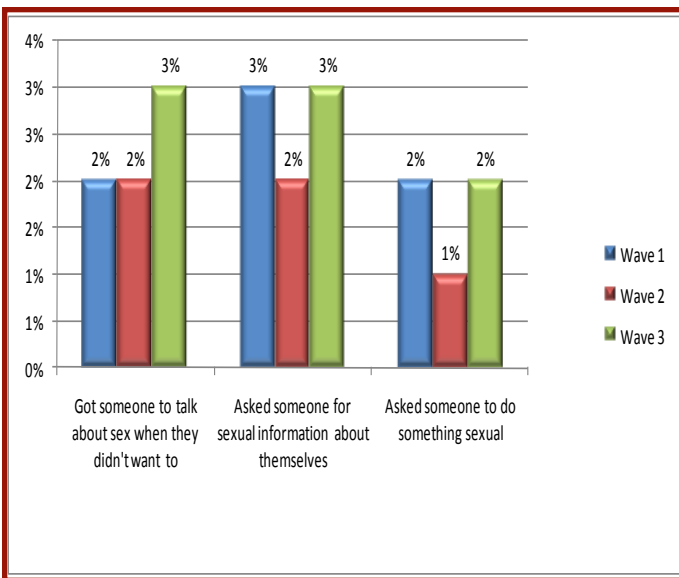


Figure 3: Sexually harassed someone online in last 12 months

We asked about things youth have done in the last 12 months that would be considered online perpetration behaviors.

1. Uploaded/ posted a video or picture of someone your age being hurt (by things like being hit or kicked) or embarrassed (by things like having their pants pulled down) online. They did not want you to post it.
2. Taken someone off your buddy list or other online group because you were mad at them.

At Wave 2, less than 1% reported **ever** in the last 12 months uploading/ posting a video or picture of someone their age being hurt. At Wave 3 there was a slight increase with less than 3% **ever**.

At Wave 2, almost 26% reported **ever** in the last 12 months

taking someone off their buddy list because they were mad at them. At Wave 3 there was again a slight increase to almost 28% **ever**.

We asked youth how many times in the last 12 months they have engaged in eight behaviors that would be considered text messaging harassment and solicitation behaviors.

1. Sent a text message that said rude or mean things
2. Sent a text message that was sexual in any way when that person did not want to receive it
3. Sent a picture or video text message that was sexual in any way when that person did not want to receive it
4. Sent a picture or video text message that showed someone your age being hurt (by things like being hit or kicked) or embarrassed (by things like having their pants pulled down) when they did not want you to
5. Spread rumors about someone using text messaging, whether they were true or not
6. Sent a text message that said threatening or aggressive things
7. Sent a text message that asked someone for sexual information about themselves when that person did not want to receive it
8. Sent a text message that asked someone to do something sexual when that person did not want to receive it

These behaviors were less common among youth. The most commonly reported behavior was sending a text message that said rude or mean things – 92% at Wave 1 to 86% and 79% at Wave 2 and Wave 3.

The most commonly reported text messaging harassment or solicitation behavior was youth sent a text message that said rude or mean things.

- ◆ Wave 1 – 8%, 92% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 2 – 14%, 86% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 3 – 21%, 79% (yes/no)

The next most common behavior reported by youth was spreading rumors about someone using text messaging, whether they were true or not.

- ◆ Wave 2 – 9%, 91% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 3 – 11%, 89% (yes/no)

Youth reported sending a picture or video text message that was sexual in any way when that person did not want to receive it was steady across time.

- ◆ Wave 1 – 1%, 99% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 2 – 2%, 98% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 3 – 3%, 97% (yes/no)

1% of youth reported sending a picture or video text message that was sexual in any way when that person did not want to receive it across the three waves.

There was an increase from Wave 1 to Wave 2 in youth reported sending a text message that said threatening or aggressive things.

- ◆ Wave 2 – 4%, 96% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 3 – 8%, 92% (yes/no)

At Wave 1 and Wave 2 youth were equally likely to report the following behaviors: sending a picture or video text message that showed someone your age being hurt or embarrassed when they did not want you to; sending a text message that asked someone for sexual info about themselves when that person did not want to receive it; and sending a text message that asked someone to do something sexual when that person did not want to receive it

- ◆ Wave 2 – 1%, 99% (yes/no)
- ◆ Wave 3 – 2%, 98% (yes/no)

Conclusion

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Internet Solutions for Kids

Internet Solutions for Kids is a non-profit research organization in the US centered on understanding the impact on and opportunities for adolescent health represented by new technologies. Our mission is to promote new and innovative methods that improve the health and safety of young people. We believe a multi-pronged approach is necessary, with research alongside active youth education and support.

Other GuwM Publications

Other bulletins in this series:

- ◆ Methodological Details
- ◆ Media Use Patterns
- ◆ Exposure to X-rated Material
- ◆ Exposure to Violent Media
- ◆ Victimization
- ◆ Mental Health Indicators
- ◆ Household Rules

Other publications:

- ◆ [list peer-reviewed publications here]

Please check our website periodically for more publications.

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For Further Information

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