

Dangerous factors for minors in the modern Internet space

Небезпечні фактори щодо неповнолітнього в сучасному Інтернет-просторі

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Minors are special members of public life because of their physical and mental development, this category of citizens requires special treatment on the part of the state. In order to protect the legitimate rights and interests of this subject and in compliance with the Declaration of Children's Rights, in time of globalization of media space there is a need to investigate the problem of Internet resource by itself, which adversely affects the mental development of the latter and can carry a number of risks to the studied subject.

Internet – resource plays an important role for each person of XXI century, it is an inexhaustible source of information that is always accessible for each user. With the development of new technologies, Internet services are also available for phones, increasing the use of this resource significantly. For minors using the Internet should have ease the learning process, search of useful information, access to electronic versions of textbooks and universal development in general. Modern educational process cannot be imagined without the introduction of computer technologies, so we must consider that during the computer using in the psyche of students and pupils arise a number of changes, both positive and negative. Among the positive – enrichment of mental activities through the mastery of information technologies, the development of intelligence, algorithmic of thinking, deepening of symbolic experience and the development of imagination, enhance of cognitive interests, expansion of communication opportunities via the Internet, etc.¹. Among the negative factors of computer technologies introduction we consider such as: reduction of interpersonal contacts, depersonalization of partners in communication, regress of intuitive thinking, withdrawal from reality to virtual reality, infoholism, etc.²

However, the modern teenager spends a lot of time in social networks, chat rooms and online games. Also, a minor is the victim of progressive mercantile world of Internet services, because even with diligent information search – arise advertising windows with naked women, games with sexual trends and other, that is witnessed by a minor.

Using the latest high-tech minors are victims of globalized media space, subjected to psychological violence, bullying (cyberbullying). Cybermobbing – a term that came from English (from Eng. Cybermobbing); also Internetmobbing, Cyberbullying. Cybermobbing is understood as intentional insults, defamation and disclosure of other defamatory data using modern means of communication, usually over a long period of time. Cybermobbing is carried out in the information space through information and communication channels and means, including the Internet – via e-mail, instant messengers (such as ICQ), in social networks, and through posting on video portals (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.)³. Thus minors that were exposed to this kind of bullying feel emotional suffering, self-imperfections, sometimes children that were mistreated in the virtual space need psychological help of professionals to prevent further development of complexes or manifestation of delinquent behavior. There

¹ Osvitohiia: Vytoky naukovoho napryamu: monohr. / za red. V.O. Ohnevyuka. – K. : VP "Eelveys", 2012. – P. 336.

² Savelyev Yu. B. Vyklyuchennya ta nasył'stvo: chy isnuye bullinh v ukrayinskiy shkoli? / Yu. B. Savelyev, T. M. Salata // Naukovi zapysky. Pedahohichni, psykholohichni nauky ta sotsialna robota / NU «Kyievo-Mohylyan. akad.». – K. : Ahrar Media Hrup, 2009. – T. 97. – P. 71–75.

³ Borodyn K.V. Borodyn Pravovoe obespechenye bezopasnosti nesovershennoletnykh v sety ynternet / K.V. Borodyn // Vestnyk Chelyabynskoho hosudarstvennoho unyversyteta. – 2015. – № 25(380). – P. 56–60.

are cases of committing suicide due to bullying over the internet or telephone, that inhibit a person to such an extent that without qualified assistance, a minor sees no way out of difficult life situations.

H. Leymann defines bullying as social interaction through which one person (sometimes more) undergoes "attacks of another person (sometimes more, but usually no more than four) almost every day for a long period (several months), causing in the victim state of helplessness and exclusion from the group"⁴. Bullying – is a phenomenon that may exist in other age groups, but the school bullying causes particular social detriment to society as committed by minors regarding minors. This is a significant social problem. Norwegian researchers also found that boys who were the initiators of bullying at school become four times more likely criminals in adulthood, compared to boys who have not resorted to violent behavior⁵. But we cannot forget about minors who have been victims of bullying. Their social and psychological readjustment requires a lot of effort, time, and still leaves a significant imprint in the mind of person.

Experts define many options for displays of aggression and illegal behavior in the network. Robin Kowalski, Susan Limber and Patricia Agatston identified eight types of behavior characterized for cyberbullying:

1. disputes or flaming – exchange of short angry and incendiary remarks between two or more participants using communication technologies. Preferably unfolds in "public" places of Internet, in chat rooms, forums, discussion groups, sometimes turns into a protracted war;
2. assaults, constant debilitating attacks – most often with involvement of repeated offensive messages directed at the victim (like hundreds of SMS messages on a mobile phone, constant calls) with an overload of personal channels of communication;
3. denigration, slander – spreading of false humiliating information using computer technology. It can be text messages, photos and songs depicting the victim in harmful, sometimes sexual, manner;
4. imposture, embodiment in a particular person – the persecutor positions him / herself as a victim, using a password to access his / her account in social networks, blogs, email, instant messaging system, etc. and then performs a negative communication. The organization of "feedback wave" occurs when from the address of the victim without his / her knowledge are sent shameful provocation letters to his / her friends and family from address book, and then confused victim unexpectedly gets angry responses;
5. fraud, cajolery of confidential information and its spreading – obtaining personal information in interpersonal communication and transfer of it (text, photo, video) to a public Internet area or by e-mail to whom it was not concerned;
6. alienation (ostracism) insulation. In the virtual environment the exclusion also exposes to serious emotional troubles until the complete emotional destruction of child. Online alienation is possible in any type of environment that uses password protection, forming junk mail list or a list of friends. Cyber alienation is manifested as a lack of quick response to an instant message or e-mail;
7. cyberharassment – is the act of hidden stalking of persecuted and those who wanders idly nearby, usually made anonymously to organize criminal acts. By tracking through the Internet careless users, offender receives information about time, place and the necessary conditions for exercising future attacks;
8. happy slapping – video clips of attacks for the purpose of rape or its simulation. Video clips posted in the Internet can be browsed by thousands of people, usually without the consent of the victim⁶.

One should not assume that bullying is a problem faced only in "westernized" society. In 2009, Ukrainian researchers Y. Savelyev, T. Salata conducted a study in Ukrainian secondary school (c. Kyiv) to detect the spread of school violence and its types. The survey was conducted among high school students by anonymous questionnaires. It was interviewed 150 students, including 72 girls and 78 boys. To the question "Have you ever witnessed or have been a participant of such situation in your school, when a group of students chooses a victim, which gave nicknames, teased, bullied?" 60 respondents answered affirmatively, 17 indicated that they participated in bullying of victim and six admitted that were themselves in the role of victims. As rightly pointed researchers considering the answers of witnesses of violence, we can conclude that the number of victims and attackers is higher than was indicated during the survey. In Ukrainian schools are common such types of violence as physical, psychological, and economic. Analysis of the prevalence of violence based on gender distribution showed that in violence situations almost equally are involved boys and girls. Thus, the psychological violence indicated 59 boys and 59 girls; the physical – 29 boys and 26 girls; economic – 17 boys and 18 girls⁷[7, p. 73].

⁴ Dantsanson N. *Sexual Bullying: Gender Conflict and Pupil Culture in Secondary Schools* / N. Dantsanson. – Routledge, 1999. – P. 177.

⁵ Lushpay L. I. *Shkil'nyy bullinh yak riznovyd suspil'noyi ahresiyi* / L. I. Lushpay // *Naukovi zapysky [Natsional'noho universytetu «Ostroz'ka akademiya»]*. – 2013. – Vyp. 33. – S. 85-89. – (Ser. filolohichna).

⁶ Kowalski R.M. *Cyber bullying: bullying in the digital age* / Robin M. Kowalski, Susan P. Limber, Patricia W. Agatston. – Oxford : Blat-skwell Publishing Ltd, 2008. – 218 p.

⁷ Savel'yev Yu. B. *Vyklyuchennya ta nasyt'stvo: chy isnuye bullinh v ukrayins'kiy shkoli?* / Yu. B. Savel'yev, T. M. Salata // *Naukovi zapysky. Pedahohichni, psykhohohichni nauky ta sotsial'na robota / NU «Kyievo-Mohylyan. akad.»*. – K. : Ahrar Media Hrup, 2009. – T. 97. – S. 71-75.

The United States considers cyberbullying, cyberharassment, cyberstalking as a serious problem of nowadays, and 49 states have started campaign against this phenomenon and developed legislation to overcome the problem. For example in the state of Arkansas there is cyberbullying policy which initiates educational institutions to deal with this problem by using teachers and directors of educational institutions. For example, such states as Alabama, Delaware, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, and Connecticut recognize these acts as "offense" and are criminalizing this type of act and recognize it as deserving penalties or imprisonment. And encourage public schools to deal with this problem and comply with anti-harassment policy. They encourage being attentive to students, and in case of detection a person suffering from this type of violence or malefactors committing it – report to the appropriate authorities.

The primary problem we see a lack of control for minor user of Internet resources. Since the specificity of this age group is expressed in the absence of life experience, not stable psychologically perception of reality and virtuality, children often become victims of "cyber-life", perceive what they see as the norm. Unfortunately, it becomes a frequent phenomenon that children are dependent from PC, Internet content, which only emphasizes the importance of this issue.

The rapid development of mass media, computer technology and the spread of the Internet not only contributes to self-development and communication of minors, but also is a source of various threats, the most common are advocacy of alcohol consumption, drugs and other psychoactive substances as well as sexual promiscuity of teenagers, violence and cruelty, aggressive and suicidal behavior, pornography, disrespect for family, lies, deception, use of strong language. Such negative effects can lead to the formation of anti-social behavior of adolescents and their victimization⁸.

The next progressive problem of uncontrolled use of Internet resources is that a minor can buy things of almost any character. In the Internet you can without any special effort buy drugs, alcohol or even weapons. Malefactors distributing these items encrypt their domains so complicated that exposing them is extremely difficult.

Using by criminals resources of the Internet, electronic payment systems and means of mobile communication significantly reduces the risk of them being detained at the time of sale, in this connection the most organized and enterprising groups of drug dealers mainly switch to so-called "contactless" ways of selling drugs. This greatly complicates the application of operational staff the classical methods of checking purchases which remains the primary means of identifying and documenting crimes related to drug trafficking⁹. Since sellers mask their pages under online stores the blocking of the latter become impossible through search filters. The following factors serve the further work of criminals and extremely high latency of crimes committed, which in times complicates an investigation, the disclosure and most importantly suspending and punishment of those responsible. Over the past two years we have faced with another problem – committing suicide by the minor.

Quite a frequent occurrence is when children become victims of whole criminal gangs that are intended to the manipulation of children and bringing them to suicide. These groups are studying the people's pages from social networking services of certain age group and choosing children with certain depressive tendencies, displayed in their profile, photos, or involvement in questionable subcultures. Such people are an easy prey, because by virtue of immaturity, mental destabilization they are exposed to and fall under the negative impact of cyber criminals.

Recently in the Internet there are such games as "Blue whale", "Quiet Don", "Sea of whales", "Wake me at 4.20." "Disappear in 24". In social networks minors are invited to enter the game which requires performing certain tasks, causing threat to life and health of the latter (to cross the road in front of the moving car) and to film it all on camera to confirm the task. The task of the group is also an infliction of bodily injuries that symbolizes participation in the group – to portray the symbol of the group on hand. Therefore minor shows among peers membership in this group and expresses his courage and authoritativeness and thus arouse interest in others to such activities. In these games, there are curators who manage the process with each player individually, leading online correspondence. We count up to 50 different tasks, also there is a constant communication between the minors and the curator, the atmosphere of intrigue and grandeur while performing given tasks fuels the player's unhealthy interest. One of the tasks may be, for example, some kind of quest which lies in finding tips

⁸ Savel'ev A.Y. Problema ynfornatsyonnoy bezopasnosti nesovershennoletnykh v sety ynternet // Yurydycheskaya nauka y pravoohranitel'naya praktyka – 2016. – № 2 (36). – P. 59–66.

⁹ Osypenko A.L. Operativno-rozysknoe protyvodeystviya nezakonnomu oborotu narkoticheskyykh sredstv, sovershaemomu s yspol'zovaniyem telekommunikatsionnykh ustroystv / A.L. Osypenko, P.V. Mynenko // Vestnyk Voronezhskoho ynstytuta MVD Rossyy. –2015. – № 1. – P. 151–154.

for passing to the next level. Often juveniles enter this game in order to satisfy simple children curiosity. In other words it is not necessary that minor has a pronounced suicide syndrome, or is mentally unbalanced, some of the interviewed participants of the game, who survived, claimed that staged suffering on their pages in social networks, in order to obtain new emotions, curiosity and desire to meet new people (peers). The majority of respondents showed certain dissatisfaction with their lives, problematic relationships with parents, lack of friends and some concern. Curators that led ongoing online dialogue inclined member to committing suicide. Since the condition of fulfilment the tasks, including the last one was recording the video, it appears that the purpose of these organizers was receiving a video of suicide commitment. Practice shows that this kind of video is even more expensive for selling than child pornography. That explains the interest of the organizers in the "successful" participant's game end.

Due to poor regulation of this problem at the legislative level, to stop and punish those involved in the organization and activities of these groups, it become a highly complex task of nowadays. Considering the issue on the example of the United States it can be noted the severity of the legislator, concerning crimes committed using computer technology. For example in Texas for a misdemeanor with online harassment is provided up to one year in prison or a fine of up to \$ 4,000. Most states adhere to rigid penalties for these offenses.

To resolve this problem there is a need in legislative regulation of "online safety of minors". Primarily there is a need for access control of a minor in computer classes and libraries. On the example of the United States that at one time accepted the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)¹⁰, which involves the installation of Internet filters for safe use of Internet resources and prevention of the entrance of a minor to online content enclosing elements of violence, abuse, pornography and that is dangerous for the latter. Stimulation by the government the establishment of the information filter systems in schools and libraries on example of the US would be appropriate in our country.

Nowadays almost every minor uses mobile telephones with connectivity to the Internet. In order to safeguard minors from visits to sites which carry a potential danger to them (sexual nature, elements of violence, pornography and watching movies with age restrictions) there is need for legislative leverage from the government on mobile operators. When selling simcards with contract packet the operator is obliged to clarify the person's age and activate the appropriate filtering system that does not allow to entry the Internet pages which can damage the latter. Of course, for the successful implementation of this program, in addition to legally binding methodological recommendations, an important role play parents (persons replacing them) of a minor. International and national legislation imposes on parents the duty to properly educate children. In the majority of developed countries where functioning juvenile justice system there is a real responsibility of parents for failing their duty.

Survey conducted among the minors showed disappointing results on parental control of children in the use Internet resources, only 20% of respondents answered affirmative on the question "whether it was installed Parental Control on your computer (tablet, phone)". Therefore minors are free to find any kind of information that can be traumatic for their not yet formed psyche and threaten their healthy growth and development. We stress the importance of involving parents in the education of their children. Lack of control of time spent at the computer and the Internet browsing can lead to several negative consequences, the fight against which becomes a common struggle for a healthy society of each nation.

Since above mentioned types of offenses actually are absent in national legislation there is an urgent need for the implementation in the Code of Administrative Offenses such actions as "cyberbullying" "cybermobbing" – characterized by negative direct threats aimed at intimidating people via mobile phone or via the Internet and are characterized by duration and / or repetition of the committing the act.

Summary. Considering the above said, we have reached the following conclusions: the urgent need for cyber police officers to conduct open classes for students and teachers about the dangers of participating in this kind of games, which task is committing suicide. Oblige the government educational institutions to establish in computer classes, libraries and Wi-Fi zones filtration systems for safe use by minors. Development of recommended guidelines for educational institutions in order to struggle with such phenomena as: cyberbullying, cyberharassment, cyberstalking, on the example of the United States. Introduction of these acts into national legislation as criminal punishable offenses.

¹⁰ <http://ifea.net/cipa.pdf>

Summary

In article the problem of globalization of media space is observed. The danger posed by the lack of control in the minors' use of the Internet resources. It was made an analysis of the legislation of foreign countries on the settlement of this issue. The ways to overcome this problem in the national legal space were proposed.

Анотація

У статті розглядається проблема глобалізації медіапростору. Небезпека, яку несе безконтрольність у користуванні неповнолітнім Інтернет-ресурсом. Проведено аналіз законодавства зарубіжних держав щодо врегулювання цього питання. Запропоновано шляхи подолання вказаної проблеми у національному правовому просторі.

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