



NEED FOR CREATING SECURE CYBER SPACES: EVIDENCES OF CYBER HARASSMENT FROM FEMALE PAKISTANI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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Abstract

This study examines the cyber harassment experiences of 100 female students of two public sector universities in Sindh, Pakistan. The paper discusses the incidents of harassment and show that the female students were threatened and blackmailed frequently on the university campuses, mostly by aggressors known to them, yet the students were reluctant to report harassment to their parents or to bring it to the notice of their respective university authorities because of lack of trust and fear of hurting the family's social standing. Based on findings from this study, suggestions are made to integrate a curriculum on cyberbullying and to develop a non-threatening communication system between university students and the administration to report all assaults. Increased level of trust and confidentiality about the victim will eventually help traces the cases of cyber harassment and will lead to the punishment of the violators.

Keywords

Cyber harassment, victimization, female students, reporting harassment, University campuses