

Digital Drama and Cyberbullying

This resource will:

- ▶ improve your ability to recognize digital drama, and
- ▶ challenge your mindset towards digital drama and how you engage with it.



Visit cemc.uwaterloo.ca/resources/cs-and-society.html for more *CS and Society* resources.



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What is Digital Drama?

According to a survey done by the Pew Research Center in 2018, 95% of teens own or have access to a smartphone and 89% of teens report being online multiple times a day.

Given this pervasive access to the internet, chances are good that you have been involved in, or a witness to, digital drama.

Digital Drama

Conflicts and disputes that occur in the everyday world amongst people online. It includes, but is not limited to, cyberbullying.



DIP





Activity - Forms of Digital Drama

Digital drama can take many forms. How many different forms of digital drama can you identify?

Digital Drama
rebrand.ly/kahoot-digital-drama





Discussion

1. Describe forms of digital drama that you have witnessed.
2. In your experience, which forms of digital drama are the most common?



DIP





DINE



Video - Online Disinhibition Effect

Why do people engage in digital drama?

The following video explores a phenomenon known as the **online disinhibition effect**.

Online Disinhibition Effect

rebrand.ly/online-disinhibition-effect





DINE



Discussion

1. What do you think is meant by the phrase “protected by the internet”?
2. Have you ever experienced the online disinhibition effect? That is, have you ever acted differently online than you would have in person? If so, describe the situation.
3. Why do you think people engage in digital drama?





Which Character Are You?

Instances of drama and bullying often involve four characters:



Offenders - people who initiate the drama or bullying



Targets - people whom the offenders victimize



Bystanders - people who ignore the drama and bullying when they see it



Upstanders - people who support and stand up for the targets

Which character do you identify with the most? Why?



DIGEST





The Weekly Stand

The Weekly Stand is a low-commitment but high-impact initiative to turn bystanders into upstanders. It includes 52 simple actions that you can do to help reduce bullying, shift the culture, and make a positive impact on the people around you.

The Weekly Stand
rebrand.ly/the-weekly-stand

**THE
WEEKLY
STAND**

Choose one of the actions from The Weekly Stand and do it this week. For a greater challenge, choose one per week for the next couple of weeks, or consider taking on the full 52 week challenge.



DIGEST





For more information:

Pew Research Center (rebrand.ly/pew-teens-and-technology)

The RCMP (rebrand.ly/rcmp-cyberbullying)

Public Safety Canada (rebrand.ly/gov-canada-cyberbullying)

To report digital drama and cyberbullying:

Binary Tattoo (rebrand.ly/binary-tattoo)

Cyberbullying Research Center (cyberbullying.org/report)

For help in a crisis:

Kids Help Phone (kidshelpphone.ca)

Bullying Canada (bullyingcanada.ca/get-help)



DESSERT

