Toxic Ties: Networks of Friendship, Dating, and Cyber Victimization

*SPQ Snaps*

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**Discussion Guide:**

1. Two social processes, derived from classic social psychology theory, contribute to the development of cyber aggression within schools, according to the authors. Define cyber aggression and describe these two processes.
2. Do social networks influence cyber aggression and bullying? Are these findings consistent with your own expectations and experience?
3. To what extent does sexual orientation influence cyber victimization?
4. Why might friends target each other electronically, according to the authors? Can you think of other reasons? Do you agree or disagree?
5. Why would past (or current) dating partners attempt to harm each other via electronic means, according to the authors? Do you agree?
6. Do the findings imply that people should avoid making friends or avoid romantic relationships?
7. The school that the authors studied was from an upper-class region of New York, and consisted mostly of white students. How might that have affected the results?
8. Given the findings from this study, can you think of ways to reduce cyber aggression, or cyberbullying, among adolescents?