

CONNECTED PARENTS

For dating relationships
free of **CYBERVIOLENCE**

04

Many behaviours associated with cyberviolence in the context of a dating relationship are considered crimes in Canada.

These are some of the charges that young people who adopt such behaviours may face:

“ Uttering threats

Threatening a person with **death** or **bodily harm** is a criminal offence. These threats may also be made against **property** and **animals**, for instance, threatening to break a cellphone or poison a dog. They may be made in person, in a text message, on the telephone, on social networks, or through a third person.

“ Criminal harassment

Constantly following a person without their consent (e.g., going to their home or waiting for them outside class), **repeatedly** sending threatening messages (e.g., via social networks, texting, or email), surveilling them, and adopting a **threatening attitude** (e.g., banging the wall in front of them or making intimidating comments) are behaviours that could be considered criminal harassment. The person being targeted is **made to fear for their safety** or for the **safety of someone** they know.

“ Extortion

Trying to obtain something by using **threats** or **violence** is a criminal offence (e.g., “I’ll post your photo if you don’t give me money.”)

“ Harassing communications

Repeatedly communicating with a person, or ensuring that the person receives multiple messages with the intention of **harassing** them (e.g., “Where are you?” “Who are you with?” “What are you doing?”) is a criminal offence, regardless of the means of **telecommunication** (social networks, email, or telephone) used.

“ Child pornography and publication of an intimate image without consent

Production of child pornography (e.g., video or photographs), **distribution** (e.g., showing and/or sending it to friends), **possession** (e.g., having photos or videos on your cellphone or computer), and **accessing** intimate or sexually explicit content of a minor, with or without their consent, is a criminal offence. Also, **sharing an intimate photo** of a **minor** person (for instance, in which her breasts are visible), with or without her consent, is a criminal offence.

PSST!

Young people share nearly
1 out of 2 sext messages!



FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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