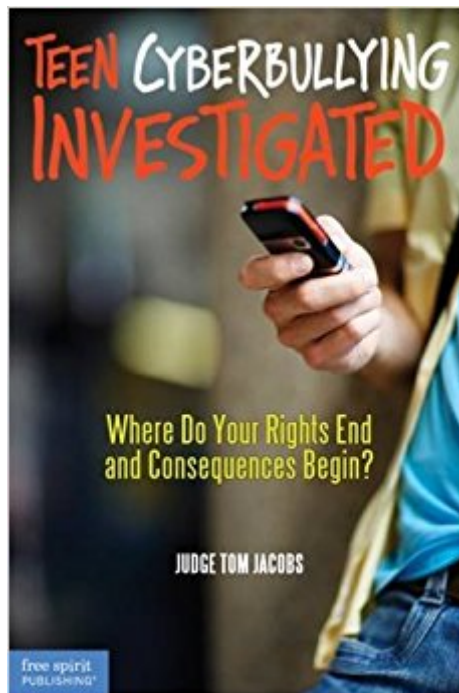




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# Teen Cyberbullying Investigated: Where Do Your Rights End And Consequences Begin?



## Synopsis

How do teens know when they might be a click away from the clinic? In *Teen Cyberbullying Investigated*, Judge Tom Jacobs presents a powerful collection of landmark court cases involving teens and charges of cyberbullying, which includes: sending insulting or threatening emails, text, or instant messages directly to someone; spreading hateful comments about someone through emails, blogs, or chat rooms; stealing passwords and sending out threatening messages using a false identity; and building a Web site to target specific people. Each chapter features the seminal case and resulting decision, asks readers whether they agree with the decision, and urges them to think about how the decision affects their lives. Chapters also include related cases, important facts and statistics, and suggestions for further reading. With an ever-increasing number of serious cases of cyberbullying and school violence, this book is needed more urgently than ever.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 6 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up "Among books recently published on this topic, this one distinguishes itself by covering more than 50 actual court cases involving teenagers. A note on the back states that the offensive language is quoted from court transcripts and should be taken in context. Although Judge Jacobs assures teenagers of their protected legal rights, especially First Amendment rights, the hearings are a sobering reminder of the real dangers and legal consequences of cyberbullying. He admits that laws differ from state to state and judges in one court will hand down different decisions from

those in another. Cyberbullies are warned to expect the unexpected. Some of the cases were still pending at the time of publication. Although the text is explicitly addressed to teenagers, it would be helpful to school administrators who could refer to the court cases when dealing with cyberspace misuse and School Authorized Use Policies (AUPs). Crime/Justice and Participation in Government courses could use the questions and prompts posed at the end of each chapter for class discussion. Although further resources and Web sites are extensive, some legal journals would not be readily available to high school students. The layout includes sidebars, photos, and graphics. Promoting the values of civility and ethical behavior makes this book an even more timely and valuable purchase.â "Peggy Fleming, Churchville-Chili High School, Churchville, NY Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Like Toney Allmanâ <sup>TM</sup>s Mean Behind the Screen (2009), this title deals with the hot, contemporary topic of online teen harassment, by both teens and by adults. The author, a former judge, focuses on recent landmark court cases, many of them still pending, and in an informal, interactive style, each chapter discusses one case in detail, bringing together the rights of the victim as well as those of the perpetrator. He then moves from the particulars to the general issues and asks readers, â œWhat would you decide in this case?â • Whether the case is about using a cell phone to send nude photos of a friend, a personal attack on a teacher, or posting a fake profile online, Jacobs encourages readers to consider the viewpoints of victim, perpetrator, and bystander (â œHave you ever sent a bullying personal message, all over your school?â •). Each chapter includes a bibliography of articles and Web sites and interactive questions sure to spark more discussion. â œThink before you click!â • sums up the cautionary advice. Grades 7-12. --Hazel Rochman

A more accurate title would be Cybercrime Investigated, since many of the cases are not related to online bullying. Regardless, this book, clearly aimed at early teens was fascinating. It is filled with stories of teens who created websites to humiliate or insult teachers and friends and how the judicial system responded to (e.g. school suspensions). Essentially, unless the school or target can demonstrate disruption to classes, obscene or lewd comments or injury to a person, then such speech made online is usually protected by the constitution. While many cases discussed were pranks by teens who eventually hired lawyers to 'reframe' their immature and often hateful antics as "free speech", there are many examples of what happens when threats to kill are made online. The book shows how our judicial system protects a frightening array of online attacks on our nations teachers and how many pranks have crossed the line and landed the perputrator in jail. It is suitable

for a mature school audience but you should know that the book contains the F word several times. It also contains many relevant references to online resources. It is also of interest to anyone trying to keep up with teenage antisocial behavior in the digital age.

This book was an amazing resource for my School Law class. It was an easy read, and I was able to finish relatively quickly. It would be a great read for teachers in middle and high schools so that they can gain a deeper understanding of the affects of cyberbullying. It is written for a younger audience but is a great discussion book for any age- middle school to adults.

The case laws were very helpful. Easy to read.

This book is a must read for all teens and their parents. It's written by an expert in this field and a former juvenile court judge in AZ. It is an awesome insight to what happens when you do things on the Internet and push that send button. There is no going back once that is done and Judge Jacobs explores court cases of teens and what their consequences were! Should be required reading for teens in every school!

I would recommend all Judge Jacobs books. I have used them all in my high school law classes.

Good book for school kids - I was working on a project on Cyberbullying and this book did help a bit.

I work at a school so I thought that this book would be helpful for teens to read. Unfortunately though a lot of the cases in here were examples of when parents took schools to court over discipline issues regarding inappropriate use if the Internet, including threats and bullying, and won. However, most of the court cases weren't even over until the student had either graduated or long since transferred schools. So it was not quite the moral tale I had hoped to use to caution students how they use the Internet and to use good judgement about what they post.

I have some interest in this cyberbullying because I write about education-related issues, but also because I have been trying to gain a better understanding of social networking. Judge Jacob's book explains the ramifications of teen cyberbullying in a very readable format. While Judge Jacobs apparently served on the bench for a long time, he has written a book that is not overly drowned in legalese. With respect to cyberspace, issues of free speech may extend off-campus to social

networking tools and Web sites. This book mentions several examples including cases of derogatory and misleading information about teachers and students to threats to pull "another Columbine" to tamer incidents such as comments that would appear on student evaluations of teachers at the college level. The major contention from reading the case examples and the rulings is the level of damage or disruption caused by the activity. In some cases, as you will read, the school district won, and expelled offenders. However, in others, the student won, and school districts were forced to pay the student's legal fees. School districts are aptly warned about improper punishments, too. After reading this book, I read about a cyberbullying case on the editorial page of the Rutgers Daily Targum, the main campus daily newspaper, where a high school suspended a student who had posted disparaging comments about a teacher--they were on the line of "she's the worst teacher I ever had." The school also reacted by removing the student from honors and advanced placement classes, which seems excessive. In this case the student had her day in court and won. I recommend this book to school officials as well as parents who are concerned about their son's or daughter's use of the Internet. It will also provide sufficient warning to potential cyberbullies.

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