**MYTH BUSTERS**

**Mean Girl Myth:** Boys (26%) are more likely than girls (20%) to be mean online. Of those who have been mean online (23% of all students): Boys (13%) are also more likely than girls (7%) to pretend to be someone else online so they can do mean things without getting into trouble.

**Child’s Play?** Harassing someone in an online game increases in the later grades even though gameplay actually decreases from Grade 5 onwards.

**Bullies VS Victims Myth:** 39% of students report being both a recipient and deliverer of mean or cruel online behaviour.

---

**METHODOLOGY**

Conducted February to June of 2013

5,436 Canadian students in grades 4-11 in 10 provinces and three territories

41% boys | 46% girls | 13% no indication

140 schools in 51 school boards

© 2014 MediaSmarts