

REPORTING VS. SNITCHING

When you report to a trusted adult, you are sharing information with that trusted adult in hopes to get advice or help with a problem that you are unable to solve yourself. Typically in these instances someone (you or a peer) is being hurt either physically or emotionally. Your intention is not to get someone in trouble, but rather to help yourself or a peer.

SHOULD YOU REPORT IT OR SOLVE THE PROBLEM YOURSELF...

SCENARIO

1. Jan is playing kickball with her class and Peter tells Jan she is the worst player he has ever seen.
2. Every day after school Bailey pulls Julie's hair and tells her that she is stupid.
3. Nolan and George, 7th graders, created a Facebook page that makes fun of students at their school. They never name anyone's name, but it is often clear who they are talking about by what they are saying. Most of the middle school is talking about it in the halls, recess and at lunch.
4. Molly sent Joann a mean & hurtful Snapchat last week, but hasn't tried to contact her since then.

RESPONSE TO SCENARIO

1. Before reporting to a trusted adult, Jan can ask Peter to stop saying rude things to her. If he continues, then Jan should report his behavior and ask for help.
2. Because Bailey is treating Julie this way 'every day' Julie should seek her trusted adult and ask for help and guidance in dealing with this difficult and hurtful situation.
3. First, since this situation is happening on a social networking site, you can report this cyberbullying page directly to Facebook. Then save and print (if possible) the comments and rumors that are being posted. Share this information with a trusted adult.
4. Since this appears to be the first and last time that Molly sent a hurtful message to Joann, she can block Molly from sending anymore Snapchats and choose not to interact with her in the future. If Molly continues to try to contact Joann with hurtful messages, then she should report this behavior.