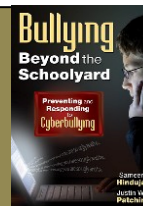


Family Cell Phone Contract

From: "Bullying Beyond the Schoolyard: Preventing and Responding to Cyberbullying"



Sameer Hinduja, Ph.D. and Justin W. Patchin, Ph.D.
Cyberbullying Research Center

Child Expectations

1. I acknowledge that using a cell phone is a privilege and, therefore, will not take it for granted.
2. I will not give out my cell phone number to anyone unless I first clear it with my parents.
3. I will always answer calls from my parents. If I miss a call from them, I will call them back immediately.
4. I will not bring my cell phone to school if it is prohibited. If allowed to bring it to school, I will keep it in my backpack or locker and turned off between the first and last bell.
5. I will not use my cell phone for any purpose after ____am/pm on a school night or after ____am/pm on a nonschool night, unless approved by my parents.
6. I will not send hurtful, harassing, or threatening text messages.
7. I will not say anything to anyone using the cell phone that I wouldn't say to them in person with my parents listening.
8. I will pay for any charges above and beyond the usual monthly fee.
9. I will not download anything from the Internet or call toll numbers without first asking my parents.
10. I will not enable or disable any setting on my phone without my parent's permission.
11. I will not take a picture or video of anyone without that person's permission.
12. I will not send or post pictures or videos of anyone online without that person's permission.
13. I will not send or post any pictures or videos to anyone without first showing them to my parents.
14. I will not be disruptive in my cell phone use. If my parents ask me to end a call or stop text messaging, I will.

Parent Expectations

1. I will respect the privacy of my child when my child is talking on a cell phone.
2. I will not unnecessarily invade my child's privacy by reading text messages or looking through call logs without telling my child first. If I have a concern, I will express it to my child, and we will look through this material together.
3. I will pay the standard monthly fee for the cell phone contract.
4. I will be reasonable with consequences for violations of this contract. Consequences will start at loss of cell phone privileges for 24 hours and progress according to the seriousness of the violation.

Child's signature: _____

Parent's signature: _____

Sameer Hinduja, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at Florida Atlantic University and Justin W. Patchin, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Together, they lecture across the United States on the causes and consequences of cyberbullying and offer comprehensive workshops for parents, teachers, counselors, mental health professionals, law enforcement, youth and others concerned with addressing and preventing online aggression.

The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents. For more information, visit <http://www.cyberbullying.us>. © 2009 Cyberbullying Research Center - Sameer Hinduja and Justin W. Patchin