

### **Presentation Description:**

#### **"Cyberbullying, An Emerging Threat to the 'Always-on' Generation"**

(90 minutes)

"Cyberbullying is a rapidly emerging form of immoral, antisocial behaviour that presents new and sometimes frightening challenges to parents, teachers, and others committed to the education and well-being of our children and youth. Bill Belsey's [www.cyberbullying.ca](http://www.cyberbullying.ca) project brings the nature and scope of this behaviour into sharp focus. I will use this site as the primary cyberbullying reference site for my work with teachers. It is a much-needed child of its widely used parent site, [www.bullying.org](http://www.bullying.org)," said Dr. William Egnatoff, Professor, Computers in Education, at the Faculty of Education of Queen's University.

The project, initiated by noted Canadian educator Bill Belsey, was created because he observed that cyberbullying has become a huge problem in other parts of the world, where mobile phones and other telecommunications tools are more deeply embedded in youth culture.

"Cyberbullying involves the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behaviour by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others." -Bill Belsey

[www.cyberbullying.ca](http://www.cyberbullying.ca) is the very first Web site in the world to address the issue of cyberbullying specifically. "I think that we have a window of opportunity to try and be more proactive and raise awareness about this issue through education. Unfortunately, cyberbullying is already becoming a larger issue in the lives of young people every day", observes Belsey.

This engaging multimedia presentation offers a deep understanding of the issue of cyberbullying, examples of how cyberbullying manifests itself in peoples' lives, current research on the topic, information about how cyberbullying might be prevented, strategies and resources for those who are currently dealing with cyberbullying in their lives.

The presentation also offers an insightful and current introduction to what Belsey calls the "Always-on" generation. Parents and teachers who think that they know young people will be have their eyes opened as Belsey helps the audience learn about this new world our kids are growing up in.

### **Bill Belsey**

Mr. Belsey is a winner of the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Technology. He is also a recipient of the Royal Bank Fellowship from the Mathematics, Science and Technology Group at Queen's University, the Conference Board of Canada's National Partners in Education Award and the Roy C. Hill Fellowship for Innovations in Education, which is administered by the Canadian Teachers Federation.

He is the founder and President of Bullying.org Canada Incorporated, a nationally registered nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the prevention of bullying through education and awareness.

Another of his projects, [www.bullying.org](http://www.bullying.org), was honoured with the Cable and Wireless ChildNet Award, which goes to projects that make the Internet a better and safer place for children. This project has also been named as a finalist in the Stockholm Challenge Awards, an award that has been called the Nobel Prize of the Information Technology (IT) world. This project has often been featured on the CTV National News. In an interview with Mr. Belsey on CBC TV's "The National", Peter Mansbridge referred to [www.bullying.org](http://www.bullying.org) as "One of the best Web sites in the world for children".

[www.bullying.org](http://www.bullying.org) has received as many as one million visitors and contributors and is often listed as the number one bullying-referenced Web site in the world. Mr. Belsey also created [www.cyberbullying.ca](http://www.cyberbullying.ca), the first Web site in the world to address the issue of cyberbullying. He is often cited as the first person to use the word and define the behaviour "cyberbullying". Mr. Belsey conceived of, and helps to coordinate Canada's National [Bullying Awareness Week](http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org), see [www.bullyingawarenessweek.org](http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org). Mr. Belsey also is the creator of the groundbreaking Website, [www.bullyingcourse.com](http://www.bullyingcourse.com). This educational resource offers online courses and multimedia presentations to parents, educators and the general public about the issues of bullying and cyberbullying.

Mr. Belsey was asked to travel to in Bangkok, where he shared his knowledge with the United Nations International Research Study team examining Violence and Children.

He has also appeared numerous times on Canadian national media. He has been a consultant to "The Dr. Phil Show" and ABC News 20/20 with Diane Sawyer.

In May 2006, Mr. Belsey received Canada's [National Technology Innovations Award](#) from The Learning Partnership and his presentation "Change the World 101" was given the "Conference Award" as the most outstanding work presented during the entire gathering.

In October 2006, Mr. Belsey was named as a Fellow of the [World Technology Network](#) in the Education category at a gala event at San Francisco's City Hall. At this same ceremony, former U.S. Vice President Al Gore was inducted as a Fellow in the Environment category and Tim Burners-Lee, one of the co-creators of the World Wide Web, was honoured in the Internet category.

He is a much sought-after speaker and presenter on the topics of bullying, cyberbullying, technology integration, innovation and learning. He has presented at many conferences around the world.