IV International Gender Workshop

Warsaw 19th – 20th November 2015
Development of modern technology in hand with new forms of violence and harassment.

Cyber violence – one of several different concept used to denote acts of harassment or abuse mediated through the Internet. Cyber bullying – another, more extensively used term.

Other terms cyber harassment, cyber sexual violence and cyber stalking.

Cybercrime – describes economic crimes, fraud, hacking, espionage and acts of terrorism performed on and through the internet, but also criminal acts such as stalking, privacy violations, harassment and violence.
Definitions and cyber violence discourse

The discourse of violence against women

- cyber sexual violence, cyber harassment, cyber stalking

- using social media and communication technologies for unwanted sexual acts, attempts to obtain sexual acts, sexual comments or advances or sexual coercion

- it could be non-consensual distribution of images, intimate partner violence, targeted harassment of communities and exposure to rape culture

- gender misogyny and harassment within computer games
Definitions and cyber violence discourse

Cyber bullying discourse

- concept primarily applied to harassment and abuse among children and adolescence performed in a school context

Freedom of speech discourse

- harassment of people who take part in the public debate - a potential threat to freedom of speech (fear and the negative consequences of harassment)
- women are subject to more extensive harassment, often a misogynous and sexualized character
- hate speech as a legal dilemma
Our projects

Staying Safe Online: Gender and Safety on the Internet

Stop Cyber-Violence against Women and Men
Staying Safe Online: Gender and Safety on the Internet

- Pilot Research Project
- Two-year international project with Cyprus and Poland
- Analysis based on quantitative and qualitative research
- 482 people from the Czech Republic
- Target group: young people 18-29 years old
Project Objectives

- Gather relevant information on the role of gender in our experience of ICT in relation to cyber-violence
- Raise public awareness about gender-based violence and the role of ICT in everyday life
- Disseminate information about safety in cyber space and provide psychological and legal help to people who have experienced any kind of gender-based violence
Research Objectives

- collect data about experience of cyber violence
- gain knowledge of the relationship between gender and ICT
- explore the experience of young people in managing danger and/or violence in cyber space
Main Findings

- Cyber violence is not a matter concerning just children
- Every second person has experienced some form of cyber violence
- The acceptance of cyber violence differs, men seem to be more tolerant
- Gender expectations: men as aggressors and women as victims were not affirmed
Stop Cyber-Violence against Women and Men

Current project

Analysis based on the quantitative and qualitative research

Target group: middle generation (18+)
Project Objectives

- Raise public awareness about violence in cyberspace
- Call attention to the insufficient professional assistance and support to victims of cyber violence
- Analysis of current Czech legislation and its response to cyber violence
- To provide professional assistance and support to people threatened by cyber violence
Main Findings

- The acceptance of cyber violence differs from person to person
- Connection and similarity between cyber violence and physical violence
- Victim-blaming
- Social-conditioning
Thank you.

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