Dr. Jennifer Shapka

1) Contact information:

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2) A brief biography

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education, at the University of British Columbia. My teaching and research are in the area of developmental psychology, and I am particularly interested in identifying how contextual factors are contributing to developmental wellbeing for adolescents. To this end, I have been exploring the impact of what it means to grow up in an information age by examining the impact of internet use on social and cognitive development. Most recently, I have explored the online risks associated with cyberbullying, as well as privacy-related concerns due to the over-disclosure of personal information.

3) Ongoing projects in this area

I. TeenTech Research Project: A 4-year longitudinal study that will explore trajectories of online risk behaviours for adolescents, including analysis of proximal and distal predictors of risk. The focus of this work is looking at the tension between parent and peer influence on engagement in risk.
II. Testing a Dual Processing Theory of Online Risk: This study explores, via the experiential sampling method, a dual processing approach for understanding cyberbullying and online self-disclosure. Participants report their ‘in the moment’ thoughts and feelings immediately prior or post an online interaction, and these are compared to their global beliefs about cyberbullying and online privacy.
III. Comparison of Online vs Face2face Interviews for Adolescents: This project explored the quality and quantity of data produced via online vs f2f interviews for 15-18 year old adolescents.
IV. YouthMADE project: This project explores the efficacy of using digital media to empower marginalized youth by giving them an opportunity to create films about their experiences with oppression and discrimination.

4) An annotated bibliography

This article extended our work cross-culturally to explore the relationship between parenting behaviours and the motivations underlying cyber-aggression with an East Asian sample.


This is a theoretical paper exploring the role of Social Information Processing in Cyber-victimization and aggression.


This work explored parent/toddler interactions in an increasingly technological world.


This work utilized mixed methods to explore the motivations underlying cyber-aggression.


This work was one of the first to empirically compare face2face forms of bullying with online forms of bullying. The conclusion was that these are two unique forms of aggression.


This article extended the work of Stattin and Kerr to explore the relationship between parenting behaviours and self reports of cyber-aggression.

5) **Relevant web-based links**

Personal webpage:

[http://www.educ.ubc.ca/faculty/shapka/](http://www.educ.ubc.ca/faculty/shapka/)