

Cyberbullying News *By Veronica Aguilar*

On June 14, 2017 in Rockway, New Jersey, an innocent 12 year old girl took her life after being cyberbullied by her classmates. The bullying started in October at Copeland Middle School, where Mallory Grossman started getting Direct Messages on Instagram, Snapchat, and even through text messages saying, “Why don’t you kill yourself,” and “You have no friends,” according to Kalhan Rosenblatt, the author of the article *Cyberbullying Tragedy: New Jersey Family To Sue after 12-Year-old Daughter’s Suicide*

Eventually the cyberbullying got so bad that she did not want to go to school. She started complaining to her mom about chronic headaches, stomach aches, and as a result, her grades decreased. What made it worse was that the school focused on academics and did not care about her health issues. When Mallory’s mom, Dianne Grossman, told the school administrators to prevent the cyberbullying from happening again, they were inconsiderate towards the family and situation.

When the school did not do anything, the mom started talking to guidance counselors, teachers, and even the vice principal who then said they were investigating the situation. She took it into her own hands and confronted and begged the bully’s mom to have her child stop. The mom instantly declined and told her not to worry about it, that it was just a game that would soon end. It did end, but not the way Mallory’s mom wanted it to.

When Mallory did go to school, everyone could tell she had an aura of fear. This only gave the bully(s) more reasons to keep targeting her. As the months went on with constant cyberbullying, nothing changed. Unfortunately, Mallory Grossman could not take anymore and took her own life on June 14, 2017 due to the constant cyberbullying that was never resolved.

This is only ONE of the situations where suicide has occurred due to cyberbullying. Everyday someone is in a tough situation where they cannot handle the pressure. According to a website called *Bullying Statistics*, 1 in 3 young people have experienced threats online and 25 percent of adolescents have been bullied repeatedly through their cell phones or via internet.

Everyday many adolescents wake up and think they need to take a shower, pick out an outfit that is fashionable so they will get some attention. A lot of girls also feel the need to put on makeup that will make them feel a little bit more confident about themselves. Some of them need to style their hair with gel or curl it to hide the fact that their hair is crazy, and even pick shoes that hurt their feet to make them feel pretty or look cool. In fact, some people go so far to change their look to get accepted by their own friends that when they look in the mirror they won’t recognize themselves. This is just ONE example about cyberbullying and how it can change lives around them in just one decision by the the person who is going through the rough time.