

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the role of interpersonal communication in building social support for adolescents who are victims of cyberbullying on the social media platform Instagram. The research adopts the theory of Mediated Interpersonal Communication. The aim is to understand how interpersonal communication functions in delivering and fostering social support for these victims. A descriptive qualitative method with a phenomenological approach was employed. Data were collected through in-depth interviews and observations of 10 adolescent informants who experienced various forms of cyberbullying, including flaming, harassment, cyberstalking, denigration, impersonation, outing and trickery, and exclusion. The findings reveal that interpersonal communication plays a significant role in the psychological recovery process of the victims. The most dominant types of social support identified are emotional, instrumental, and informational support. The study highlights the importance of interpersonal communication as a mechanism to strengthen connectedness and create a supportive social environment for adolescent victims of cyberbullying in the digital era. Furthermore, it emphasizes that mediated interpersonal communication serves as a crucial mechanism in fostering social bonds and building a supportive environment for these adolescents in navigating the impacts of cyberbullying..

Keywords: *Interpersonal Communication, Social Support, Adolescents, Cyberbullying, Instagram*