

How to support someone who is experiencing online bullying, hate, or trolling

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## How to support someone who is experiencing online bullying, hate, or trolling

If you are the trusted person/confidant for someone experiencing online bullying, hate, or trolling, here's how you can help.

- 1. Please just listen and don't interrupt.
- 2. Don't make it about your experience. Focus on their current situation.
- 3. They will ask for advice if they want it. Sometimes, they just need to be heard. Offer advice only if they request it.

### If they seek your help, follow this plan.

Encourage them to take a break from social media and maintain a journal to record their feelings, which can be discussed with a professional if needed.

#### Suggest a meditation app to help with stress and anxiety.

- Encourage them to collect screenshots of the negative activity as evidence or ask friends to do so.
- If they are a child, inform their school to ensure the issue is addressed on campus. If they are an adult, suggest talking to HR or a lawyer if it's happening at work.
- Report the issue to the police or relevant government agency if necessary.
- Remind them that this will pass and everything will be okay.
- Help them create a Self Care Action Plan and a vision board (either physical or on a secret Pinterest board) to set goals and envision a positive future.

Ask some of their friends to make a video clip or write a note that can be sent to the person who is having a hard time, sharing their thoughts using the questions below.

- How would you describe [person] to someone who doesn't know them?
- What is something you think they are really good at? Tell them!
- Share a positive/kind memory of them or something you have done together, or something they have done for someone else.
- Any other positive thoughts you'd like to share?

If they need immediate help, they can contact the following helplines.

#### Australia:

• Lifeline: 131114

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636
Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800
Mensline: 1300 78 9978

Australian Centre for Grief: 1800 642 066

#### **New Zealand:**

Lifeline: 0800 543 354Youthline: 0800 376 633

#### **United Kingdom:**

Samaritans: 116 123Childline: 0800 1111

National Bullying Helpline: 0845 22 55 787

#### Ireland:

Samaritans: 116 123Childline: 1800 66 66 66

#### **Hong Kong:**

The Samaritans: +852 2896 0000

#### **Europe** (general):

• European helpline for emotional support: 116 123 (available in most European countries)
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but the nature of social media is constantly changing. Safe on Social Media Pty Ltd cannot guarantee the
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