

# ActionPoint: Action-driven App to Strengthen Parent-Teen Relationships to Combat Cyberbullying



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### Motivation

- The American Psychological Association has identified cyberbullying as a serious national health concern, with more than 40% of teenagers in the US reporting that they have been bullied on social media platforms.
- Cyberbullying is linked to depression, anxiety, and suicidal behavior, and can thus have profound implications at the level of individuals, families, and society.
- Previous research has focused on the detection of cyberbullying in youth, however, there has been relatively little work on the development of tools that can be used to help parents and teens build stronger relationships within the context of cyberbullying on social media.
- ActionPoint is an action-driven mobile application aimed at building and strengthening parent-teen relationships in the context of combatting cyberbullying. [7]

## Design

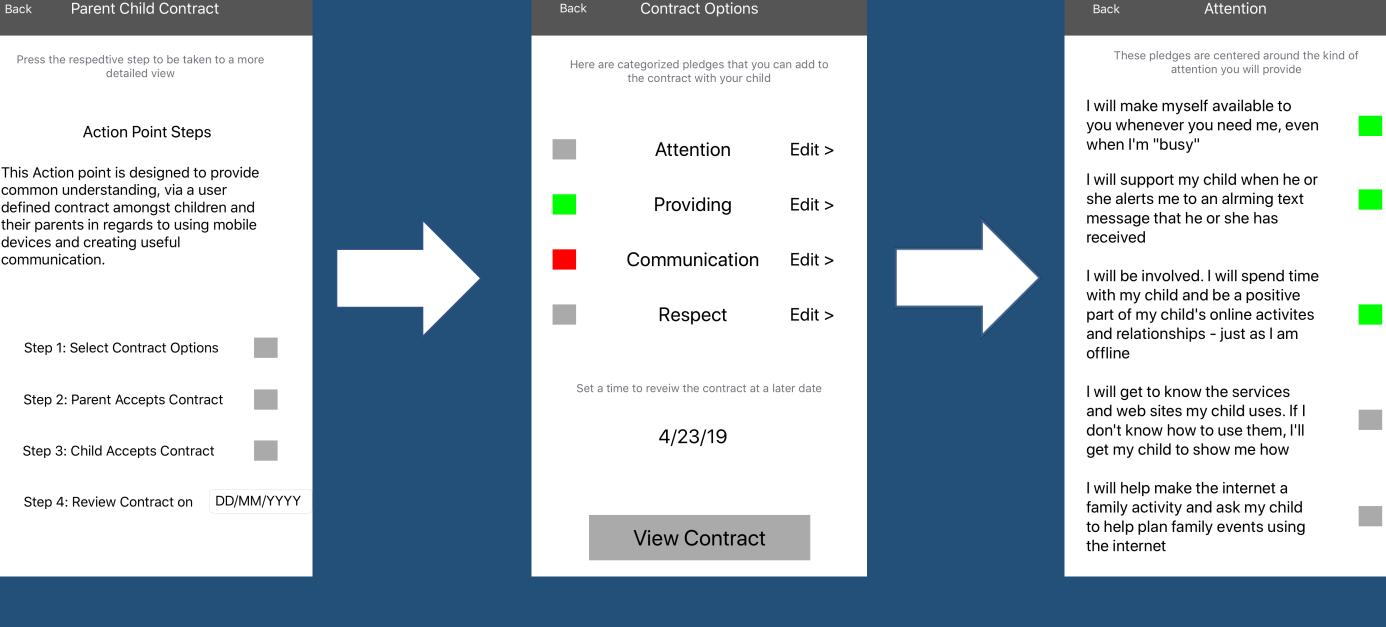
- The core component of this application are ActionPoints. An ActionPoint is a guided activity such as a survey or a contract of behavioral goals between parents and teens.
- These ActionPoints are meant to provide useful information to the parents about the technology their teen uses, their teen's personal experiences, and ways to bond with their teen.
- Each of the ActionPoints is created based on findings from the psychological literature on parent-teen relationships and family dynamics surrounding technology use.
- Our team has complied empirical psychological papers based on positive interactions, situations, and strategies between parents and teens. This project uses an app-based framework to enable families to engage in those activities through our app.

## **ActionPoint Examples**

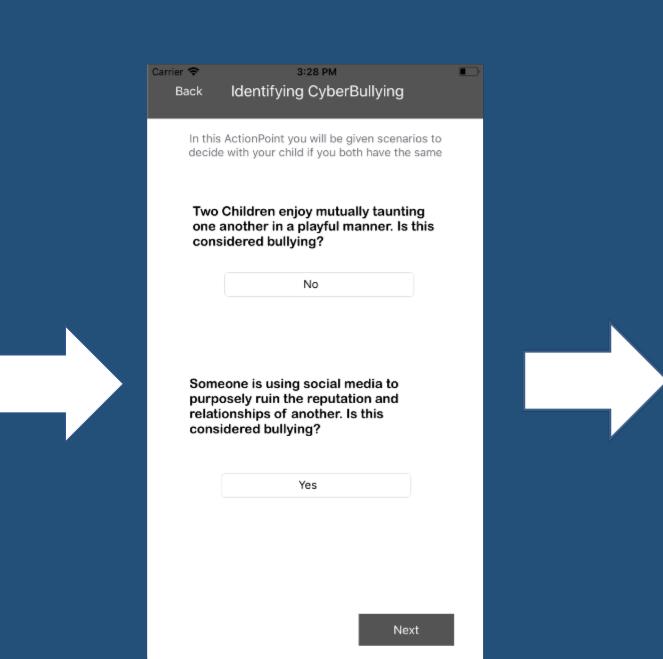
Parent-Teen Contract

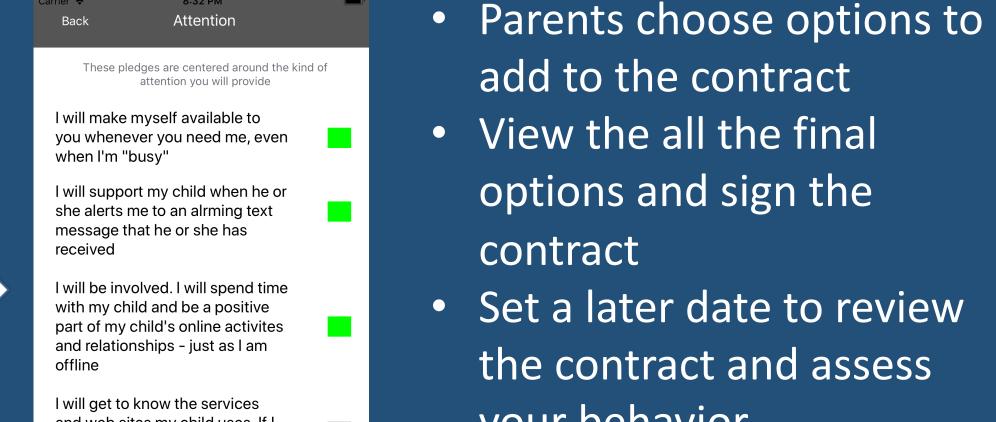
Aligning Perceptions of Family Social Media Use

Cyberbullying



Back Use of Social Media Back Comparison of Social Media Use In this action point, we will explore the way your perceptions of social media use differs This action point involves completing This action point involves completing brief survey questions brief survey questions How do you use Social Media? On an average day, how many hours do you spend on social media? s there anything that concerns you How much time do you consider to be small social media usage per day? If you saw someone being bullied





- add to the contract View the all the final
- options and sign the contract
- Set a later date to review the contract and assess your behavior
- Supporting psychology results: [3,6]
- Parent and teen take three brief surveys
- Each survey is designed to give a perception of what parent/teen uses social media for.
- Also focus on ideas of how social media should be used.
- Supporting psychology results: [5, 7]
- Parents and children take the survey with questions centered around finding out what each considers to be Cyberbullying [2]
- The differences in results will be highlighted, to encourage discussion [4]

### Publications

- 1. L. Cheng (ASU Graduate Student), R. Guo (ASU Graduate Student), Y. N. Silva, D. Hall, H. Liu. Hierarchical Attention Networks for Cyberbullying Detection on the Instagram Social Network. The SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM), Alberta, Canada, 2019
- 2. Ybarra, M. L., & Mitchell, K. J. (2004). Youth engaging in online harassment: Associations with caregiver-child relationships, Internet use, and personal characteristics. Journal of adolescence, 27(3), 319-336

action point. Please select which one to

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Action Point Steps

understanding on what you two consider

tep 1: Complete Parent survey

Step 2 : Send a survey link

Step 3: Comparative Analysis

- 3. Patrikakou, E. (2016).Parent Involvement, Technology, and Media: Now What? School Community Journal, 26(2), 9-24.
- 4. Elsaesser, C., Russell, B., Ohannessian, C. M., & Patton, D. (2017). Parenting in a digital age: A review of parents' role in preventing adolescent cyberbullying. Aggression and violent behavior, 35, 62-72.
- 5. Livingstone, S. (2007). Strategies of parental regulation in the media rich home. Computers in Human Behavior, 23(3), 920-941.13.
- 6. Trucks, C., Rice, Margaret, Atkinson, Becky, Benson, Angela, Rice, Richard, & Wright, Vivian. (2014). Teen Opinions of the Influence of Parental Technology Use on Teen Technology Use, ProQuest Dissertations and Theses.
- 7. Mesch, G. (2012). Technology and youth. New Directions for Youth Development, 2012(135), 97-105.

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social media or another messaging platform, instead of making threats in

person. Is this considered bullying?

8. L. Cheng (ASU Graduate Student), J. Li (ASU Graduate Student), Y. N. Silva, D. Hall, H. Liu. XBully: Cyberbullying Detection within a Multi-Modal Context. The 12th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM), Melbourne, Australia, 2019



