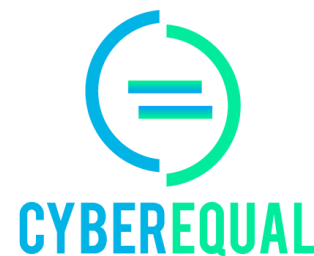


# Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls (CVAWG) Study



## Country Factsheets



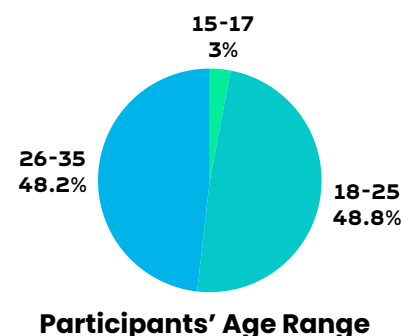
CYPRUS

The CVAWG study, conducted in the context of the EU-funded project 'CyberEqual: Educating Youth on Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls', aimed at **mapping** the phenomenon of **Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls** in the project's partner countries, namely, **Cyprus, Greece, Ukraine, Slovakia** and **Lithuania**.

In the study, there were **467 young women and girls** participating, with their ages ranging from **15 to 35 years old** and the majority of respondents belonging to the **18-35 age group**.

**39.3%** of the respondents hold a **Master's degree**, **33.3%** **Bachelor's degree**, **25%** have completed **secondary education** and **2.4%** hold a **PhD**.

With regards to the participants' occupational status, **42.9%** are **private employees**, **13.1%** **public employees**, **4.8%** **self-employed**, **10.7%** **university students**, **22.6%** **high school students**, **4.8%** are **unemployed** and **1.2%** belong to some **other** category, not reported in the survey.



## Prevalence

**76%**

of respondents across all partner countries experienced, witnessed, or knew someone who experienced CVAWG, highlighting its widespread nature.

### For Cyprus

**61.2%**

of respondents experienced, witnessed, or knew someone who experienced CVAWG.

## CVAWG Threats

CVAWG refers to harmful acts carried out through digital technologies that target women and girls based on their gender. Such acts or threats include Doxxing, Non-Consensual Intimate Image (NCII) abuse, Threats of physical Violence, Online Harassment, Cyber Stalking, Impersonation, Hate Speech, Defamation and Astroturfing. Such threats aim to intimidate, silence, or harm, and often have severe psychological, emotional, and reputational impacts. The anonymity and reach of the internet can amplify these harms, making it a serious and growing issue in the digital age.

### Doxxing

Sharing personal information to incite or promote acts of violence.

### NCII

Sharing or distribution of sexually explicit images or videos of a woman without her consent, to shame, harass, or exploit her.

### Hate Speech

Sexist/hateful language, on the basis of the gender, aiming to demean or insult.

### Cyber Stalking

Accessing private communications and data of women via social media and use of location tracking.

# Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls (CVAWG) Study

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### Impersonation

Setting up a fake online profile using someone else's identity.

### Defamation

Sharing false or harmful stories to ruin a woman's reputation.

### Online Harassment

Repetitive use of words or images to scare a woman and lower her confidence.

### Violent Threats

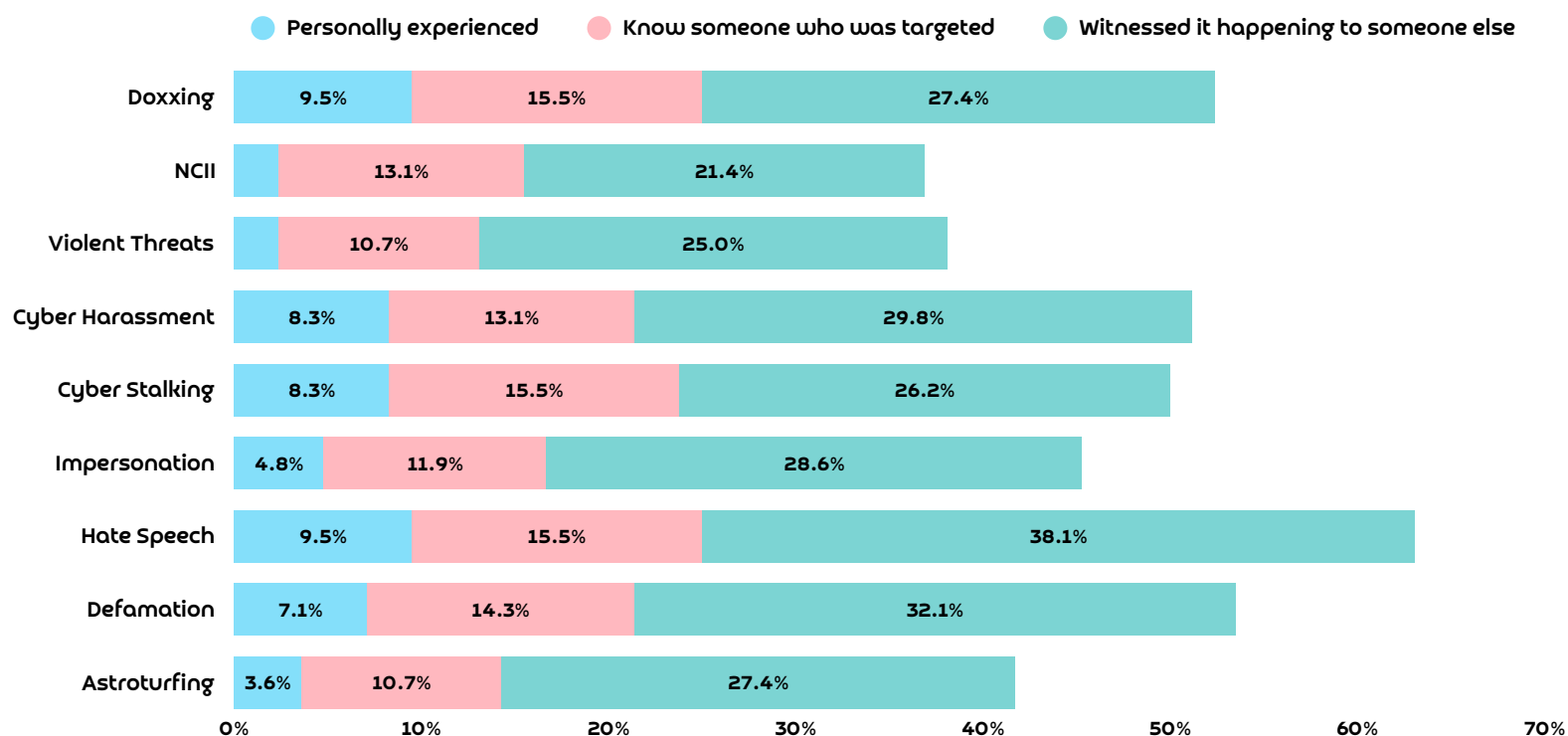
Online threats aimed at causing physical harm to a woman or her relatives

### Astroturfing

An organized attempt to post harmful content on multiple platforms at the same time.

## Prevalence of CVAWG by threat

**Doxxing & Gender-Based Hate Speech** dominate in the online violence experienced by the survey respondents in Cyprus.



## Perpetrators

50%

half of the women who experienced online violence knew the perpetrator

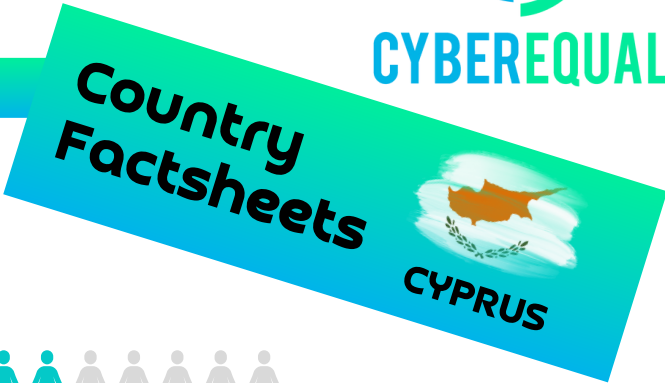
22.2%

experienced violence by anonymous users

16.7%

experienced violence by someone previously unknown to them

# Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls (CVAWG) Study



## Impacts

### Emotional / Psychological

**50%** of the victims of CVAWG Experienced Mental Health or Emotional Harm

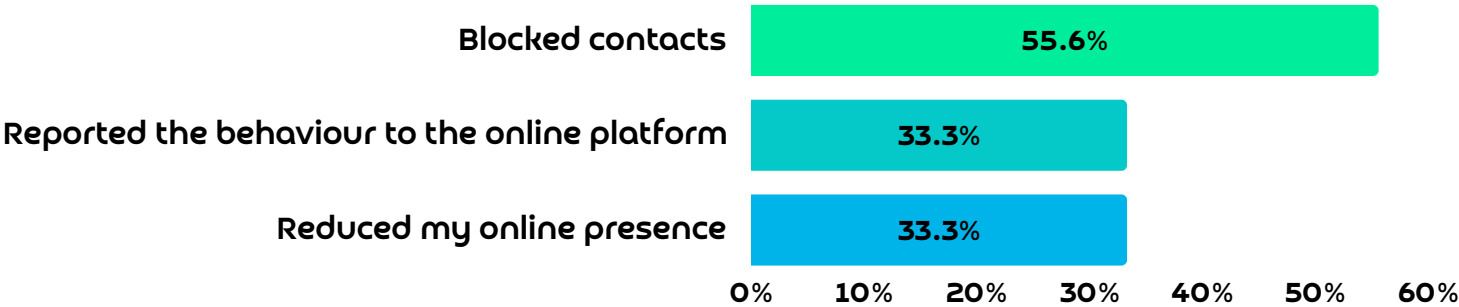


**44.4%** of the victims Felt Unsafe

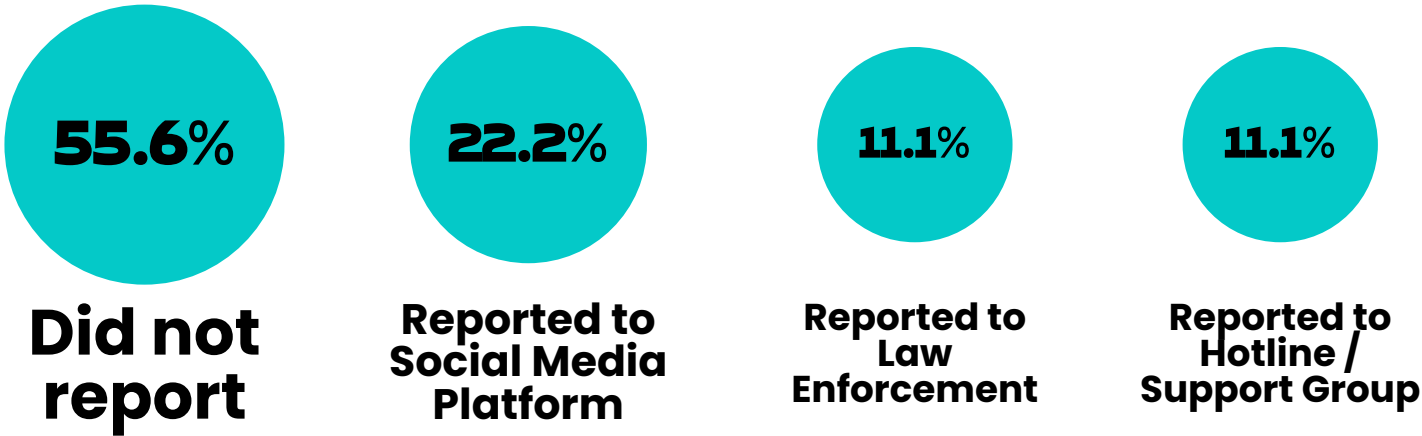
**44.4%** of the victims Felt Embarrassed



## Actions Taken to Mitigate the Situation



## Reporting



**46.2%** Did not think they'd be taken seriously  
**30.8%** Afraid of retaliation or worsening of the situation

Reasons for not reporting

# Cyber Violence Against Women & Girls (CVAWG) Study



## Country Factsheets



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## Support

**61.1%** Most women **DID NOT** seek support for the incident

**16.7%** Sought support from family or friends

**Only 11.1%** received professional support (therapist, counselor) or reached out to a support organisation for help!



## About CyberEqual

The aim of CyberEqual is to educate and raise the awareness of young people on Cyber Violence Against Women and Girls (CVAWG) and its associated implications. More specifically, interactive activities on CVAWG will be developed and will be complemented by a training guide to be used by youth workers, educators and other relevant professionals interested to deliver such training to young people, either through the school environment or through their organisational activities.

**For more information, please visit:**



<https://www.cyberequal.eu>

## Consortium



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