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Moving Toward a Theory: Testing an Integrated Model of Cyberbullying Perpetration, Aggression, Communication Skills, and Internet Self-Efficacy

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Highlights

- General aggression theory offers a useful theory for explaining, investigating, and advancing cyberbullying scholarship.
- College students experience cyberbullying at rates consistent with adolescents.
- Trait verbal aggression is consistently positively associated with cyberbullying perpetration.
- Internet self-efficacy moderates the relationship between verbal aggression and social skill.
- The interaction of verbal aggressiveness and social skills on cyberbullying perpetration depends on one's level of Internet self-efficacy: At low levels of Internet self-efficacy, trait aggressiveness and social skills do little to inform cyberbullying perpetration. At high levels of Internet self-efficacy, those with high trait verbal aggressiveness are less likely to cyberbully as their social skills grow.

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