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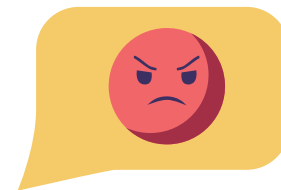
I don't understand why they cursed me like that?" said Deng Ken, an uploader who has over 1.47 million followers on the video-sharing platform Bilibili. In a recent interview with Shanghai Daily, the 30-year-old spoke openly about his cyberbullying experience for the first time.

In his account "勾手老大爷邓肯," he often shares the world's paranormal events and urban legends. He said he had suffered from online violence for a long time, as some netizens would insult his family and even slander him for his appearance. He had never expected these horrible things when he began to post on the video platform three years ago.

Deng chose to openly talk about this nightmare experience after recent events involving cyberbullying once again brought online violence to the attention of society.

Last week, a graduate student posted a video on the social media platform Weibo, effectively slandering a middle-aged man by calling him "a vulgar guy." She had suspected the man of photographing her secretly on the metro in Guangzhou, southern Guangdong Province, but the man had already proved his innocence on the spot by showing his phone album to her.

In another case, in Wuhan, Hubei Province, a young mother lost her 6-year-old son who was killed in a car accident on campus. In extreme grief, she committed suicide. According to the latest report from Qilu Evening News, people in the know said the mother's tragedy was also related to cyberbullying. Some netizens accused the mother of "not looking sad at all." Others even judged her looks and maliciously speculated about her



"hidden purpose" in asking for colossal compensations from the school.

"As a victim of cyberbullying, I felt empathy for them," Deng, the Bilibili uploader, said. "The Internet can be an amplifier of the undesirable side of human nature. The stress on life brought by cyberbullying is often beyond the imagination of those who have never experienced it."

The most severe cyberbullying he has experienced is in June last year, when he was the first uploader to accept the invitation of the platform to open paid video features. After some people saw his charge of 30 yuan (US\$4.20) for 10 videos, Deng was subjected to a torrent of verbal abuse.

He said that on the launch day, he received tens of thousands of insults via direct messages, comments and danmu (live comments). As more and more people heard about the charge, the online violence against him intensified until the next hot topic appeared.

"In their curses, my mother and I had died thousands of times a day," he said with a wry smile.

"I understand people have various opinions and I am willing to discuss some issues with others. But many people laid the matter aside and directly attacked me and my family for no reason," he said. "My mom is my faithful follower. She saw the vicious words and always consoled me. Though she didn't tell me, I know she must have also felt heartbroken."

Deng noticed that a large number of detractors were not his followers and 60-70 percent were juveniles.

"They hide behind the screen and believe they are the embodiment of justice fighters," he said. "They even create WeChat groups to slander me systematically."