

THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA **GREENSBORO** 

# Purpose

Examine the existing literature on social media safety, risks, predictors and mitigating strategies for adolescents

# Background

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends assessing and educating social media use and safety as part of the adolescent assessment
- 76% of teens used a social media site and 71% used more than one site

### Methods

**Keywords and phrases:** Social media, social networking sites, cyber, online, safety, victimization, crime, education, teaching, prevention, intervention, adolescent, teen, teenager, youth, parent, adult, mediation, and prediction

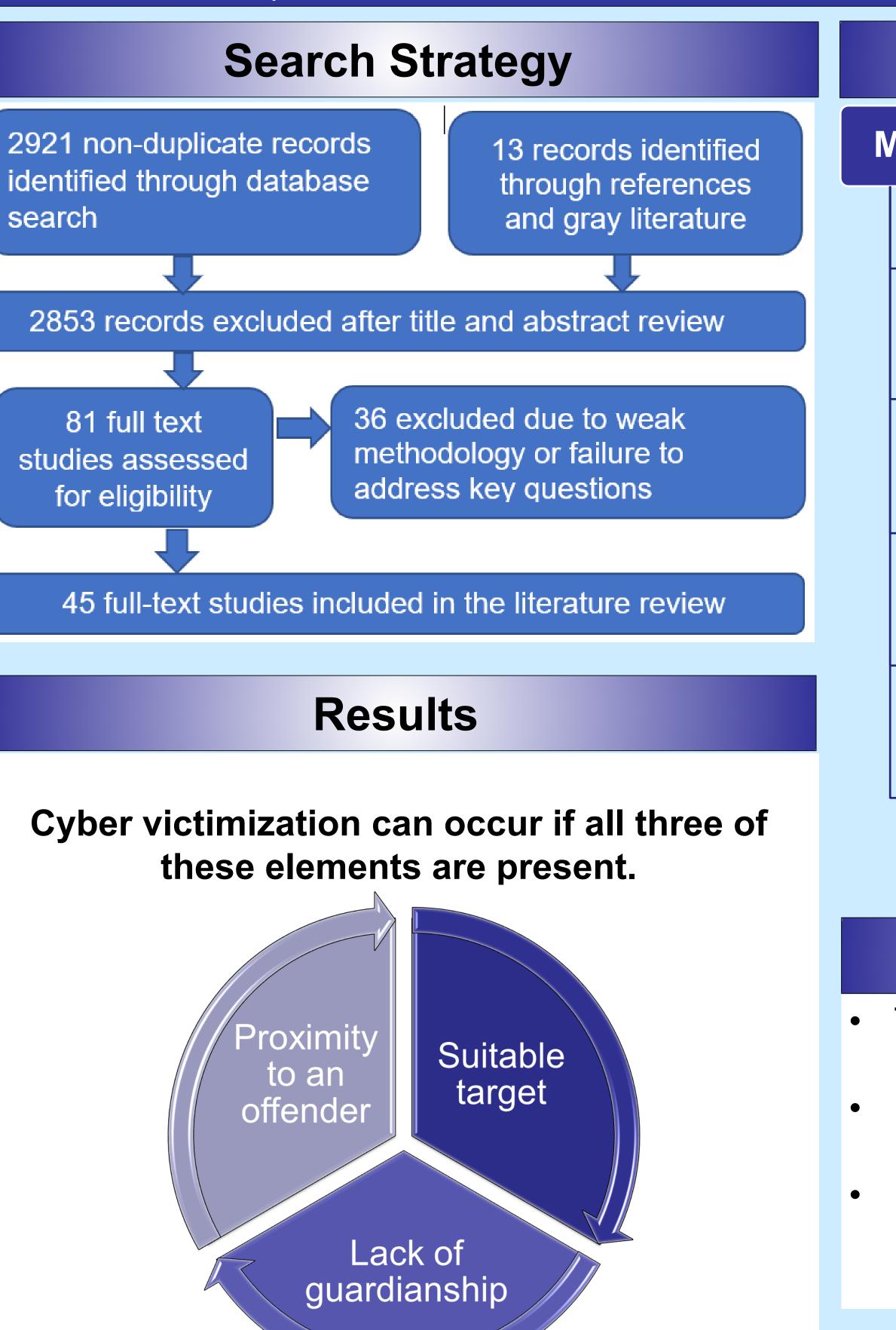
**Databases searched:** Google Scholar and EBSCO. Completed in August 2018.

**Inclusion criteria:** Peer reviewed research in English, no older than five years, addressing one of the following:

- Risks to adolescents using social media
- Number victimized online
- Predictors of online victimization
- Effective mitigation strategies



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The two strongest predictors were lack of guardianship and being a suitable target.

### Results

#### Most Effective Strategies

Parental mediation by co-viewing social media accounts

Limit personal information visible online

Parent and adolescent jointly developing rules for internet behavior and use

Strengthen privacy settings online

Ask about what adolescents see online

#### Conclusions

Target education towards parents

Most research exists outside of nursing

Knowledge gap on effective methods to educate parents about social media safety

### References

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