

Bullying

How We Treat One Another



Bullying: The Definition

- Bullying is verbal, physical or psychological abuse or teasing accompanied by real or perceived imbalance of power.
- Research indicates that bullying negatively affects the school environment and affects a student's ability to learn.



Question?



- What is an example of verbal abuse?
- What is an example of physical abuse?
- What is an example of psychological abuse?

Bullying: The Effects

- Bullying can be attributed to:

- Fear
- Loss of self
- Anger
- Hurt
- School absences
- Dropping out of school



- Research indicates that students that have experienced verbal threats and physical aggression carried out two-thirds of school shootings!
- Would you want to be responsible?



Bullying: The effects

- Bully can impact the life of a victim long into their adulthood
- Bullying can be as devastating as other trauma. Such as:
 - Physical abuse
 - Sexual abuse



Bullying: The Issues

- Boys

- More likely to admit bullying
- Bullied boys and girls
- When bullying girls, will often use demeaning comments about appearance and sexual comments

- Girls

- Tend to bully other girls
- Use demeaning comments or insults and name calling



Bullying: The Locations

- Students reveal that bullying occurs
 - On the bus
 - In the hallway
 - In the cafeteria
 - In the bathrooms or locker rooms
 - On the playground or outside the school.
- Where is a student safe?



Bullying: The Reasons

- Students report the most common reasons for bullying are:

- Being overweight
- Not dressing "right"
- Perceiving someone as "gay"
- Looking "different"
- Acting "weird"



diversity



Bullying: Student Reaction

- Most common strategies
 - Walking away
 - Saying something mean back
 - Hitting back
 - Telling the bully to stop
 - (notice no mention of telling an adult!)
- More boys used physical violence and more girls were empathetic to victims of bullying.



Bullying: The Adult Response

- Students state that they don't feel adults can protect them from bullies.
- Students want adults to notice and be more aware of the areas and different types of bullying. Don't ignore it!
- Students felt that adults do not take bullying seriously enough and they do not intervene often enough.
- What do you think?



Bullying: Why do they do it?



- Bullies tend to be victims themselves.
 - They are hurt
 - They are insecure
 - They want to feel “in control”
 - They want to be popular or “cool” in the eyes of other kids.



Resources

- NEA Today, February 2008, *Assessing the Threat*
- Current Health 2, March 2008, *Privacy Online*
- Educational Leadership, May 2007, *How We Treat One Another in School*
- www.mocsa.org
- <http://www.takedefense.org/>
- www.cnn.com

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<http://slms.leesummit.k12.mo.us/hcrain/default.htm>