

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING (HIB)



True or False?

- 1. Bullying is just teasing?
- 2. Some people deserve to be bullied?
- 3. Only boys are bullies?
- 4. People who complain about bullies are babies?
- 5. Bullying is a normal part of growing up?
- 6. Bullies will go away if you ignore them?
- 7. All bullies have low self-esteem. That's why they pick on other people?
- 8. It's tattling to tell an adult when you're being bullied?
- 9. The best way to deal with a bully is by fighting or trying to get even?
- 10. People who are bullied might hurt for a while, but they'll get over it?

Facts

- About 1 in 7 schoolchildren is either a bully or a victim.
- Bullying affects about 5 million elementary and junior high students in the U.S.
- 10 to 15 percent of all children report being bullied on a regular basis.
- Bullying is more than beating people up. There are 3 types of bullying: physical, verbal, and emotional. Most bullying is verbal.
- Most bullying happens at school where there is little or no supervision. Examples: playground, hallway, cafeteria, and bathrooms.
- Bullying hurts everyone.
- Bullies often get into serious trouble as adults. Stats show that 1 in 4 bullies will have a criminal record before the age of 30, and many have problems with relationships throughout their lives.

MORE FACTS

- Bullying is intentional
- Bullying happens again and again
- Bullies may often feel little empathy for their victims.
- Bullies may even feel justified in inflicting hurt because they may believe that their victims deserve it.
- Bullies may enjoy watching a weaker child suffer
- Bullies may achieve higher social status from bullying
- Bullies may covet money or personal property that can be taken from the victim.
- As many as 160,000 youth skip school each day out of fear of what awaits them in school.

What Breeds Bullying Behavior

- 1. Friends share a a positive attitude toward violence
- 2. Lack of parental warmth and involvement
- 3. Overly permissive parenting
- 4. Harsh discipline/physical punishment
- 5. Lack of parental supervision

What Breeds Bullying Behavior – In the Classroom

- 1. Indifferent or accepting teacher attitudes toward bullying
- 2. Indifferent accepting student attitudes about bullying
- 3. **Bystanders need to act!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

School – Culture and Climate

- Climate – the feel of a school's general atmosphere
- Culture – How the students and staff behave in the context of the climate created by the adults
- School culture and climate play a major role in determining whether students will be bullied
- Students are more likely to feel connected to school if they believe that they are being treated fairly, feel safe, and believe that teachers are supportive

School – What Does Work

- 1. Involve parents
- 2. Send a clear, strong message that bullying is not acceptable
- 3. Documents all incidents of bullying
- 4. Establish clear rules against bullying
- 5. Create positive and negative consequences and implement consistently

A look at our schools

- Rutgers University presented a 2 ½ hour workshop for staff on HIB
- Affirmative Action Officer spoke with staff at faculty meeting
- HIB Policy – revised
- Student Code of Conduct
- Additional Guidance Counselor
- Six staff members attended workshop at RU and we are continuing with the DSACS Team (developing safe and civil schools) Concentration on social/emotional learning and character development
- Second Step Program – Empathy, anger management, and impulse control are just some of the lessons taught in this violence prevention curriculum
- Bev at AMS and Katie at LDW

