Bullying and Harassment

Required Student Training
2021-22
What is a Bully?

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behavior that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.
Indiana Code 20-33-8-2
Is this statement true or false? Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

True

False
Bullying or Banter...there is a difference?

Nobody likes feeling like they are being unfairly singled out or targeted. This behavior becomes bullying when the target does not find it funny, it’s non-consensual, or it hurts people’s feelings. Some bullying can be unintentional, but this does not make it okay. The hurt and pain caused is still real and what was meant as a joke may still be deeply upsetting or offensive.

https://www.childnet.com/young-people/secondary/bullying
How can “banter” be hurtful?
Types of Bullying

- Physical
- Verbal
- Cyber
- Relational
- Reactive
Types of Bullying

Physical

- Physical bullies use force and body strength to overpower their victims.
- Physical bullying can include kicking, hitting, punching, or other physical attacks.
- This type of bullying is easier to observe than others.
Drag your dot to indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement:

It is challenging to spot physical bullying.
Types of Bullying

Verbal

- Intimidate and harm their victims using words
- Includes the use of relentless insults and teasing and may include making fun of a peer’s lack of physical capabilities/appearance
- May go unnoticed or unreported for long periods of time
It is often more challenging to heal from hurtful *words* than from physical injury.

*Why do you think this is the case?*
Types of Bullying

Relational Bullying (or Relational Aggression)

- Work to damage a victim’s social status and relationships
- Common among girls, especially teen girls
- Purpose to increase their own social standing or to control others
- May go on for some time before an adult notices
- Referred to as “Mean Girls.”
Reactive Bullying

- Coax others into harming them.
- Unclear who the true bully is
- Incessantly taunts a peer until the peer snaps and reacts with physical or verbal aggression
- May be the most difficult type of bullying to identify
- Reactive bullies also tend to be victims of bullying as well.
What do you see?
Types of Bullying

Cyberbullying

- Use electronic forums, such as email, cell phones, and social networking sites, to harass their victims.
- Allows the bully to remain anonymous
- Easier to bully in cyberspace than it is to bully face to face.
Drag your dot to indicate whether you agree or disagree:
I have been a victim of cyberbullying.
Why?

Do you ever wonder why a person is a bully?

Understanding the reasons people bully is *not* excusing bullying behavior, but, it may help us to gain perspective and can be a valuable step in handling the situation and support healing for all involved. (Beth Dalbey, Patch.com)

Watch the following video and then reflect upon your own experiences....
Share one thing about the poem that impacted you.
Are you a bystander or an upstander?
I suspect bullying is taking place....what should I do?
Tell An Adult

● Report to your SLC Director
● Tell your parents
● Use the **online reporting system**

*Indiana Law H.E.A. 1423 requires all schools to investigate reports.*
The legalities:

- **The Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI, Title IV)**
  - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or religion

- **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX)**
  - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex

- **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Title II)/IDEA**
  - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability
What is Harassment?

Bullying + Protected Class = Harassment
What is protected class?

The term “protected class” refers to groups of people who are legally protected from being harmed or harassed by laws, practices, and policies that discriminate against them due to a shared characteristic.

Source: R. Longley; ThoughtCo.com
Protected Classes

- Sexuality
- Age
- Race
- Gender Orientation
- Color
- Disability
- Citizenship Status
- Religion
- National Origin
Consequences of Harassment on Students and School Community
Consequences to the victim....
Consequences to the bully....
Draw lines from the target center to a consequence:

- Distance themselves from peers
- Depression/ Suicidal Thoughts
- Grades improve
- Poor attendance
- Improved attendance
- Drop out of school
- Feel empowered
- Make new friends
- Drop out of school activities
- Illness
- Push Back w/Violence
Thank you for your engagement!

What can you do to support our goal to stop bullying and harassment?
Pretend your friend was absent from class today...

Write what you would say if you had to explain the lesson to your friend.

bullying and harassment can lead to serious consequences.

Students, write your response!