

What the law says about Bullying

It is illegal to discriminate against or harass any student based on the person's actual **or perceived** race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex by school employees or other students.

It is the **responsibility** of each school to create a school environment that is safe and free of harassment and discrimination. It is also required that the school enable employees, to prevent and respond to discrimination or harassment.

Bullying can take many forms but it usually includes

Physical – hitting, kicking, pinching

Verbal – name calling, insulting

Indirect – spreading nasty stories about someone

Cyber Bullying - any type of bullying that is carried out by electronic medium

Bullying is never okay

Bullying can happen anywhere

Bullying is learned behavior that is taught and/or experienced at home or at school

Most bullying is verbal

It is estimated that 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students.

71% of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school.

According to bullying statistics, 1 out of every 10 students who drops out of school does so because of repeated bullying.

Harassment and bullying have been linked to 75% of school-shooting incidents.

Nearly two-thirds (60.8 percent) who experienced harassment or assault never reported the incident to the school.

Of those who did report the incident, nearly one-third (31.1 percent) said the school staff did nothing in response.

Fifteen percent (15%) of students bully regularly and up to thirty percent (30%) are victims of bullies.

25% of teachers see nothing wrong with bullying or putdowns.

Up to thirty-five percent (35%) of chronic adolescent bullies spend time in prison as adults. Childhood bullies, who are not motivated to change through training programs and intervention, most often become adult bullies.

In a 2007 study, 86% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (**LGBT**) students said that they had experienced harassment at school during the previous year. Research indicates that **LGBT** youth may be more likely to think about and attempt suicide than heterosexual teens. Nearly 9 out of 10 **LGBT** youth reported being verbally harassed at school in the past year because of their sexual orientation.

What can you do if you are being bullied or see bullying happen?

Speak Up
Reach Out
Be a Friend

Victims of bullying may experience:

Poor academic performance and school failure
Poor mental and psychological health (e.g. depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, & behavioral problems)
Delinquency
Poor peer relationships

Be Cyber Smart

Think before you click – Block--Tell
Be responsible
Know that people can pretend to be others online
Never share personal information online
Do not provoke fights (“flame”) online
42% of children have been bullied while online - 25% more than once
35% of children have been threatened online

Bullying Untruths

Boys will be boys.
Girls don’t bully.
Words will never hurt you.
Bullying is a natural part of childhood.
Some people deserve to be bullied.
Bullying will make kids tougher.
Telling a teacher about bullying is being a snitch.

Talk to kids about bullying

Listen
Believe
Be supportive
Be patient
Provide information
Explore options for intervention strategies.

Help: <http://www.stompoutbullying.org/> and/or www.PacerKidsAgainstBullying.org

Check out our Website: digicomarts.com