

Quick Facts

- **Bullying is the most common form of violence in our society; between 15% and 30% of students are bullies or victims.**
- **A recent report from the American Medical Association on a study of over 15,000 6th-10th graders estimates that approximately 3.7 million youths engage in, and more than 3.2 million are victims of, moderate or serious bullying each year.**
- **Membership in either bully or victim groups is associated with school drop out, poor psychosocial adjustment, criminal activity and other negative long-term consequences.**
- **Direct, physical bullying increases in elementary school, peaks in middle school and declines in high school. Verbal abuse, on the other hand, remains constant. The U.S. Department of Justice reports that younger students are more likely to be bullied than older students.**
- **Over two-thirds of students believe that schools respond poorly to bullying, with a high percentage of students believing that adult help is infrequent and ineffective.**
- **25% of teachers see nothing wrong with bullying or putdowns and consequently intervene in only 4% of bullying incidents.**

Warning Signs

These subtle clues can help you identify a child in need.

Your student may be bullied if he or she:

- leaves school with torn, damaged or missing clothing, books or other belongings;
- has unexplained cuts, bruises, and scratches;
- has few, if any, friends with whom to spend time;
- seems afraid to be in school, leave school, ride the school bus, or take part in organized activities with peers;
- has lost interest in school work or suddenly begins to perform poorly;
- appears sad, moody, teary or depressed;
- complains frequently of headaches, stomach aches, or other physical ailments;
- or
- avoids the cafeteria and/or doesn't eat.

Links

tolerance.org

nasponline.org

stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov

BULLYING

Types of Bullying

Verbal bullying – This is the most common type. It includes name-calling, offensive remarks or consistently making fun of a person.

Physical bullying – second to verbal bullying, it's any aggressive hitting, pulling or shoving

Indirect bullying – Usually common among girls, it involves back-biting and spreading false rumors

Social alienation – Where a person is excluded from groups

Intimidation – Any type of verbal threat with the purpose of making the victim give in to the bully's demands

Cyberbullying – Since the advent of the Internet and the introduction of the cell phone, a host of new and diverse bullying facts have manifested. All of these are classified under cyberbullying. It involves destroying or smearing the victim's reputation via emails, blogs, forum posts, text.