

What is Bullying?

Bullying is a serious problem for the young people of our nation. In those who bully, victims who are bystanders and for reasons in the community in which they live. Bullying behavior negatively affects all children and is especially deadly to their health-social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth and development.

Bullying means using power to consistently or repeatedly negative actions inflicted by one or more youth against another.

The actions may be of a physical, verbal, written or nonverbal nature and may use a multitude of behaviors. These include teasing, name-calling, taunting, threatening, exclusion, rejection, solitary confinement, manipulating, humiliating and physical actions. Impact is determined as well as perceived power between bully and victim. In addition, when bystanders engage in direct bullying behavior, they contribute significantly to understanding more subtle indirect methods, such as spreading rumors and excluding social isolation. Whether bullying is direct or indirect, the key component of bullying is that the physical or psychological condition caused repeatedly over time to create an ongoing pattern of harassment and abuse.

Bullying is learned and reinforced throughout society - in the community, in the social group, at home, in school - wherever youth live and learn. According to the research of Dr. David Finkelhor and Dr. Wendy Chung from the University of California, Berkeley, as well as research on violence and conflict resolution, "Children who learn about how harmful aggressive behavior is an achievement of getting status, power and control."

Source: Gilmore County District School Board

<http://ncdoeb.org/parents-concerns/schools/bullying/>