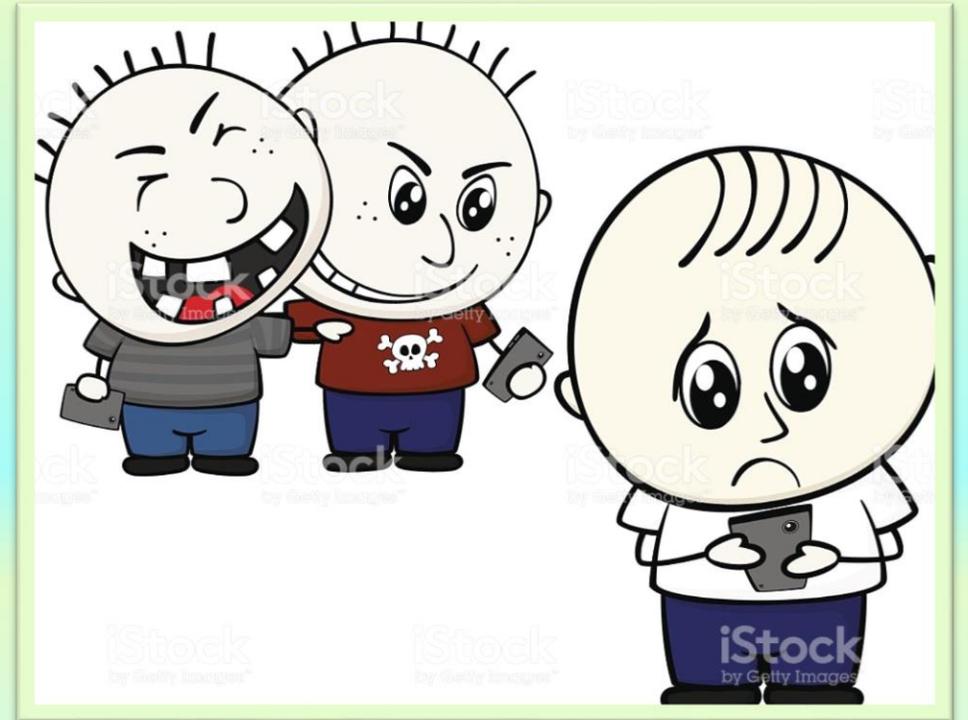


What's Going On Today?

Is it fun to bully others?

By: Aminah Ferguson



What My Project Is About.

- **Addressing the issue of Bullying**
- **Creating more awareness and programs that will engage people and bring in all types of audiences.**
- **Educating people to be more aware of what bullies actually do and what youth who get bullied actually go through.**
- **Creating a plan to stop it.**

Why Focus on Bullying?

- **Statistics show that no one really knows how to address Bullies and what is the safest way to deal with them.**
- **My plan is to find a way to deal with them and actually pursue my plans.**
- **Bullying is a very common across the states. Many states have different laws to control it, but are they effective and the safest things to do?**
- **A few states have laws where bullying is illegal and are sending parents and kids to prison is an option but what about the cost? What is good for the kids?**

What is Bullying?

The behavior is never appropriate and is intentional. Bullying involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying includes:.

- **Calling someone hurtful and derogatory names**
- **Spreading lies and bad rumors about someone**
- **Being mean and teasing someone**
- **Hitting, punching, shoving, spitting and physically hurting someone**
- **Social exclusion or isolation ... not including someone is a group**
- **Getting certain kids or teens to "gang up" on others**
- **Having money or other things taken or damaged**
- **Being threatened or being forced to do things**

Most times we do it without even realizing we are doing it. Whether its teasing a sibling, friend or co worker. Gossiping or even starting rumors that you have no proof about of another person.

Bullying also can happen online or electronically. Cyberbullying is when kids or teens bully each other. This can include:

- Sending mean text, email, or instant messages**
- Posting nasty pictures or messages about others in blogs or on Websites**
- Using someone else's username to spread rumors or lies about someone**
- Stealing someone's password and spreading rumors about someone else making it seem like that person is the Cyberbully.**

Why Do Kids BULLY?

Studies have shown that Bullies are most likely to bully kids because they may feel threatened by the victim, jealous or they just love seeing victims afraid.

A common reason that a kid is a bully is because he/she lacks attention from a parent at home and lashes out at others for attention. This can include neglected children, children of divorced parents, or children with parents under the regular influence of drugs/alcohol.

Older siblings can also be the cause of the problem. If they've been bullied, they are more likely to bully a younger sibling to feel more secure or empower themselves. Sometimes a bully learns it from a parent.

Kids usually bully because they learn this behavior at home. Some kids are just more aggressive, dominating and impulsive by nature. It doesn't always mean that they are bullies. Bullies dominate, blame and use others. They lack empathy and foresight and have contempt for the weak. They see weaker kids as their target and don't accept the consequences of their actions. They crave power, attention and don't need a reason to hurt others. When asked, some replied:

- 1. Because it makes me feel stronger, smarter, or better than the person I'm bullying.**
- 2. Because I'm bullied at home.**
- 3. Because it's what you do if you want to hang out with the right crowd.**
- 4. Because I see others doing it.**
- 5. Because I'm jealous of the other person.**
- 6. Because it's one of the best ways to keep others from bullying me.**

Effects of Bullying

The effects of bullying can be long-lasting for victims including fear, low self esteem, Psychological abuse, trauma, insecurities, anxiety, long term depression and thoughts of suicide.

Some people think that bullying is "*just a fact of life*" or "*a right of passage*" and they don't take it seriously ... until someone they know is hurt by bullying.

- **1 Out of 4 kids is bullied**
- **Every 7 seconds a child is bullied.**
- **Depending on the age group, up to 43% of students say they have been digitally harassed**
- **5.4 million students skip school at some point in the year due to bullying**
- **9 out of 10 LGBT students experienced harassment at school**
- **Child and teen Bullying and Cyberbullying are both a growing problem.**
- **Some kids are so tormented that suicide has become an alternative for them. However most suicides are not just a result of bullying. There are usually other factors involved.**
- **Bullies are more likely to skip school, drop out of school, smoke, drink alcohol, get into fights and be arrested at some point in their life. 60% of boys who were bullies in middle school had at least one criminal conviction by the age of 24.**
- **A very small number of bullied children might retaliate through extremely violent measures. In 12 of 15 school shooting cases in the 1990s, the shooters had a history of being bullied.**

Victims of bullying can experience:

- Can be afraid to go to school or ride the bus**
- Can be afraid to use the school bathroom**
- Can be afraid of being alone in the school hallway**

The fear and anxiety caused by being a bullying victim can make it difficult to focus at school.

Bullying can cause victims to feel:

Fear, Depression, Loneliness, Anxiety, Low Self- esteem, Physical illness & Suicidal thoughts. Anger.

Some kids are so tormented by their bullies that they actually choose suicide as alternative to their pain.

Bullying and Suicide

I'm not as
okay as I
pretend to be.



Rosalie Avila



A 13-year old girl who hanged herself after she was bullied on social media. Rosalie attempted to kill herself at her family's home in Yucaipa, Ca. She was placed on life support in the hospital, but after she was declared brain dead, her family decided to switch it off earlier this week. Rosalie left behind a letter apologizing for the hurt she was causing her family, and writing that she did it because she was 'ugly' and a 'loser.'

Mr. Avila said that noticed his normal cheerful daughter was down quite a lot. He said he found that she was carrying a journal around with her that had names in it of all of the people who used to bully her. After the death of Rosalie, her prents recieved disturbing messages from the bullies.

❖ **Read more:** <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5145865/Parents-girl-hanged-bullied-online.html#ixzz514Nk072A>

❖ **Follow us:** [@MailOnline on Twitter](#) | [DailyMail on Facebook](#)

November 28, 2017



Bullying Stories



Effects of Cyberbullying

Kids who are cyberbullied are more likely to:

- Use alcohol and drugs
- Skip school
- Experience in-person bullying
- Be unwilling to attend school
- Receive poor grades
- Have lower self-esteem
- Have more health problems



Ashawnty Davis

- **10 year old Girl committed suicide was a result of Bullying Video, Parents say. Ashawnty Davis, a fifth grader at Sunrise Elementary in Aurora, Colorado (Co.) hung herself after a video of her fighting with an alleged bully outside her elementary school was posted online. The video was posted on musical.ly, and she died Wednesday after spending two weeks on life support, according to Fox 31.**



By: Lisa Marie Segarra

**6:35Am- Dec 1, 2017 (Fox31 Denver KDVR)
Parents of a 10- year old suicide victim allege
her school didn't do enough to stop bullying
{ bit.ly/2zT0rXE }**

Sarah Lynn Butler 1997-2009



Sarah Lynn Butler, a seventh grader from Hardy, Arkansas, committed suicide on September 26, 2009. Sarah, who had just been voted Queen for her upcoming Fall Festival, was teased at school, and later on received bullying messages on her MySpace page.

Sarah's mother says she often checked her MySpace page to make sure there wasn't anything inappropriate being sent or received, and she noticed that she was getting some bad messages about rumors at school saying she was a slut, and talked to her about it. But then Sarah removed her from her list of friends

and she was no longer able to read her page.

On the morning of her suicide, Sarah stayed home while her family was out, and logged on to her MySpace page. The last message she read said that she was easily forgotten, and that she was just a stupid little naive girl and nobody would miss her.

When her parents returned home they found that Sarah had hanged herself. She left a suicide note that said she couldn't handle what others were saying about her.

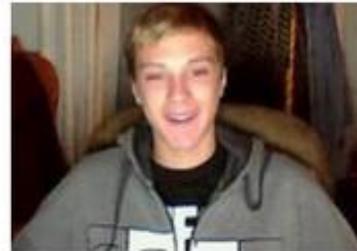
Kenneth Weishuhn

High school freshman- Bullying began with anti gay face book group. Death threats by phone. Friends he trusted begun to turn against him because he came out (according to his sister). -Took his own life.

Sarah Lynn Butler:

Seventh grader- Teased, bullied and received inappropriate messages on her social media account- hung herself.

Kenneth Weishuhn Jr. 1997-2012



Kenneth Weishuhn Jr.

Kenneth Weishuhn, a gay high school freshman from Paullina, Iowa, took his own life after being bullied by classmates at school and online, and with death threats by phone.

The bullying began with an anti-gay Facebook group, created by Kenneth's classmates. His mother, Jeannie Chambers, said she knew her son was being harassed, and said that her son told her, "Mom, you don't know how it feels to be hated."

According to his sister Kayla, the abuse that started after he "came out" was from people he had trusted: "People that were originally his friends, they kind of turned on him. A lot of people, they either joined in or were too scared to say anything."

Remember Kenneth James Weishuhn Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/359685704081860/>



Phoebe Prince

15 yr. old, Phoebe Prince endured three long months of vicious verbal and electronic attacks at the hands of three classmates before hanging herself in the stairwell of her home, according to recently released court papers.

After months of bullying, her parents say, a 12-year-old New Jersey girl killed herself. They blame the school.

By Samantha Schmidt August 4, 2017

The family of a 12-year-old New Jersey girl — who took her own life after allegedly being cyberbullied by her classmates — is suing the school district, saying Tuesday that administrators were negligent in preventing abuse that led to their daughter's death.

Dianne Grossman said when the school failed to stop the harassment towards her daughter, Mallory, she even tried approaching one alleged bully's parent, begging the woman to ensure her child would stop.

Her pleas were instantly dismissed, Grossman said.

Mallory Grossman



LGBTQ & Bullying

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) youth and those perceived as LGBT are at an increased risk of being bullied. There are important and unique considerations for strategies to prevent and address bullying of LGBT youth.

According to the gay bullying statistics from the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community, about one fourth of all students from elementary age through high school are the victims of bullying and harassment while on school property because of their race, ethnicity, gender, disability, religion or sexual orientation.

According to recent gay bullying statistics, gay and lesbian teens are two to three times as more likely to commit teen suicide than other youths. About 30 percent of all completed suicides have been related to sexual identity crisis. Students who also fall into the gay, bisexual, lesbian or transgendered identity groups report being five times as more likely to miss school because they feel unsafe after being bullied due to their sexual orientation.

About 28 percent out of those groups feel forced to dropout of school altogether. In fact, about 9 out of 10 LGBT teens have reported being bullied at school within the past year because of their sexual orientation, according to the most recent gay [bullying statistics](#).

Are African Americans more likely to be bullied then other races?



WASHINGTON (NNPA) – Blacks, who are already more likely than other racial groups to be involved in situations that involve bullying, both as a victim and as a perpetrator, are subjected to additional bullying because of other complicating factors, including poverty, according to scholars and experts on the subject.

According to her research, Black children are more likely to be involved in bullying (as aggressor, victim, or bystander) than other groups. Additionally, Stopbullying.gov, a federal resource, found that Black and Hispanic children who are bullied are more likely to do poorly in school than their White counterparts.

They are also more likely to possess characteristics that make them a target for bullying. According to some studies, children who are perceived as “different” – through sexuality or gender identity, lower socio-economic status than their peers, or pronounced weight differences (over or under), are more likely to be bullied.

“For African American children, family was a strong predicting factor,” Albdour says. “[Family] can even act as a buffer for community violence. If there is communication, cohesion, and the parents are involved in the child’s school life, it has a huge preventative effect.”

While the study did not specifically examine race, the researchers found that kids who are bullied, especially for prolonged periods, are more likely to experience poor mental and physical health in adolescence and beyond.

As fifth graders, almost a third of students questioned who reported being victims of bullying exhibited poor psychological health, compared to the 4.3 percent who were not bullied.

<http://www.blackpressusa.com/black-more-likely-to-bully-and-be-bullied-than-other-groups/>

Statistics on Bullying in 2016 (Grade School)

- **Bullying statistics. More than one out of every five (20.8%) students report being bullied (National Center for Educational Statistics, 2016). ... 64% of children who were bullied did not report it; only 36% reported the bullying (Petrosina, Guckenburg, DeVoe, & Hanson, 2010)**

How many students have died from being bullied?

The statistics on bullying and suicide are alarming.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people, resulting in about 4,400 deaths per year, according to the CDC. For every suicide among young people, there are at least 100 suicide attempts.

How many kids drop out because they're being bullied?

86% of students said, “other kids picking on them, making fun of them or bullying them” causes teenagers to turn to lethal violence in the schools. 61% of students said students shoot others because they have been victims of physical abuse at home.

•90% of 4th through 8th graders report being victims of bullying. It is estimated that 160,000 children miss school everyday due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students. Over 3.2 million students are victims of bullying each year. 1 out 10 students dropout of school because of repeated bullying.

Statistics on Bullying in 2016 (High school)

Over 3.2 million students are victims of bullying each year. Approximately 160,000 teens skip school everyday because of bullying. 17% of American students report being bullied 2 to 3 times a month or more within a school semester.

Over 77 percent of students have been bullied verbally, mentally, and physically. Each day about 160,000 students miss school because of bullying or because of their fear of being bullied.

What percentage of high school students committed suicide ?

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people, resulting in about 4,400 deaths per year, according to the CDC. For every suicide among young people, there are at least 100 suicide attempts. Over 14 percent of high school students have considered suicide, and almost 7 percent have attempted it.

What percentage of high school students drop out from being bullied?

The study followed 7,082 students over their four years of high school as well as 2,764 teachers in Virginia from 2007–2011. Schools with high rates of bullying had dropout rate 29 percent above average, whereas schools with low levels of bullying had dropout rates 28 percent below average.

Can you go to Jail for Bullying?

Although most bullying and cyberbullying cases don't result in jail or prison time, we want to remind everyone that it is indeed possible to go to jail for bullying (even when no physical contact has been made). A number of students including a 12-year-old in Arkansas have been arrested for their hateful tweets.

The Sex Crime of Voyeurism

Voyeurism is often defined as illegally recording another person, often for sexual gratification. The actual definition varies by each jurisdiction in accordance with the state's definition of the crime. The consequences of being convicted of this crime are often quite serious.

Discussions of voyeurism usually center on the spying of another person while he or she is dressing, using the bathroom, engaging in sexual activity or engaging in other activities that would usually be considered "private. The victims do not know that they are being watched, photographed or recorded. They also have not consented to such actions. Relevant laws that may come into play during prosecutions of this nature may be a statute directly targeted at voyeurism, invasion of privacy laws or "peeping tom" laws.

Bullying and Incarceration & What happens Next.



MORE THAN **60%** of people in prison are people of color



Bullying and cyberbullying can become a crime if you are:

Physically assaulting someone

Harassing someone especially if the harassment is based on gender or racism

Making violent threats

Making death threats

Making obscene and harassing phone calls and texts

Sexting

Sextortion which is sexual exploitation

Child pornography

Stalking someone

Committing hate crimes

Taking a photo of someone in a place where they expect privacy

Extortion

Almost 14 per cent of those who reported being constantly bullied from childhood through their teens ended up in prison as adults.

This is compared to six per cent of people who weren't bullied, nine per cent of people who were only bullied as children, and seven per cent of teen-only victims.

When comparing rates of convictions, more than 20 per cent of those who endured 'chronic bullying' were convicted of crimes. Almost double those who weren't bullied.

The results from the University of Carolina also revealed that women who were bullied from childhood through adolescence faced significantly greater odds of using alcohol or drugs. They were also more likely to be arrested and convicted than men who had grown up experiencing the same level of bullying

The analysis identified four groups: non-victims (74 per cent); those bullied repeatedly before the age of 12 (15 per cent); those bullied repeatedly after the age of 12 (six per cent); and those repeatedly victimized before and after the age of 12 (five per cent).

Accounts of repeated bullying were collected over several periods and the legal outcomes were assessed when the participants were in their late teens or adults.

Parents Could Face Fine, Jail Under City's Anti-Bullying Law

NORTH TONAWANDA, N.Y. (AP) — Parents of children found bullying other minors could face jail time under a new law approved in a western New York community. The law went into effect Oct. 1 in North Tonawanda, a city just north of Buffalo. Members of the North Tonawanda Common Council hope the new law will put a stop to bullying by holding parents accountable for their children's actions.

Parents could be fined \$250 and sentenced to 15 days in jail if twice in a 90-day period their child violates the city's curfew or any other city law, including bullying. North Tonawanda officials say the law is geared toward minors who repeatedly bully other children in public places. This law comes after four teens were reportedly kicked out of North Tonawanda Middle School for alleged bullying.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/new-york/articles/2017-10-09/parents-could-face-fine-jail-under-citys-anti-bullying-law>

Cyber Bullying is now a crime in New Jersey

The new statute now criminalizes cyber-harassment for threats of harm to person or property; posts indecent material to or about someone; or threatens criminal conduct against someone.

- **Convicted persons under 16 are required to attend classes, and their parents are required to attend with them.**
- **Those 16 and over face fourth degree criminal charges – up to 18 months in jail and/or \$10,000 in fines.**
- **If a person 21 or over pretends on-line to be a minor in the commission of this offense.**
- **Can face third degree charges – 5 years and/or \$15,000 in fines.**

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2012/Bills/S2500/2469_I1.HTM

Prevalence

Black & African American Communities and Mental Health

According to the US HHS Office of Minority Health [\[3\]](#):

- **Adult Black/African Americans are 20 percent more likely to report serious psychological distress than adult whites.**
- **Adult Black/African Americans living below poverty are three times more likely to report serious psychological distress than those living above poverty.**
- **Adult Black/African Americans are more likely to have feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and worthlessness than are adult whites.**

And while Black/African Americans are less likely than white people to die from suicide as teenagers, Black/African Americans teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide than are white teenagers (8.3 percent v. 6.2 percent).

Black/African Americans of all ages are more likely to be victims of serious violent crime than are non-Hispanic whites, making them more likely to meet the diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Black/African Americans are also twice as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be diagnosed with schizophrenia.

Attitudes

According to a study conducted by Ward, Wiltshire, Detry, and Brown in 2013 [5]:

•Black/African Americans hold beliefs related to stigma, psychological openness, and help-seeking, which in turn affects their coping behaviors. Generally speaking, the participants in this study were not very open to acknowledging psychological problems, but they were somewhat open to seek mental health services.

•Thirty percent of participants reported having a mental illness or receiving treatment for a mental illness

•Black/African Americans men are particularly concerned about stigma.

•Cohort effects, exposure to mental illness, and increased knowledge of mental illness are factors which could potentially change beliefs about symptoms of mental illness.

•Participants appeared apprehensive about seeking professional help for mental health issues, which is consistent with previous research. However, participants were willing to seek out some form of help.

Treatment Issues

- **Black/African Americans today are over-represented in our jails and prisons. People of color account for 60 percent of the prison population. Black/African Americans also account for 37 percent of drug arrests, but only 14 percent of regular drug users (illicit drug use is frequently associated with self-medication among people with mental illnesses). [6]**
- **Because less than 2 percent of American Psychological Association members are Black/African American, some may worry that mental health care practitioners are not culturally competent enough to treat their specific issues. [7] This is compounded by the fact that some Black/African American patients have reported experiencing racism and micro-aggression from therapists. [8]**
- **Stigma and judgment prevents Black/African Americans from seeking treatment for their mental illnesses. Research indicates that Black/African Americans believe that mild depression or anxiety would be considered “crazy” in their social circles. Furthermore, many believe that discussions about mental illness would not be appropriate even among family. [9]**

Access/Insurance

While implementation of the Affordable Care Act has helped to close the gap in uninsured individuals, 15.9 percent of Black/African Americans, versus 11.1 percent of whites Americans were still uninsured in 2014. [10]

In 2012, the percentage of people who were unable to get or delayed in getting needed medical care, or prescription medicines was significantly higher for people with no health insurance (18.7%) than for people with private insurance (8.4%). [10]

In 2011, 54.3 percent of adult Black/African Americans with a major depressive episode received treatment, compared with 73.1 percent of adult white Americans. [11]

Compared to 45.3 percent of white Americans, 40.6 percent of Black/African Americans age 12 and over were treated for substance abuse and completed their treatment course, in 2010. [11]

<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/african-american-mental-health>

Parents could face fine, jail under upstate anti-bullying law

NORTH TONAWANDA -Parents of bullies in an upstate town could face jail time under a new law that holds parents responsible for their children's behavior. The law went into effect Oct. 1 in North Tonawanda, just north of Buffalo. It calls for \$250 fines and as much as 15 days in jail for the parents if their child violates any city law twice in a 90-day period, including bullying laws.

North Tonawanda officials say the law is geared toward minors who repeatedly bully other children in public places. The law comes after four teens were reportedly kicked out of North Tonawanda Middle School for alleged bullying. On Long Island, even some parents of bullying victims are questioning the law. Hunter Seyfried is a 9-year-old who says he's been bullied at his West Islip elementary school.

<http://www.news12.com/story/36556462/parents-could-face-fine-jail-under-upstate-anti-bullying-law>

Questionnaire:

- **How many are people are parents?**
- **Do you think community service is a good alternative? Instead of incarceration?**
- **Why do you think Bullies bully others? Whether its cyber bullying or physical.**
- **Do you think a bully (in grade or middle school) should be sent to prison if bullied a child?**
- **Do you think a high school or college student should be sent to prison for cyber bullying?**
- **Do you think parents should be held accountable for they're child's bullying behavior?**

Please be respectful of ones answers & wait your turn. I want to hear your opinions!

What Can You Do?

If your kid(s) or someone close to you is being bullied what can or what do you do?

What would you say to the victim? Or Bully?

What would you do?

Bullying and Suicide

The relationship between bullying and suicide is complex. Many media reports oversimplify this relationship, insinuating or directly stating that bullying can cause suicide. The facts tell a different story.

In particular, it is not accurate and potentially dangerous to present bullying as the “cause” or “reason” for a suicide, or to suggest that suicide is a natural response to bullying. We recommend media not use the word “bullycide.”

- Research indicates that persistent bullying can lead to or worsen feelings of isolation, rejection, exclusion, and despair, as well as depression and anxiety, which can contribute to suicidal behavior.**
- The vast majority of young people who are bullied do not become suicidal.**
- Most young people who die by suicide have multiple risk factors.**
- Some youth, such as LGBTQ youth, are at increased risk for suicide attempts even when bullying is not a factor.**
- A recent [CDC publication - PDF](#) provides more information on the relationship between bullying and suicide.**