

CACY COMMUNICATOR

BULLYING EDITION



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Myths & Facts About Bullies and Victims

Myth #1 Bullies are rejected by their peers and have no friends. **Fact: Research shows that many bullies have a high status in the classroom and lots of friends. During the middle school years, some bullies are actually considered “popular.”**

Myth #2 Bullies have low self-esteem. **Fact: Research shows that bullies perceive themselves in a positive light, even having inflated self-views of themselves and this can encourage bullies to rationalize their antisocial behavior.**

Myth #3 Being a victim builds character. **Fact: Research shows that bullying experiences increase the vulnerabilities of children**

such as depression.

Myth #4 Childhood victims of bullying become violent as teens. **Fact: The truth is most victims of bullying are more likely to suffer in silence rather than retaliate. Many experience psychological adjustment problems like depression and low self-esteem.**

Myth #5 There is a “victim” personality. **Fact: Although certain personality characteristics place children at a higher risk for being bullied, such as shyness, there are many situational factors such as being new to a school and social risk factors such as not having friends, that increase the likelihood of a child to get**

bullied.

Myth #6 Bullying involves only the perpetrators and the victims. **Fact: Studies have shown that bullying incidents are usually public with at least 4 other peers present as witnesses, bystanders, assistants to the bullies, reinforcers, or defenders of the victim. One study found that more than 50% of observed incidents of bullying, peers reinforced the behavior by passively watching. In about 25% of the incidents did the witnesses support the victim by intervening, distracting or discouraging the bully.**



COMMUNITY ACTION
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CACY's Core Purpose: To provide tobacco, alcohol, violence and drug prevention information, education and coordination by bringing together schools, parents, government, law enforcement, agencies, business and community members who work toward making our county a healthier, safer place to live.

Jodi Floyd, CACY Prevention Educator is available to answer questions. Please call if you are interested in having a speaker about Bullying. 419-774-5683

Resources



Information from this article came from:

www.education.com/reference/article/bullying-myths-facts/ By: Sandra Graham PhD

Stopbullying.gov

www.stopbullying.gov

Bullying Statistics— Parenting a Bully

www.bullyingstatistics.org

Bullying Prevention: Parent Information

www.education.com

National Bullying Prevention Center

www.pacer.org/bullying/resources/info-facts.asp

Fun Summer Activities for Kids

www.pbs.org/parent/summer/free-or-almost-free-summer-fun-ideas

Choosing a Summer Camp

childparenting.about.com

CACY has received grant money from Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, Richland County Foundation, and Richland Public Health Department to offer a Bully Prevention Program to Richland County Schools. CACY is offering Too Good for Violence (TGFV) curriculum. TGFV teaches students skills they need to safely prevent and resolve conflict, how to handle bullying situations, improve communication and problem solving skills, learn to manage emotions, and have respect for themselves and others.

