



Connect with Kids

# WebSource

## For the Classroom

### Silent Witness

## Discussion Questions – Segment 1

1. What is the main reason bystanders do not do anything when they witness bullying?
2. Some of the teenagers defend or explain bystander behaviors by saying, “That could be me if I tell,” or “They don’t want their friends to get in trouble and blame them for it,” or “It’s almost like excitement—everyone rushes over,” or “I wish I could stand up for the person, but it’s always easier to just NOT.” Do the statements sound familiar? Why or why not?
3. What is the difference between “standing by” and “standing up?”

## Activity

### Word Web: The Vocabulary of Bullying

#### OBJECTIVE

Students will be able to

- Define vocabulary words
- Provide examples of synonyms and antonyms for vocabulary words
- Apply the meanings of vocabulary words to real-life situations
- Explain the meanings of vocabulary words as they relate to bullying by composing sentences
- Demonstrate speaking and listening skills

#### MATERIALS

- Pens, pencils
- Notebook paper, chart paper, butcher paper (bulletin board paper)
- Dictionary, Internet
- ***Bullying Vocabulary Words and Definitions*** handout
- ***Bullying Word Web*** worksheet
- ***Bullying Vocabulary*** worksheet

## PROCEDURE

1. Divide students into pairs or groups of three, and assign one vocabulary word on the ***Bullying Vocabulary Words and Definitions*** handout per group.
2. Provide a copy of the ***Word Web*** worksheet for each pair or group of students (one word per group). Students can also transfer their worksheets to large chart paper.
3. Assign students to complete the ***Word Web*** worksheet. Explain that they must include the part of speech as well as the definition in the definition square.
4. To wrap up the activity, have the pairs or groups present their word webs to the class. Instruct students to take notes on the information presented by completing the ***Bullying Vocabulary*** worksheet provided by the teacher.

## **Bullying Vocabulary Words and Definitions**

### **Adapt (v.)**

**Definition:** to gradually change one's behavior and ideas to fit a new situation

**Context:** Miranda was able to adapt quickly to her new school by using the same route to get to her classes each day.

### **Adversity (n.)**

**Definition:** a condition of suffering or affliction

**Context:** Even though he was deaf, Johan overcame his adversity and won a position on the football team.

### **Assimilation (n.)**

**Definition:** the process of becoming part of a group or being accepted by others

**Context:** When immigrants arrive in a new country, they usually go through a period of assimilation in which they conform to their new surroundings.

### **Bravery (n.)**

**Definition:** an action, behavior or attitude that enables a person to deal with danger, pain or difficult situations with courage and confidence

**Context:** His bravery during the hostage crisis was an inspiration to those who did nothing to stop the bank robbers.

### **Courage (n.)**

**Definition:** mental or moral strength to persevere and withstand danger, fear or difficulty

**Context:** Cassandra had the courage to tell the teacher about the gun she saw in her classmate's locker.

### **Erode (v.)**

**Definition:** to gradually reduce someone's power or confidence; to become weaker

**Context:** By standing up for one another, Tino and Jasmine were able to erode the bully's power over them.

### **Injustice (n.)**

**Definition:** a situation in which people are treated very unfairly and not given their rights

**Context:** The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fought to end injustice based on race.

### **Persecute (v.)**

**Definition:** to treat someone cruelly or unfairly, especially because of his or her religious or political beliefs

**Context:** The victim alleged the media was trying to persecute him by slanting the facts and making accusations without attributing them to a valid source.

### **Risk (n.)**

**Definition:** the possibility that something bad or dangerous may occur

**Context:** If you gamble, there is a risk you will lose your money.

### **Valor (n.)**

**Definition:** great courage in the face of danger or war

**Context:** My uncle received a medal for his valor after he saved two children from a burning building.