

WebSource

For the Classroom Silent Witness

Discussion Questions - Segment 2

- 1. Describe Kyle Finn's story. What did kids to do him? Why? What did his friends do? Why?
- 2. What is the typical appearance of a victim?
- 3. How do bullies sense fear in a prospective victim?
- 4. What "differences" make kids targets of bullies?
- 5. What is Asperger's Syndrome? Why would it make somebody an easy target for bullying?
- 6. What is perhaps the hardest part of being a parent of a bully? Explain your answer.
- 7. How would you feel if Kyle's experience was yours?

Activity

Safe Place

PROJECT AND PURPOSE

Students will survey the school population for ideas to reduce bullying at particular locations at and around their school and will...

- · Brainstorm locations where bullying occurs
- Generate a survey
- Administer survey to school population
- Analyze data
- Develop plan to make the location safer

MATERIALS

- Pens, pencils, Paper
- · Copies of survey
- · White board

PROCEDURE

- 1. Open a discussion by asking, what are the places at this school where you know there might be trouble or bullies? You are asking them to think about the places they might go to look for trouble or the places they try to avoid so they will not get into bully situations. Write their ideas on the board.
- 2. Break the students into groups of three or four and have them first select one of the locations from the list on the board. They will then develop a questionnaire they might give to teachers, other students, parents who frequent the school, school secretaries, custodians anybody who is regularly involved with the school. This questionnaire should ask the different people about the location and ideas they have for making it a safer place.
- 3. Have the groups administer their survey to various members of the school population. Give them a set amount of time to do so, and consider allowing them to add more interviews for homework.
- 4. At the end of the allotted time, gather the groups back together, and discuss the responses to their surveys. On the board, write the categories "Students," "Teachers," "Staff Members," and "Other Adults." Collect the ideas from their surveys and write them on the board in the appropriate categories.
- 5. Have them break into groups again and tell each group to create a plan they might present to the principal and/or the student council to make the "Bullying Place" a "Safe Place."
- 6. Each group should submit a written plan.

EXTENSION

Have the students actually present their plans to the student council and/or principal and report on the results of their meeting.