

3 Bullying

This segment is about bullying. This is a growing concern as everyday 100,000 children carry guns to school and over 6000 teachers are threatened each day. Bullying behavior in elementary school can turn into violence by middle and high school. It is hard to pinpoint bullying behavior because often children do not tell on bullies. Generally they don't tell because they are afraid.

Do you think that by and large bullies are boys, that bullies are the ones failing in school? That bullies are generally physically larger than their victims? Well actually bullies can be boys or girls. Boys usually show physical aggression while girls use more intimidation and alienating behaviors. As a parent what do you do if you fear your child is being bullied? Be aware of some of the bullying signs; unwillingness to go to school, becomes withdrawn, is frightened to say what is wrong or give excuses for not eating or missing lunch money. Work with the school to further look into your child's safety and design a policy of non-tolerance of bullying. Next month, we will talk about conflict resolution in children.

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