

Weakfish – Bullying Through the Eyes of a Child  
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### Key points

- This presentation will focus more on creating an environment that is not conducive to bullying rather than on effective bullying intervention
- The school climate can have a dramatic impact on the level and severity of bullying
- Increasing the effective supervision of children should be a priority in bullying abatement
- Bullying must be assessed to be effectively addressed
- Like other safety measures, bullying abatement must be comprehensive and tailored to the local environment to be effective
- Many children who are chronically bullied do not report to adults
- Many children who make reports hold back significant information – testing to see if they can trust the adult(s) they report to
- Adults have to build trust with children and listen effectively to learn the full context of the situation before giving advice
- Only a few children need to be bullied for a school to create severe situations
- While the connection between school shootings and bullying is often overstated, there is a clear and distinct correlation between pervasive bullying and risk for extreme acts of violence in schools
- Peer mediation should never be used as a response to bullying
- A single caring adult can dramatically impact bullied children

### Key questions

- What is the actual level and severity of bullying in your school(s)?
- How similar are the perceptions of bullying by school staff to the perceptions and actual experiences of students?
- How good is the level of supervision of students?
- Is a research based bullying prevention program being properly utilized?
- How often are staff/student and parental school safety surveys conducted?
- When was the last time a tactical site survey was conducted?
- What priority is safety given?

For free resources, please visit [www.safehavensinternational.org](http://www.safehavensinternational.org)

- Bullying tactical site survey web tutorial for school staff
- Bullying tactical site survey web tutorial for students
- School climate surveys for elementary, middle and high school staff/students and parents