



## **Topic: Bullying**

### **Key Question:**

### **Who does bullying affect?**

This scenario was contributed by Susan Johnson and Laura Duarte.

### **Role Play Scenario:**

The teacher selects students to role play a classroom with 1 victim of bullying and 6 students who bully him/her.

#### **Scene One:**

As always, punctual, the victim walks happily to first period, looking “nerdy.” His clothes are not cool – he looks different from the “popular kids.” He walks into class and the boys throw paper-wads at him, stick a sign on his back (KICK ME!). He frowns and looks at the teacher for help, but she looks the other way.

#### **Scene Two:**

Bell rings – 2<sup>nd</sup> period comes along. Kids call him names and laugh and point at him. He rushes to class to avoid everything. He takes a deep breath before walking in. Again the bullies trip him as he finds his seat. He takes out his homework – They take it away – They make a paper airplane out of it and fly it across the room. The teacher picks it up, crumples it up and throws it away, not noticing that it is his homework. He sighs deeply and puts his head down.

#### **Scene Three:**

Gym class – Coach asks the students to divide themselves into teams. No one picks him. The popular kid yells, “I don’t want him on my team!” the other kids yell back, “Me either! You take him!” The coach interrupts and says, “Hey! You can be in charge of keeping score; that way, you won’t get hurt.” He just shrugs his shoulders, kicks the dirt, and sighs with a big frown on his face.

#### **Scene Four:**

After school on the bus he gets pushed back to the end of the line. He finds a seat and as he about to sit there, they say, “Hey you can’t sit there! That seat is saved!” He sighs and frowns, and remains standing instead. The bus driver yells back, “Sit down kid! Are you drunk or what?” He crouches on the floor pretending to be sitting. Everyone laughs. He sighs a deep sigh and a tear rolls down his face, and he wipes it off.

#### **Scene Five:**

At home he tries to talk to his dad about the bullying. His father interrupts and says, “Be a man! Suck it up son! I didn’t raise no wimp! Next time that happens, you need to figure it out. You need to defend yourself, son!” He just feels helpless and goes to his room and shuts the door softly.

Continued Topic: Bullying / Violence  
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### Scene Six:

The next day – He doesn't go to school, and no one even notices. Later on, there is a newsbreak reporting a horrible incident with a student who had been bullied at school all his life, but no one ever cared.

### Discussion questions:

1. What do you think was reported in the newsbreak?
2. How could different people in his life have helped him with this problem?
  - a. Teachers
  - b. Other students
  - c. His dad/parents
  - d. Bus driver
  - e. Counselor/administrator
3. What can students do in school to prevent or correct bullying problems?
4. Give students a copy of the lyrics by Peter, Paul and Mary – “Don't Laugh at Me”
  - a. Have them read it quietly
  - b. Write comments/questions/notes around the lyrics
  - c. Discuss the story
  - d. View the video
  - e. Discuss or write a reflective piece on what you learned – either a personal experience where you are bullied or a personal experience where you are the bully and complete it by explaining how anyone/everyone/someone can help this issue.
5. Create a counselor's mailbox where students can report bullying incidents, have a form available to fill out and turn in anonymously or create a hotline with an answering machine offering help on your campus to students with problems.

### Correlated TEKS:

ELPS: 1A, 2H, 2I, 3G, 3H, 5F, 5G

ELAR: 14C, 18B, 19C, 25B, 25A, 18C, 23B

CCRS, E/LAS IV Listening A,

Cognitive Skills B. Reasoning 1 & 2

Problem Solving I.C. 1 & 2

Academic Integrity F. 3 & 4

Health 2C, 2E, 5C, 5H, 5K, 5L, 6A, 7A, 7B, 10A, 10B, 10D, 10E, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D,  
11F, 12D, 12E

Social Studies (7<sup>th</sup> grade) 23A, 23B

Social Studies (8<sup>th</sup> grade) 20C, 20D, 20F, 21B

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**Peter, Paul & Mary**

**Don't Laugh at Me** (Lyrics)

Songwriters: Allen Shamblin, Steve Seskin - © Sony/atv Tunes D/b/a Cross Keys Publishing

I'm a little boy with glasses  
The one they call a geek  
A little girl who never smiles  
'Cause I have braces on my teeth  
And I know how it feels to cry myself to sleep  
I'm that kid on every playground  
Who's always chosen last  
A single teenage mother  
Tryin' to overcome my past  
You don't have to be my friend  
But is it too much to ask

Don't laugh at me  
Don't call me names  
Don't get your pleasure from my pain  
In God's eyes we're all the same  
Someday we'll all have perfect wings  
Don't laugh at me

I'm the beggar on the corner  
You've passed me on the street  
And I wouldn't be out here beggin'  
If I had enough to eat  
And don't think I don't notice  
That our eyes never meet

Don't laugh at me  
Don't call me names  
Don't get your pleasure from my pain  
In God's eyes we're all the same  
Someday we'll all have perfect wings  
Don't laugh at me

I'm fat, I'm thin, I'm short, I'm tall  
I'm deaf, I'm blind, hey, aren't we all

Don't laugh at me  
Don't call me names  
Don't get your pleasure from my pain  
In God's eyes we're all the same  
Someday we'll all have perfect wings  
Don't laugh at me