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## What community members can do

Everyone has a role in the nurturing of children. The "community" in which we live is an active partner in taking care of children.

- Communicate with and listen to youth about what they "see" and "hear."
- Intervene when you hear or see a child bullying another child.
- Involve children in bullying prevention education.
- Youth serving organizations can take a stand against bullying and teach tolerance.

## Resources

California Attorney General's Crime and Violence Prevention Center  
[www.ag.ca.gov/cvpc](http://www.ag.ca.gov/cvpc)

California Department of Education  
<http://cde.ca.gov/spbranch/ssp/bullyresource.htm>

United States Department of Education - Office of Civil Rights  
[www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/prevention.html](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/prevention.html)

United States Department of Justice  
[www.usdoj.gov/youthviolence.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/youthviolence.htm)

United States Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)  
[www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org)

National Crime Prevention Council  
[www.ncpc.org/](http://www.ncpc.org/)

National Education Association Safe Schools Now  
[www.nea.org/issues/safescho/](http://www.nea.org/issues/safescho/)

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For further information on this program and other crime prevention material, write to:

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Crime and Violence Prevention Center  
California Attorney General's Office  
P.O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

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This publication can be downloaded from  
[www.safestate.org](http://www.safestate.org)



# Bullying Prevention



California Attorney General's Office  
Crime and Violence Prevention Center

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Attorney General

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*“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*

Bullying is commonly found in the classroom, on the playground, in the home and in neighborhoods.

- It is the habitual harassing, intimidating, tormenting, browbeating, humiliating, terrorizing, oppressing and/or threatening words spoken to another person.
- It can be physically, sexually, verbally or emotionally harmful.
- It is one of the most serious concerns in schools today.
- It often leads to serious violent crimes.

Bullying has no social, financial or cultural boundaries.

- Children often become bullies by observing adult behavior.
- Youth, teachers, police and communities must work together to keep children safe. Every child has the right to be safe.
- Children’s bullying frequently occurs in and around school property.
- Bullying most often occurs in the middle school years.
- Approximately 160,000 students don’t attend school every day because they are in fear of being bullied (U.S. Department of Justice and the National Association of School Psychologists).
- Children who bully and children who are victimized by bullying often suffer emotional and behavioral problems.

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## **Suggestions for youth, parents, schools and the community**

Often, bullying is said to be “part of growing up.” This is wrong, and each of us needs to take a role in eradicating bullying.

### **What children and youth can do**

- Respect everyone; talk to and treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Tell a parent or teacher if you have been bullied, or if you witness another being bullied.
- Talk to your parents, relatives and friends about “bullying” issues.
- Support other students.
- Agree with your friends, parents, and teachers that bullying is not tolerated in your school or community.

### **What parents can do**

It is important for parents to be involved in all of their children’s activities, to prevent bullying and its consequences.

- Monitor your children’s activities, actions and words.
- Model good behavior.
- Listen to your children.
- Let children know that bullying other people is not acceptable.
- Get to know your children’s friends.
- Look for resources to assist you in responding to bullying situations.
- Be involved with your children’s school and extra curricular activities.
- Work together in the community to create and maintain an environment free from bullying and intolerance.
- Teach your children about RESPECT and TOLERANCE for all.

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## **What educators can do**

All children have a right to attend school in a safe environment.

- Assess the level of bullying by conducting student and educator surveys.
- Supervise students outside of the classroom, in other areas on campus, and intervene when you observe bullying behavior.
- Provide school-wide activities to address bullying education.
- Train school staff to recognize and intervene in bullying behavior.
- Provide a mechanism for students and teachers to report bullying.
- Listen to parents when they express concern of another child’s behavior.
- Approach bullies in private, do not talk to the bully and the victim at the same time because the bully may continue his/her antics toward the victim.
- Resolve bullying issues early and advise families of the accused victim and the accused bully of the incident.
- Obtain student input in the establishment of classroom and school rules.
- Enforce rule violations in a fair and consistent manner.
- Establish a district-wide policy on bullying and let the children and parents know of the policy.
- Partner with mental health professionals and school counselors to combat bullying.
- Form partnerships with law enforcement through a “memorandum of understanding.”
- Develop intervention strategies.
- Address bullying through your SAFE SCHOOLS PLAN.