

Safe School Ambassadors®

SCHOOL CLIMATE FACTS

School Climate Facts

Even with the increased focus on school safety and climate, and recent changes in many schools' policies:

- *every day*, **160,000** students stay home from school due to fear of attack or intimidation (National Association of School Psychologists)
- **25,000** students are targets of attacks, shakedowns, and robberies in secondary schools *every day* (National School Safety Center)
- **46%** of high school students report seeing a serious fight at least once a month at school (USA Today). Research shows that 1/3 of the brain shuts down for as much as 72 hours after seeing that type of violence
- **260** teachers are physically assaulted and **6250** teachers are threatened with bodily injury *every day* (National Education Association)
- approximately **75%** of students say *they have* been bullied at school (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention)

And *every day*, how many thousands - or millions - MORE students come to school with knots in their guts, afraid they'll be teased, bullied, hurt or killed?

Research by Dr. Wendy Craig shows that *adults miss as much as 95%* of the subtle but pervasive peer mistreatment that occurs daily - exclusion, insults, rumors, harassment, bullying and intimidation, and worse.

Students Hold the Key

Students see, hear, and know things adults don't... and they can intervene in ways adults can't. But too often they don't because they fear retaliation and don't know what to do.

Research indicates that at any given time the vast majority of students (as high as 85%) are neither aggressors nor targets; they are involved only as bystanders. And when bystanders DO step in, the bullying stops. When a peer speaks up, the length of the *bullying incident is cut by 75%*. (website)

Imagine...

A cadre of courageous, committed and skilled students the social leaders of a school's diverse cliques, those most likely to speak up preventing and stopping exclusion, teasing, bullying and other forms of violence on your campus.

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