

## Schools Should Address Bullying by Nina Perez

Does your school address bullying? Do you think that more schools need to warn students about bullying? I think that schools need to discuss bullying because students should be more aware of what is going on in and out of their school. Bullying is an unacceptable act and should not be tolerated in any school. Schools need to talk about bullying because it is affecting students' safety and their ability to learn.

"During the 1990s, in twelve out of fifteen school shooting cases the shooter had a history of being bullied", states [stopbullying.gov](http://stopbullying.gov). This statement shows that bullying affects your adolescence and adulthood. It can cause physical violence to anyone that has sighted bullying, no matter the age. This is why we should stop it while kids are in school. Being the bully, bullied, or a bystander can cause depression and anxiety throughout your life. People will start to fear others which could make them feel lonely. Schools want their students to be successful, which is why they need to show students the harms of bullying.

Being a bully offender negatively impacts learning, no matter what side of the bullying case students are on. Studies show that people who were bullied as well as the bully are more likely to miss, skip, or even drop out of school. These students do not participate or listen in class, which is affecting their average grade or GPA score. Studies have also shown that their standardized test scores are low.

Some people may say that stopping bullies in school does not stop bullies from harassing outside of school. If schools hold assemblies about bullying and how to stop it from happening, kids won't take it seriously. They might think that their friends or peers won't make fun of them for wanting to know more about this harmful situation. Most students don't understand bullying and some may not even know that it is going on in their school. Schools might not worry as much about students being bullied because studies have shown that bullying alone is not a cause of suicide. If schools give students tools and tricks to handle bullies, they can resolve issues out of school when they don't have anyone to help them. Children could also feel uncomfortable sharing their stories of being bullied. They could feel helpless or fear of being called a tattletale or being looked down on by adults for seeming weak. Schools could also inform parents about helping their child if they are being bullied. Schools can also hold assemblies for parents, so that parents are informed about what is going on in their child's school and how they can help. Kids should feel safe to talk to their parents or guardians if they need to discuss bullying or anything harmful that is happening to them at school.

All students need to feel comfortable in their school environment. This will help them grow in learning and keep them away from violence. If everyone gets together to stop bullying, we can ban it so that everyone is safe! You can help by informing your local schools and students by hanging posters or informative signs around your neighborhood. You need to go out and prevent bullying today!