



Facts About Bullying

- Bullying is the top concern for both children and parents when measured against illegal drug use, sexual activity and gangs.¹
- Every seven minutes a child is bullied on the playground, on the bus and/or online.²
- In school year 2006–07, some 8,166,000 U.S. students ages 12 through 18, or about 31.7 percent of all such students, reported they were bullied at school.³
- Nearly 30 percent of boys and girls in seventh grade reported they had been afraid of being beaten up at school at least once.⁴
- In a recent special issue of the *Journal of Early Adolescence*, UCLA psychologists found that academic performance was substantially worse for students who were bullied compared to their peers.⁵
- Bullying is a common experience for many children and adolescents. Surveys indicate that as many as 50% of all children are bullied at some point during their school years, and at least 10% are bullied on a regular basis.⁶
- Youth violence can be reduced by initiating prevention early in childhood, increasing children's resilience and reinforcing positive behavior.⁷
- When a systematic plan to increase daily praise and reward for positive behavior in schools and other places in the community significantly reduces the risk of youth crime.⁸
- Repeated scientific studies show that limited interventions often fail to sustain their efforts, and that very specific actions must be taken to ensure that positive benefits last.⁹

¹ Harris Interactive QuickQuery, Fielding Period: July 19-21, 2011.

² National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

³ Student Reports of Bullying and Cyber-Bullying: Results From the 2007 School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, U.S. Department of Education, May 2011, NCES 2011 -316.

⁴ California Department of Education, California Healthy Kids Survey (WestEd). <http://www.wested.org/chks>

⁵ *The Journal of Early Adolescence*, February 2011; vol. 31, 1: pp. 152-173. First published on September 2, 2010. Bullying Experiences and Compromised Academic Performance Across Middle School Grades, Jaana Juvonen, Yueyan Wang, Guadalupe Espinoza.

⁶ American Academy of Childhood & Adolescent Psychiatry.

⁷ Walker, H.M., Colvin, G., & Ramsey, E. *Anti-social behavior in schools, strategies and best practices*, New York: Brooks/Cole, 1995, Second Edition, 2004.

⁸ *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, vol. 16 (1983), m 355-369; *Aggression and anti-social behavior in childhood and adolescence*. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1979.

⁹ *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, vol. 5 (1972), 209-224, vol.12 (1977) 285-310.