

Terrorism in the Education System

By Rachel Cameron & Linh Dang

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Purpose

- Define terrorism in schools
- Identify the problem
- Provide information on the issue
- Offer solutions



Terrorism in Schools

- **Terrorism- the systematic use of terror especially as a means of coercion (Merriam-Webster)**
 - **Known as “bullying” in schools**
 - **Causes fear and harm**
 - **Psychological and physical damage**
 - **Long lasting effects**



The Problem

- **Extent of terrorism in the system**
- **Bullying/victimization creates internal issues**
- **Direct vs. Indirect bullying**
- **Long term effects**



Extent of Bullying

- **Factors involved:**
 - **Physical characteristics**
 - Smaller size, weight and physical disabilities
 - **Ethnicity**
 - Minorities and majorities
 - **Gender**
 - Male bullies, female victims
 - **Location**
 - Classroom highest, on the way to school lowest
 - **Grade level**
 - Grades 7 & 8 highest rate



Psychological Effects

- **Sense of self**
 - Level of confidence and self worth
- **Interpersonal Relationships**
 - Withdrawal or unhealthy release
- **Mental health**
 - Depression, suicidal thoughts, social anxiety
- **Rebellion towards authority**
 - Juvenile delinquents- no regard for the law

Direct Vs Indirect

- **Direct**
 - **Requires physical harm-** aggression, verbal attacks, confrontation
- **Indirect**
 - **Requires covert harm-** secretive, rumor spreading, social exclusion
- **Aspects:** Gender, age, social level



Long Term Consequences

- **Coping skills**
- **Socially weak**
- **Suppressed emotions**
- **Violent actions- Virginia Tech**

Evidence of:

- **discrimination**
- **Isolation**
- **Social incompetence**

Solutions

- **Connecticut Bill: U.S. Wide**
 - Policies
 - Future benefits
- **Bullying Workshops**
 - Activities on respect and compassion
 - Future benefits



“Early intervention strategies implemented within the school not only would improve student’ interpersonal experiences and overall academic achievement, but also would possibly save the lives of students, teachers and other school personnel” (Conner and Meyer-Adams, 2008).

Questions?



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