



# Safe Schools Coalition

Crises: 1-877-SAFE-SAFE

Messages: 206-632-0662 x49

[www.safeschoolscoalition.org](http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org)

American Friends Service Committee  
 Anti-Defamation League (ADL)  
 The Bush School Gay-Straight Alliance  
 Charles Wright Academy  
 Comprehensive Health Education Foundation  
 Diversity Productions  
 Gay and Gender Research  
 Gay Parent Support Group (Honolulu)  
 Gender Public Advocacy Coalition (GPAC)  
 GLSEN: The Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network  
 Greater Seattle Business Association  
 Hate Free Zone Washington  
 Human Rights Campaign Foundation  
 Idaho - Safe Schools Coalition  
 If You Don't, They Will  
 Ingersoll Gender Center  
 Kalaheo High School Gay Straight Alliance  
 King County Sexual Assault Resource Center  
 Kitsap County Health District  
 Kitsap Safe Schools Network  
 Lake Washington Education Association  
 Lake Washington Technical Academy in Lake WA Technical College  
 Lambert House  
 Lifelong AIDS Alliance  
 Multifaith Alliance of Reconciling Communities  
 National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC)  
 New Conservatory Theatre Center - YouthAware Educational Theatre  
 Norup School  
 NW Proud  
 Oasis Youth Center/Pierce County AIDS Foundation  
 Odyssey Youth Center  
 Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation Social Justice Committee  
 Oregon Safe Schools and Community Coalition  
 OSPI, The Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction - Equity Education Program and Safe and Drug Free Schools  
 Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG National) and five local chapters: Bellevue, Everett/Snohomish County, Olympia, Seattle, Skagit, Yakima/Yakima Valley  
 Peninsula Pride Alliance  
 Planned Parenthood Affiliates of Washington: Mt. Baker - Bellingham, Central Washington Yakima, Inland Northwest Spokane, Western Washington Seattle  
 Power of Hope  
 Pride Foundation  
 Public Health - Seattle & King County  
 Rainbow Families of Puget Sound  
 Respect Sacramento  
 Safe Schools of Wyoming  
 School Nurse Organization of Washington  
 Scouting for All  
 Seattle Academy of Arts & Sciences  
 Seattle Black Pride Committee  
 Seattle Counseling Service  
 Seattle Education Association  
 Shorewood High School  
 Snohomish County GLOBE Youth Program  
 Spokane Public Schools  
 Stonewall Youth  
 Teaching Tolerance (a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center)  
 Turning Institute  
 University of Puget Sound - Multicultural Student Services  
 Verbena  
 Washington Association of Churches  
 Washington Association of School Social Workers  
 Washington Education Association and its Women's Caucus  
 Washington Gender Alliance  
 Washington State University's Gender Identity/Expression Resource Center  
 Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation  
 Women's Educational Media  
 Youth Guardian Services

## King County Middle School Statistics on Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation

### Bullying is extremely common.

The 2006 Washington State Healthy Youth Survey results were released March 21, 2007. They include these disturbing findings:

- 29% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 26% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders report having been **bullied** at least once in the past 30 days – no significant change since 2004.
- 4% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 3% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders say it happens to them at least **several times a week**.
- 9.4% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders report having been bullied, harassed or intimidated by someone using a **computer** or **cell phone** in past 30 days.\*
- 18.3% report having been bullied, harassed or intimidated in the past 30 days at school or on their way to or from school because of their **“gender** (being male or female)? This includes sexual jokes, gestures, or comments that make [them] feel uncomfortable.”\*
- 14.4% ... because of their **“race, ethnicity, or national origin** or what someone thought it was.”\*
- 12.7% ... because “someone thought [they] were **gay, lesbian or bisexual** (whether [they were] or not).”\*
- 10.0% ... because of their **“religion** or what someone thought it was.”\*
- 8.5% ... because they “have a **health** problem or physical or mental **disability**, or someone thought [they] did.”\*

### Bullying has devastating consequences.

Multiple studies have shown that students who are harassed in these ways are more likely than their non-harassed peers to:

- ~ carry a weapon to school;
- ~ binge drink & report other heavy drug use
- ~ take sexual risks;
- ~ seriously consider, plan or attempt suicide.

And the *more* ways – the more forms of bias -- for which an individual child has been bullied, the greater their chances of carrying a gun or engaging in self-endangerment or self-harm.

\* 6<sup>th</sup> graders weren't asked about this.

*helping schools, at home and all over the world, become safe places where every family can belong, where every educator can teach, and where every child can learn, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation*