Objective:
Students will examine a societal issue of bullying, see a variety of reactions, and then discuss their own thoughts or approaches to the situation. The purpose of the lesson in general is to build empathy among students.

Time & Materials:
Anywhere from 40-50 minutes, depending on discussion.
Two videos clips:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EisZTB4ZQxY - 5 minutes
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ii6L_Aux9RU - 12 minutes

Prior to activity: Generate “Group Norms” to make the following discussion to take place in a safe environment. Here are some ideas:
- Allow people to say mistakes
- Allow people to say the wrong words
- Do not judge
- What is said here stays here
- Ask class for others...

Step One: Preface the first video with a brief intro about what they are going to see: an experiment where actors simulate a bullying scene to observe how observers react.

Step Two: Show the first video to students. (5 minutes)

Step Three: Have students spend a few minutes with a PAIR/SHARE
1) Are you surprised by what you just saw? Why or why not?
2) If you are surprised, what surprised you most?
3) What do you think you would have done in the situation?
4) Do you think your friends would have done the same thing as you? Why or why not?
5) What is your reaction to the people that chose not to be involved?

Step Four: Preface the second video with a brief introduction to this Ted Talk by Shane Koyczan. He speaks about his spoken word poetry titled “To This Day” about adolescence, growing up, and bullying. Note: He does use profanity in his talk at 4:50 min. The spoken word poem starts at 5:09 min.

Step Five: Show the second video to students (12 minutes)

Step Six: Have student spend time reflecting on the talk.
1) Is bullying a big issue in our community or not?
2) What part of the poem spoke to you most? Why?
3) What do you think schools, parents, students, and the community should be doing about bullying?