

Porkchop

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=li6L_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?