

Acts of Mean-Spirited Behavior

PERPETRATORS

- ◆ Learned behaviors from role-models to get their needs met
- ◆ Lack empathy
- ◆ Average or better self-esteem / sense of self
- ◆ Likely to have negative attitudes towards school
- ◆ Want/need to control others or gain power
- ◆ Want to fit in or “be cool”
- ◆ Often are “popular” students
- ◆ May have been targets themselves
- ◆ May want to avoid becoming a target

TARGETS

- ◆ Vulnerable
- ◆ Few or no friends
- ◆ Poor social skills
- ◆ Shy, Withdrawn & Quiet
- ◆ Irritating habits
- ◆ Poor in sports
- ◆ Relate better to adults

BYSTANDERS

- ◆ Experience a sense of guilt
- ◆ Often feel powerless to do anything
- ◆ Often afraid to tell someone who could help
- ◆ Must be able to trust adults so that they will “tell”
- ◆ Need to practice standing up to others
- ◆ Become the “caring majority”
- ◆ Be given permission and empowered to become allies