Bullying

Someone is getting bullied near you what do you do? (A) Tell the bully to stop. (B) Turn away and talk to your friends. (C) Stand there and pretend nothing is happening. Ask yourself right now which would you chose? Well (A) is the right choice in all bullying situations.

You will never know how bad bullying until you get bullied or see bullying. The first time you see bullying you will probably blow it off because you don't want to get involved. Stop and think to yourself, that person is in need of help and you just walk away! That is the definition of a bystander. I admit I've done that before. My friend told me her best friend was getting bullied by some girls. I blow it off because they were my friends and they wouldn't bully! I was wrong and now I'm trying to grab hold of the situation.

If you think you're an upstander just because you're in S.A.V.E. but if you're not taking a stand you are not an upstander if you don't take action. You need to stand up for what is right, bullying is defiantly not right! You are probably thinking how can I become an upstander. If you go up to a bully and stop the bullying you just became and upstander and you shrunk the percentage of bullying.

I was a bystander and realized I need to help the people who need my help. Look at me now I'm in S.A.V.E. and have finally became an upstander. And let me tell you I'm not going back to being a bystander.

Journal Entry #46

I never realized until now that words could be so humiliating. As I am sitting in the corner in tears, I remember when I had good friends, ones that treated me nicely. But now, all they care about it themselves.

It has been two months since these girls have been treating me this way. I am constantly getting treated like the third wheel and that nobody cares about me. All I can ever dream of is the day where one of my 'friends' stick-up for me.

The words, "All I can ever dream of is the day where one of my 'friends' stick-up for me", got millions of ideas flushing through my mind. I find it unbelievable that less than 20% of Americans try to help a victim that is getting bullied. This means that the bystanders sit here watching the victim not doing one thing to stop it.

Although being an up stander may be hard, we can do it. If I see bullying occurring around me, I will immediately get a group of friends that can confront the bully. For example, a few fourth graders came up to me and my friend and told me that a girl was bullying them. I asked them what had happened and they told me, "She swore at me, called us names (fat) and she twisted up our shirts and lifted us up by it."

I knew that we had to do something about it. We decided that we would confront the bully and tell the teacher. This didn't help so we went to the principal and he talked to the bully. I can feel that things are now getting better. I am now very proud of myself for helping the fourth graders out of a sticky situation.

If you see a bullying situation, it is your job to solve it. Tell a trusted adult, confront the bully, or make the victim feel comfortable. These simple things will get you feeling like Superman if you have the courage to do it.

You may think that being an up stander may be hard but as soon as you do it, you will begin to get the good feeling that you get when the situation is solved, and you are the person to thank! Put yourself in the victim's shoes, I think that if all of us were getting bullied, we would love to have someone stick-up for us. So the next time you see a kid who needs a friend, be there for them, it will mean the world to them.

"People talk about bullying, but you can be your own bully in some ways. You can be the person who is standing in the way of your success, and that was the case for me." ~Katy Perry

> MacKenzie Haas 6th Grade Rolling Hills