



## **Bully Prevention in Schools: A United States Experience**

**Ruth Bedell and Arthur M. Horne**

**KEYWORDS** Bullying; peer aggression in the United States; intervention; elementary secondary education; prevention; teacher role

**ABSTRACT** Aggression in the United States is a major problem. Bullying or peer aggression is a pervasive problem in schools in the United States. As microcosms of culture, schools are socializing institutions where children spend the majority of their waking time developing academic and interpersonal skills and building character. Without appropriate bullying prevention or intervention strategies children may perceive the school environment as hostile and not conducive to learning. This discussion paper gives an overview of peer aggression in schools in the United States, the bully-victim-bystander triad, and effective prevention and intervention strategies. The Bully Busters Program, an empirically validated prevention and intervention program for elementary and middle schools, is an example of teachers' involvement in stopping peer aggression in their classrooms. In conclusion, we discuss implications and recommendations for an international audience.

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**Peer Victimization in Schools: An International Perspective**

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