

HOMOPHOBIC BULLYING

HOWARD LAWRENSON
GMP LGBT IAG

GROUP AGREEMENT

- Respect
- Confidentiality
- Listen
- Participate
- Share knowledge

HOMOPHOBIC BULLYING

What is HOMOPHOBIC BULLYING??

Write on a flip chart paper a definition of homophobic bullying.

3 minutes max...

HOMOSEXUALITY

WHY TALK ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?

- Young people have a right to accurate information about sexuality
- Young people are already talking about homosexuality in school
- Bullying in school frequently involves the use of homophobic insults
- Lesbian and gay pupils need extra support in school
- Parents may want to talk about homosexuality but feel inhibited
- Sexual health education in schools needs to include information about gay sex and health

So HOMOPHOBIC BULLYING!!

What is homophobia?

“It’s a kind of fear really. I think as a boy I was scared of gay men. How would I cope with the embarrassment if I was chatted up? Would it mean I was gay? I had never met a gay man – it was a stupid belief. But when you’re scared, especially of something you actually know nothing about, hatred is a natural reaction.”

Robert, 25

Homophobia is a fear of and/or hostility towards homosexuals or homosexuality.

Homophobia is often expressed visibly, audibly and sometimes violently.

GAY

Good As You

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

Sara's story

It was really difficult at school. Girls kept on asking me if I was a lesbian because I had short hair and wore DMs. One day I just said 'yes'. Rumours started spreading all over the school and within a couple of days it seemed that everyone knew. From then on my life was a misery – I was constantly bullied. All the friends I had before wouldn't talk to me. I got really depressed and didn't want to go to school. I finally plucked up the courage to speak to a teacher who was really supportive.

Society encourages people to be anti-gay. It seems like there's this unwritten rule which says if you don't get married and have 2.4 children, then you're weird or abnormal. But loads of people don't live like that anymore. There are lots of different relationships nowadays. A lot of straight girls assume that I fancy every girl I see. But they don't fancy every boy that walks down the street do they?

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements from and about the story:

Agree/Debatable/Disagree

- It seems like there's this unwritten rule which says that if you don't get married and have 2.4 children you're weird or abnormal.
- There are lots of different relationships nowadays.
- A lot of straight girls assume that lesbian girls fancy every girl they meet.
- Society encourages people to be anti-gay.
- Girls who have short hair and wear DMs can be stereotyped as lesbians.

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

“Help! I’m being bullied at school”

I’m 13 and I’m being bullied at school. I’ve never felt so depressed in all my life. There’s this boy who always calls me names and laughs at me with his friends. They call me ‘rich boy’ and ‘stuck-up’. We are quite well-off but we’re not rich. I’m scared even to wear any new clothes or have a new bag in school because of what they’ll say.

I don’t know what to do. I don’t want to talk to my mum or the teachers. I feel like I want to move school. I just don’t understand, I’ve never done anything to them.

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the story above:

Agree/Debatable/Disagree

- Verbal bullying can be as harmful as physical bullying.
- People are bullied because of what they look like.
- Some young people are reluctant to talk to teachers about being bullied.
- Not all teachers are able to tell when young people are being bullied.
- Teachers should be able to provide appropriate support to young people who are being bullied.

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

“He pinches my bum”

I'm 15 and a boy who is in my class always wants to grab hold of my bum and pinch it. I told him I didn't like it and asked him to stop but he hasn't. I really don't know what to do or who to talk to. If I tell a teacher are they just going to tell everyone? I don't like this boy at all and I don't like what he's doing.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the story above:

Agree/Debatable/Disagree

- Sexual harassment is a form of bullying.
- If a young person tells a teacher about bullying they are not going to keep it secret.
- It is nearly impossible to stop this kind of behaviour in school.
- Teachers react differently when boys harass other boys to when boys harass girls.

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

Whole lot of hassle

I used to get a whole load of hassle. People automatically assumed I was a 'poof' and there was so many incidents where people hit me, kicked me, spat at me, just because of the way I looked. You can't go to your parents and say, 'someone kicked me today because they thought I was a poof', and you can't go to a teacher and say that. It was something that you didn't just deal with and tried to carry on as normal. And that was so difficult but... there was one incident... someone came up and grabbed me from behind and simulated anal sex with me, in front of all his friends... it was just... so bad.

LETS TALK BULLYING!!!

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the story:

Agree/Debatable/Disagree

- Young people may not always be confident about getting support at home if they are being bullied.
- Homophobic bullying goes on in every school.
- Some young people think that school cannot do anything about bullying.

LIVING IT

A homophobic bullying resource pack produced by Bolton PCT and Greater Manchester Police to tackle homophobic bullying in schools.

Watch the video, and think about how what you see is making you feel

So – to conclude...

- Homophobic bullying is harmful
- We can all do something about stopping it

- Any questions???