



What people are saying about www.bullying.org...

Dear Bullying.org,

The Canadian Initiative for the Prevention of Bullying is delighted to support you. Your organization has played, and continues to play a significant role in addressing the problems of bullying and victimization, not only in Canada, but throughout the world. Bullying.org provides a truly unique service and has many strengths. The impact of this organization worldwide is truly remarkable.

First, Bullying.org provides an opportunity for individuals who have experienced repeated victimization to communicate their issues with others who have faced similar challenges. Second, it provides education to children, youth, parents, educators, and other individuals working with youth on the problem of bullying and strategies to deal with the problem. Third, it provides support services for those individuals and agencies interested in addressing problems of bullying. Fourth, through Web technology and communication, it promotes the dissemination of information internationally and ensures that the most up to date knowledge is available.

The impact of bullying is immense. Through www.bullying.org, millions of individuals around the world have been educated about the problem, the effects of bullying, and most importantly, they have found comfort in the knowledge that they are not alone. Our children and youth are our most valuable asset. Bullying.org Canada provides a mechanism for us to support children and youth, and in that way contributes to making our society a richer, more compassionate place in which to live.

Bullying is a problem that transcends regional, national, and cultural boundaries. If we are successful reduce these problems in our society, it requires a co-ordination of efforts that facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge and effective strategies in combating the problem. We are proud that through Bullying.org, Canada has taken a leading role internationally in this effort. This organization has accomplished an exchange of information, education, and support like no other in the world. We support you fully in your efforts and celebrate your significant influence in making the world safer for children and youth.

Sincerely,

Dr. Debra Pepler, Dr. Wendy Craig and Dr. Shelley Hymel

STOCKHOLM.CHALLENGE



Stockholm, Sweden

Congratulations Mr. Belsey!

www.bullying.org is one of the finalists in The Stockholm Challenge Award 2001. The Stockholm Challenge Jury has now accomplished the hard task of evaluating a record number of 742 projects from 90 countries. The winners in each category will be announced and celebrated on September 26th. You are cordially invited to come to Stockholm in September to participate in the Prize Ceremony in the City Hall in the presence of The Mayor of Stockholm, the media and a large number of distinguished international guests.

You are also invited to participate in the Challenge dinner that will follow the ceremony.

Take advantage of the unique opportunity of being a finalist! You will be exposed to considerable national and international interest. Many have already expressed a wish to see and talk to the people, who have reached high standards in information technology based projects throughout the world.

Let everyone in your network know that you have reached the final in the Stockholm Challenge Award 2001.

A detailed programme of the Final Events and how to attend the activities will be posted at www.challenge.stockholm.se in the near future.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you in Stockholm in September!

Best regards,

Monica Berneström

Project Manager

*The Stockholm Challenge

www.challenge.stockholm.se

*The Stockholm Challenge is a unique awards programme for pioneering IT projects world wide. It is a way of building networks between entrepreneurs who will benefit from contacts across borders, cultures and economies. The Stockholm Challenge focuses on the positive effects of today's information society, and the benefit information and communication technology can bring people and society. The technology itself is not the issue. The Stockholm Challenge has been called "The Nobel Prize of the Information Technology world."



July 11, 2001

Dear Bill:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your project's contributors at being honoured at this year's Cable and Wireless Childnet Awards in the Charity/Not-For-Profit Category for your Grassroots project "The Bullying Project".

It is wonderful to see that Canadians are leading the way internationally in online project-based learning and in the integration of technology in the classroom.

As a teacher leading young Canadians into the new millennium, you are helping them to acquire the skills they need to succeed, not only today but in the future.

I encourage you to continue working with SchoolNet's GrassRoots Program in developing world-class online learning projects.

Sincerely,

Brian Tobin



(Former) Minister of Industry

Government of Canada



Dear Bill,

Congratulations! The judging for the Cable and Wireless Childnet International Awards is now completed. There were some 200 entries from 47 different countries worldwide and the standard was exceptionally high with many worthy projects just missing out on being shortlisted. The judges decided to award Bullying.org a prize in the not for profit organisation category ...

The awards ceremony itself will be on Thursday 19 April in the evening at the headquarters of the National Geographic Society. We will send you further details about this but be assured that it will be a wonderful occasion – not too formal, but very special. The ceremony will be webcast so that your friends at home will be able to watch it live. There will be an exhibition beforehand of all the winning web sites and online activities.

...

We are so looking forward to meeting you having admired your work on the web, and we hope this whole experience will be an exciting and upbuilding one for you. We anticipate considerable press interest before, during and after the ceremony and we hope that you will be willing to help us in promoting the positive opportunities the internet offers. ... See you in Washington!

Nigel

Nigel Williams,

Director, Childnet International Helping to make the Internet a Great Place for Children
Main site www.childnet-int.org Awards www.childnet-int.org/awards
Studio 14, Brockley Cross Business Centre, 96 Endwell Road, London, SE4 2PD, United Kingdom.

Hi Bill:

Congratulations on the award. Thank You for your efforts to help make a difference. Given the tragic death in December (2000) in Calgary we still have a long way to go. Have a great 2001.

Blessings- Rev. Dale Lang



Rev. Dale Lang meets

www.bullying.org creator Bill Belsey in Calgary



January 31, 2001

Dear Mr. Belsey:

I am writing to relay my congratulations for the Cable and Wireless Childnet Award your project will be receiving for the creation of an anti-bullying website. The hard work you have put into the project, along with co-ordinating its creation, is truly admirable.

The website is creative, informative and easy to use. I am impressed with the personal submissions from young people around the world. You have encouraged people to address the issue of bullying and have done a wonderful job creating an international dialogue.

The Ministry of Children's Services does not condone bullying in any form and has take steps to deal with the issue. Premier Ralph Klein established the Task Force on Children at Risk after the fatal shooting of a student in Taber. Many of the recommendations the task force brought forward have already been addressed while other will continue to be analyzed.

Your work with young people is something to be proud of. Sharing the message that young people are not alone and that they can do something about bullying is extremely important. Thank you for being a selfless leader who has a sincere interest in helping young people. I certainly respect the work you have done and believe the project team is truly deserving of this award.

Sincerely yours,



Iris Evans, (former) Minister for Children's Services, Government of Alberta

Dear Bill,

I carefully read through the Bullying WWW site, which I had not done before. It is truly remarkable! It is, to my view, a model for others to consider in setting up their WWW sites.

The use of different media -- writing, drawing, music, film, poetry -- is quite simply, more effective education. Why? Because we know children learn in different modalities.

The reference materials, disclaimers, etc. are done with the utmost of intelligence and superb administration.

I encourage everyone to spend some time on Bill's site and consider how you might use what he and his team have created for your own.

Clearly, more effective WWW sites lead to more effective learners. And in the iEARN context of empowering youth to know that they can make a difference (in a world of increasing suffering), we have no time to spare.

Thanks and warm regards,

Peter Copen

Founder, iEARN, the International Education and Resource Network



Dear Mr. Belsey:

I was most impressed to learn that www.bullying.org is a project developed by a Canadian to educate and help youth around the world. I have also personally viewed the Web-site and find its quality to be equally inspiring.

Please accept my congratulations and best wishes on the development of your newest project, www.bullying.org. I am sure it will prove useful as an educational tool to both those who are cruelly taunted by youth and by those who verbally-abuse and cast aspersions on others.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew
Minister, Secretary of State for Children and Youth
Government of Canada



Dear Bill,

I have now had a chance to visit the web site and it is fantastic. You are to be congratulated for making this very worthwhile contribution to building peace in our communities and world. I will be providing a link to your web site from our Canadian Centres for Teaching Peace web site <http://www.peace.ca> in the near future.

Your efforts provide a powerful example of what all the schools and students in Canada and the world can do to bring peace to the world.

Best wishes,
Bob Stewart, Director
Canadian Centres for Teaching Peace
Member, National Working Group for a Culture of Peace

www.peace.ca

Dear www.bullying.org,

I just want to say this Web site is great! Don't post this e-mail on the site, I just want to tell you. This site is great, for children who have been through a lot, and for people like me who can finally speak their mind. I was just wondering...do you allow things about God, and prayer on this site? Because the best way I've learned is to give all of your problems to God, just heave the burdens off your back and give them all to God, for him to take care of and control himself. It really works. Just tell him to take your problems. Well, ok, if you want you can post this on the site, but I doubt you will since this is the third time I wrote in anyway. Well, it doesn't matter, I just want to say how great this site is. Thanks.

by Stephenie, age 13 in Saskatchewan, Canada

Dear www.bullying.org,

Your initiative is to be encouraged.

Many of modern society's whims are just that: politically correct whims. But bullying is one notable exception. It should never, ever be tolerated.

As a child, I was bullied too. My school time was a nightmare; I hate to think back to it even now. I feared the end of school. "We're going to beat you up" and "You won't get home in one piece" was the permanent threat. And even now, 30 years later, at some level I think it must have been my own fault.

Which of course it was not. Mean, threatening, bullying behaviour should NEVER, ever be blamed on the child being bullied, and should never, ever be tolerated. Being weak does not mean you get bullied and mistreated.

Sure, in the animal world, weaker individuals are always identified and they suffer under the stronger ones. But this is where we, as civilized people, can make a difference. We do not have to accept that type of animal behaviour.

I see that at my kids' school, bullying is passively tolerated. "I cannot watch the kids all the time". "If your son has a problem he probably contributed to it himself". I hear this stuff - and this is really unacceptable in 2002.

We should watch kids at and after school. We should take any suspected bullying very seriously. And it seems to me we should have automatic severe punishment for anyone bullying or threatening: including 'friends' of the bullies who threaten. To stop bullying and avoid recriminations, every suspected bully should be made to arrive at, and leave from, school at other times from the people bullied - and any proven bully should immediately automatically be removed permanently from the school.

Anyway, before I start to ramble: good luck to you, instituting this behavioural change in Canadian schools.

Cheers,

Michael

Oakville, Canada

P.S. If you should want to add this to your site, go ahead, but leave my surname off please - thanks.

Hi Bill....

I am an associate producer with a new youth show on CTV this fall called "21c." We are focusing on a wide variety of youth-oriented issues in a documentary format. One of our episodes will be on bullying, specifically analyzing the bully's point of view. However, we are also looking to find a victim who would be willing to talk about things they have been through, or are going through.

Your website, www.bullying.org has been incredibly helpful for me, in terms of resources. I am hoping you may be able to get me in touch with young people, specifically a young male bully and a young victim (between the ages of 14 and 19). If you're not the best person for this, perhaps you know of someone I should speak to on the subject.

Any help you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Dianne Trottier

Dianne Trottier
Associate Producer
21*
CTV Television
dtrottier@ctv.ca
(416) 313-2516 (o)
(416) 313-2525 (f)

Hello Mr. Belsey,

I thank you so much for www.bullying.org. Today my 9 year old daughter Courtney came home from school and I could tell that she was upset but she didn't want to talk about it. She had been hurt emotionally by two of her classmates. As a mother I could see she needed to speak out about mistreatment by her peers not go into her room and hide She needed someone who could relate to her. www.bullying.org was worth a try. What hidden treasure we found! I was amazed at the honesty and profound sense of grief to each story, children and adults. Even a bully or two had decided to make amends, their stories also very real to the bullied. Tomorrow my daughter can go to school with her head held proudly because of you. Instead of feeling downtrodden she has more coping mechanisms than before and www.bullying.org!

Elizabeth

Calgary, Canada



www.bullying.org was featured by the CTV (Canadian Television Network) show Digital Desk and the CTV National News!

Dear Bill,

I looked at www.bullying.org and added it immediately to my database. Glad to see it- so it will be in the next edition of the book although that won't be until Sept.

best wishes, JP

PS I don't know if you do awards or not, but you get the "Net-mom



Approved" slice o' pie.

Jean Armour Polly

Author, The Internet Kids & Family Yellow Pages

Just released--the 4th edition!

<http://www.netmom.com/>

Net-mom is a Registered Service Mark of Jean Armour Polly.

"Search engines are science, but directories are art."



CBC Radio's show "This Morning" lists www.bullying.org among their helpful web sites from their December 2000 national show on bullying!

Dear Mr. Belsey,

I'd like to thank you for the attention you have paid to my essay. It's wonderful to know that I'm not alone in this world and I can share my feelings and thoughts with my peers all over the world. It really makes me happy to know that my essay can bring some beams of hope to all the kids who feel lonely. Not only do I give my assent to have my essay published, but also I'd like to thank you once again. I really hope that we the children can move this world a better place to live.

Best regards,
Fatme Alieva

age 16 Varna, Bulgaria

Canada's **SchoolNet**



featured

www.bullying.org on SchoolNet!

Dear Bill,

I was so impressed with your site that I included it on our Critical Issues for Educational Leaders site for Safety. In fact, it's the first link on the list!
<http://204.98.1.2/isu/critical/safety.html>

John Adsit, Jefferson County Public Schools Golden, Colorado

*Note: This is the school board for Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado

Hi Bill,

I just read the latest Reader's Digest and the www.bullying.org site was not included. In my mind, the researcher (Canadian) did not really investigate thoroughly enough before writing.

The impact the bullying site had at my little school in Valleyfield, Quebec was huge. The Grade Six watched you on the CBC interview which I taped. They wrote poetry. They had intense dialogues. I am across the hall from them the door is always open.

Thank you for the work you do in this area springboarding the site and maintaining it so diligently.

With great appreciation,

Lorraine

A Wonderful and Unique Place!!

Dear Mr. Belsey,

I am not a child who has been a victim of bullying. I'm just a mom who has a very special child who, because he is "different", gets bullied at school. We all know that he does not deserve this harrassment, but sometimes he thinks it is his fault. I am trying to make the schools in our area look at this problem more seriously, but sometimes that is an uphill battle. Thanks to this new website, I will be able to direct those "in charge??" to a place that puts a STRONG voice to the affects of bullying. I am also going to try and encourage my son to visit soon.

Thank you for caring.

Dear Mr. Belsey:

I recently heard your story on the CBC show "As It Happens" and was impressed by your caring and perseverance at helping children deal with the horrible problem of teasing and bullying. As an adult, I remember those kids who were picked on and wish I had the tools back then to help them and not "just stand back." This website has offered an articulate, well though-out arena for kids to share and offer solutions. I wish we had something such as this when I was young. I am now the mother of two young boys, my oldest is now in kindergarten. He has already witnessed teasing and the results it has on everyone - not just the victim, but on himself as well as everyone in his class. This website will help me, as well as my boys as they grow up, to reinforce the benefits of "treating others as they would want others to treat them."

Yours truly,

Nancy Barnard
Edina, Minnesota



Magazine showcases and praises

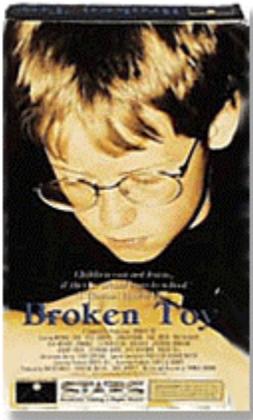
www.bullying.org !

Hi,

I am in awe of your web-site. Positively fantastic! I would like to send you a review copy of my latest film on bullying called "Joey." Please e-mail me your address asap and I'll get a copy right out to you. Keep up the excellent work my friend.

Thomas Brown

The Broken Toy Project



Dear Mr. Belsey,

What a wonderful idea is your web page on bullying. I had some horrible experiences with bullying as a kid, and there was never anywhere to turn. You couldn't tell or get help from your parents and

you didn't dare report to the school. My own children encountered this as well, some related to race also, as we have an interracial family. There still is no escape for kids. Probably the most tragic is the experience of gay kids. School can be sheer torture with no way out. Your idea is truly a blessing, and may it expand its teaching and outreach.

George Fuller Vancouver, BC



CBC Radio's Internet Columnist Steven Freygood featured www.bullying.org on his weekly radio column on August 28, 2000 !!! *This is a Real Media file. Click on the Real Audio button to get your free Real Media player.



Hi,

My name is Jessica and I'm 13 years old. I think that its a great idea for you to make a website like www.bullying.org. It helps victoms of bullying realise they're not alone. It helps boost their self-confidence. Ithink its a great website and Ijust wanted to thank you because it just kills me inside to think that people would actually take their lives because of someone elses cruel teasing. Nobody deseserves that sort of terrible behaviour. so ... Thank you!

from Jessica

Hello Mr. Belsey,

I am currently completing my fifth year of teaching in a small northern Alberta town. I first became aware of your site in 2001 after seeing a wonderful, yet disturbing documentary on Bullying in Manitoba. I was deeply moved by the documentary and will use it regularly in my anti-bullying classes.

I have spent the last few days overviewing your site as I plan to have my grade school students read through some of the letters. As a teacher/counselor, it is quite difficult to reach some of the more troubled kids in school because they have difficulty relating to adults and have had, in general, very negative experiences with them. I believe that the best way to reach these children is via the words and wisdom of their peers. Looking through these letters, I am amazed at the strength and "stick -to-it-ness" shown by these children. It is impossible to not be moved by them. I hope my students get as much out of these letters as I have.

By looking at me one would have trouble believing that I too was bullied while going to school. In fact, people might believe that I was the one who bullied other students. I stand 6'2" and weigh 265lbs. I have 18" biceps and can easily bench press 300lbs I used to work as a bouncer in "biker" bars. (during which time I NEVER got into a fight) . Now, I teach.

I was continually bullied all through elementary, junior and senior high school. I was called fat, stupid, ugly, loser, etc ... I had a bike stolen and destroyed right before my eyes, I have had rocks, beer caps and numerous other things thrown at me with hopes that I would retaliate back. I never did. I was once even urinated on at a hockey rink. I dreamt of the worst kinds of retaliation, but never followed through with it. I punched my pillow at night, clenched my teeth and cried myself to sleep. I hated myself. I thought that all those things being said to me were true. I hated school (almost dropped out 3 times) and dreaded waking up in the morning.

I returned to school after 13 years of working forestry and construction. Prior to returning, I was not a very nice man to be around. I was never physically abusive, but I was certainly verbally so. I was either too drunk to fight or too stoned to care. I felt like a big pile of moose poop. I hated everything and every one. I had reached rock bottom, and wanted desperately to change.

I found strength from my grandfather. He was an incredibly tolerant and generous man who valued all people equally. He never judged anyone because of race, sex or economic standing. He truly loved and respected people. He taught me the golden rule: do unto others as you would have done unto you. It is as true today as it was 2000 + years ago.

I soon discovered that all the things that held me back were a consequence of the bullying that happened to me through out my childhood. I was angry at the past, and wanted

revenge in the meanest sort of way.

And so I did. I returned to university as a mature student. I graduated with 2 degrees, missing honours by 0.2%. I met my wife in university and have been happily married for 9 years. We have two beautiful, smart, and dynamic children for whom I prey will never suffer the types of bullying I have read about here and have experienced first hand.

I teach. I teach tough kids who come from really tough backgrounds. And I love it. I try every day to stop bullying behaviour in the halls and in the class. I talk to the kids and RESPECT all of them and understand their fears and weaknesses. It is almost impossible to stop ALL of the bullying behaviour, but we try.

In closing I would just like to say that you can over come anything as long as you have someone or something to believe in. My story is rather tame in comparison to others, but the result is the same. We can all overcome. We can all be successful. And we can all grow up to love and be loved.

by R. M. -A teacher from Alberta who cares

Just a short note to tell you that I heard about your site on the CBC (response to Robert Munch interview). I checked out the site and my wife and I think it is excellent. My wife is a teacher at Jean Vanier Catholic Intermediate School in Ottawa which has a no bullying program. She is going to be publicizing your site address as part of the program. Keep up the good work!

Walter Gifford



www.bullying.org was featured on Canada's SchoolNet

News!

Hi Bill,

I just reviewed your site and it is great. I respond to more e-mails about bullying than any other school behavior problem. Your site more than addresses both the encouragement to students and parents (so sad to see so many stories!) by giving them tips and the courage to deal with this problem. It is not something we should accept or live with. Together, we can make a difference by refusing to accept this type of behavior.

If possible, please check out our website and information, print or download anything you would like to have and if possible, could we link to your site and would you list us as a resource on your site? The more information available to families the better it will be. As a Canadian, it makes me proud to see what you've done to expose bullying for what it is and address ways to help those fighting against it.

Thank you,

Cindy Murdoch
Chairperson - Parent Advocates for Safe Schools (PASS)/Parent Focus Group
Ribbon of Promise - National Campaign to End School Violence

<http://www.ribbonofpromise.org/index.html>

Hi Bill,

I am a guidance counsellor with Calgary Catholic and read with much interest an article on your anti-bullying Web site. I work in a great school, but 2 -3 top notch students no longer want to attend our school due to continued teasing and harassment by a few students. The sad thing is that these kids and parents only come to us when the child can no longer handle it and just want out.

Your site is great as I have been discussing with some staff and my admin in recent weeks a formal intervention program for our school whereby victims will come forward when the harassment begins so we can intervene and assist both the victim and the perpetrators. I intend to have your site visited by students who currently are known bullies and by their victims and attempt to use the restorative justice model to some degree, in hopes of making some strides in reducing this problem as much as possible.

I am letting you know this for a couple reasons: 1. the site is a great resource and 2. if you have any feedback or suggestions / program resources that may be helpful, I'd sure appreciate hearing from you.

Take care, Bill, and keep up the good work that you and your people are doing.

Dan Farrell

Hi! Your site is excellent. It gives lots of people loads of help. I now realise how many people are actually being bullied and that they feel it's their fault! These bullies are really the ones that should be hurting. From my point of view bullies are weak!

Yours,

Laura Mitchell

Keith Grammar School

Awesome!

I saw your site featured on the CTV National News last night. My son is only three years old, and I am already worried about what he might have to face as he grows up in today's society. Thank you for taking the time and initiative to put together this project. I hope that someday there isn't a need for a website on handling bullies, but for now, I thank God that the resource is here for those who need it.

Sincerely, Jacqueline Ritter Abbotsford, BC Canada

Just read the article in our local paper about www.bullying.org. Great work by both you and your students. Keep up the good work. The you should be very proud of a job well done. All children around the world can see what a great job can be done when they put their heads and ideas together and work as a team. Bravo!

Amego Calgary, Alberta

I would like to tell you how great of an idea this web site is, and we are using this site for your school projects at the University of Alberta, Education Faculty. It is very useful for us first year student teachers. I would like to offer my help if you ever need any, feel free to ask. I am knowledgeable in HTML web page design I am a creative "artist" I do a lot of volunteer works with the Festivals of Trees, Hospital fun raisers, Church fund raisers, Xmas dinner services, and recently I was helping out at a grade one classroom at a near by Elementary school. I would like to be come a teacher someday, a teacher that'll be able to help students, and stop/identify bullies and bullying. Once again, if you require any volunteer, please contact me. Thank you

Kuen Tang (Quen)

Kudos, Bill

I am glad to see someone has had the idea of using this new form of media to spread the awareness of a problem that has no place in our schools or in our society, bullying...Young people and adults now have a place they can go to communicate this ongoing problem...Perhaps one day bullying will become a taboo too younger generations..

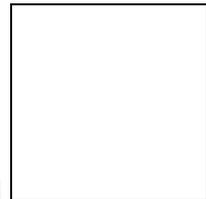
All my hopes, Hal Keller Dartmouth N.S.

Dear Bill:

I am impressed with the volume and quality of this website. What a fabulous resource for children, parents and teachers and what a wonderful tool to inform the public. Thanks for shedding so much light onto a dark and dangerous problem in schools.

Respectfully, Jean Johnson, Calgary

www.bullying.org was reviewed and is recommended by [Education World](#)



Dear Mr. Belsey,

Our class just sent in some poems that we authored after visiting your site. We are in Tucson, Arizona at L.M. Prince Elementary School. Our Transitional Class has fifteen third, fourth, and fifth grade students who are placed in our program due to issues with anger management, impulse control, anti-social tendencies, low self-esteem, effective communication skills, etc. We are the first elementary alternative education classroom of its kind. Our program is in its second year. Needless to say, our students could identify with your bullying theme, either because they have been bullies, have been bullied, or both. I wanted to take this time to thank you for facilitating the creation of this wonderful site. As a behavior modification teacher at the elementary level, I am always looking for new and innovative ways to connect my students and their issues with others outside of their community. I was so pleased and excited about my students' response to bullying.org that I wrote an article in our District Tech. Talk Paper that is distributed throughout our Amphitheater School District. I have attached a copy for those who are interested in reading about the specific impact your site has had on my students. Thanks again for helping to pave the way for educators to continue teaching students about this important topic. If anyone is interested in the Transitional Program at L.M. Prince Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona, they can contact Norma E. Bartley (me) at nbartley@amphi.com or nbartley13@earthlink.net.

Sincerely, Norma E. Bartley, teacher

As a future teacher, I was thrilled to find your site. With the latest, and so unnecessary, deaths of two innocent lives in San Diego just last week, we can't simply hide our heads to this topic. I will most definitely refer to your site as I begin my teaching career in hopes that I can make a difference in helping to eliminate the anger in our schools by turning the focus of some students from teasing and bullying others to understanding and celebrating one another's differences.

Keep up the awesome work that you do,

Debbie Robak-Nutter Corona, California

Hello. I am a librarian at a junior high/high school in a rural community. I found out about your website during "The National" documentary on "Bullying." ... Thank you so much for your website. You are probably helping more children, parents and school staff then you could ever imagine.

Thank you again, Erin Bowes Librarian

Monsieur, bonsoir! I listened to the CBC tonight and I want to say thank you for your involment to that project. It's an inspiration... for me as a curriculum consultant for the French School Board in Edmonton. I have already shared the address of your web site to all our principals last fall... I will talk about it again next time... H  l  ne Landry

Dear Bill,

God Bless You for your service to Canadian school children through the work of your website "www.bullying.org". I was so happy to see you featured in the CBC documentary. It is nice to know that there are caring people like you in the world. I cannot thank you enough for your work helping kids not only in Canada, but throughout the world.

Yours, in His Work,

Luan Pinto

Great Website!

I found out about your work from a CBC satellite broadcast on 3/14/01, on "The National", I believe. Finally, there is support for the victims of bullying. I am 48 and still

bear the physical mental scars from it. I spent my entire 12 years of school as a victim of bullies. In the US, the teachers and school administration of my area did not care, because primarily the bullies parents were rich, politically important, and "community leaders". Nothing my parents or I tried, moved the administration to help me. I just met a schoolmate from the same time and was told one specific bully also "smashed the head of another student in with a rock, knocking him out of a tree into a stream, and because the bullies father was an important dentist and rich, again nothing was done; as the bullies father was able to buy off the local officials". I was also told this same bully "slit another student open from belly to breastbone with a knife, and nothing was done about it." This same bully his gang threatened me and others the same way. I left school early just to escape and save what was left of my sanity. Life for me in school was a living Hell! Upon occasion, I still wake up with screaming nightmares from what I went thru.

I truly hope that your project succeeds, as here in the US (Washington State), it has changed little, it appears. My experiences were so traumatic that I took permanent steps to never have any children, as I felt that no child should ever go thru what I did. It has taken me years to try to recover from the literal torture I went through. All that your organization can do to fight this is a godsend to us who were / are victims. If you can save even one child from the living hell of bullying, all of your efforts are worth it.

Bless you!

Frank K. Burnham

Hello Bill,

Like half of Canada, I saw you on the news last night. I've just spent a long time reading through the stories on your "Bullying" site. They're quite remarkable. Then I clicked on your name. Wow! You have a solid list of accomplishments. Hence, the smart-aleck question about whether you ever stop to sleep. :-) I really love what you're doing, and I'd love to find out if I can plug in to any of it. One thing I'd like to work on is getting businesses to donate their old computers to schools on First Nations reserves. My husband works for Southam, at The Nugget in North Bay, Ontario. We have some solid connections in the newspaper industry, and that might be a good place to start. They're always upgrading equipment. Any thoughts, or advice you have would truly be appreciated.

Aside from all that, I wanted to write to you to thank you for the bullying.org site. I write articles for a Community paper, and on www.themestream.com. I'll be approaching the editor of the paper tomorrow about doing an article on your site, and the issue of

bullying. I'll also write an online article, and send you the URL when it's done. Thanks again for that terrific site. It's a pleasure "meeting" someone with your dedication and ingenuity.

Sincerely,

Linda Hearst North Bay, Ontario

Hi Bill,

I think your website is terrific and am going to add it to my second edition of my book *Breaking the Silence: A Guide to Help Children With Complicated Grief/Suicide, Homicide, AIDS, Violence, and Abuse* (Taylor and Francis Publishers, 1996/2nd edition in press). I have added a section on bullying under the chapter for educators and will include your website. I think my book will be a useful resource for you. You can read about it at my website <http://users.erols.com/lgold/>

Thanks,

Linda

Linda Goldman 7801 Connecticut Avenue Chevy Chase, MD 20815 USA Phone: 301-657-1151 Fax: 301-656-4350 Email: Lgold@erols.com Website: <http://users.erols.com/lgold/> or <http://www.childrensgrief.net>

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your efforts. I had to deal with it and "get through it" in Scotland in the early 1950's and again in Canada in my primary school years. Thankfully I had the size and the smarts to come out of it unscathed, but many others, including my son, have had more serious situations. Thanks again for creating the awareness and for helping our children.

Jim Boulton
Scarborough, ON

Bill

I saw you on CBC with Peter Mansbridge this evening and had to look at your personal web site. You are having a remarkable career. Continue your great work, congratulations on the new website, I too experienced bullying more than 40 years ago in an elite private school. My son has recently experienced some bullying in grade 8 and continuing into 9 and 10. He is in grade 12 and has disassociated himself from many of the school activities because of these earlier experiences.

Again congratulations, no need to respond.

Regards, Bud Wesley

Dear Mr. W. Belsey;

Thank you for a wonderful site for children to go to. I'm quite sure you get inundated with too many e-mails to read them all, however, if you ever get around to this one, I hope this helps.

As other people may have told you over a period of time, and being a teacher your self, home schooling is a wonderful alternative for the children and teenagers to look to. In many ways it saved my life.

Until the school system wakes its self up (putting it gently), and changes their ways of dealing with bullies, I, and many others have found a calm spot in a very rough sea.

Please keep leading the way as you have many eyes upon you.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sarah Kavanagh
B.C. Canada.

Hi, Bill,

I saw you on the CBC television news this evening. You were terrific! I would like to congratulate you on the excellent work you are doing for our children. Anything you can do to eliminate this problem is wonderful. It's harrowing for the children involved.

I don't think you can exempt teachers from criticism. There are some really nasty ones around who use their jobs as bully pulpits. Some seem to really relish making students feel small and inferior. I taught Grades 1 and 2 for years. I received my students from one of the most awful kindergarten teachers imaginable. The principal just didn't want the bother of doing anything about it. Her favourite was standing the 4 and 5 year-olds in the halls for discipline and leaving them in the kindergarten room unsupervised as a punishment- all alone- when the other children went to play on the outdoor swings. One little boy was so distraught that he was inconsolable.

He ran away on another occasion- at the age of five. Also she loved to tease fat children. I remember one particular case of a five year-old girl, going through a divorce at home and overweight, as clearly as daylight and I've been retired for three years. I had the children subsequently and they were just fine. The little boy just needed room to move and a bit of encouragement. The little girl just needed a few friendly chats about things.

Maybe your work will encourage supervisory personnel to get rid of teachers like this, but it's so difficult to dismiss them, which is sad. Also parents should not hesitate to try to get an alternate teacher if their child is being bullied. Parents should not automatically side with the school, as a number of parents are inclined to do. Nor should parents hesitate to request help from the teacher and the school administration. Not all teachers are alike and children can thrive in one classroom and be totally miserable and unaccepted in another one.

Keep up your good work!

Jean, a retired Ontario teacher

Mr. Bill Belsey,

The Canadian Half Pints are the worlds smallest pro basketball team at an average height of only 4'2" tall and most of our players know what teasing is first hand. All our players are dwarfs. We do a program in elementary schools called "DON'T TEASE" where we share some personal experiences, let children know how hurtful and wrong teasing and bullying is. The lecture is about 29 minutes in length and it is followed up with a 20 minute game against teachers and students and then it is all tied together with, "How many of you young people had fun here today?" All hands go in the air and they are reminded that they just had a whole lot of fun with a group of people that are very different from them. We are on the web at www.canadianhalfpints.com. Last month our 3 teams visited 165 elementary schools in Ontario and in January we visited 134 Ontario schools.

You have a great site and we would love to talk to you some time.

With Youth In Mind
Phil Whipper Watson Jr.

Dear Bill.

I watched your show tonight Bill. I just want to add my "thank you" for caring so much about the bigger picture of your profession. The time, work and effort you put into the site every night is surely setting the tone for others to join in the fight about bullying.

I am a grandmother who had a grandson who was bullied at school. I want to share this with you though in a brief form. We spent a considerable amount of time speaking with him constantly. His Uncle did unannounced visits to the school ground after school....presenting a very positive "face" even after he had stood back - the kids did not know he was there - he saw the actual bullying. He would then walk up to the groupboth victim and bullies - pretend that he didn't realize there was a problem and ask them all "guys - how about tossing the ball around with me for awhile" or "lets split the group up here in two and form a team for a quick game of basketball". He always put the bully and the victim on the same team. Eventually and slowly - positive results started developing.

Another measure we presented to our young grandson was allowing him the opportunity to explore the various Marshal Arts. From the age of eight years old, he took Karate

lessons. These lessons were not started nor introduced so that he could "fight" people but rather give him the ability & the confidence to know that he could protect himself if he so chose to do so. He went on to win the Provincial championships in Karate - the bullies went away because he had the confidence to stand up to them. There was never a physical fight to resolve the bully/victim problem. He stood up to the bully and the bully backed down. All it took were the words"I am not going to put up with your bullying anymore - so quit it right now".

I think the entire family and the community have to step in and do it immediately. While everyone is "talking" about the solution - there is another poor child headed off to school TOMORROW - facing fear - or at least trying to.

I encourage you to take the issue to the electronic media quickly and challenge the parents and teachers to get something done about this issue right away.

If there is ever anything I can do - please e mail. Thank you for your huge commitment!

Ione Dombowsky
Calgary, Alberta.

Dear Mr. W. Belsey;

Thank you for a wonderful site for children to go to. I'm quite sure you get inundated with too many e-mails to read them all, however, if you ever get around to this one, I hope this helps.

As other people may have told you over a period of time, and being a teacher yourself, home schooling is a wonderful alternative for the children and teenagers to look to. In many ways, it saved my life.

Until the school system wakes itself up (putting it gently), and changes their ways of dealing with bullies, I, and many others have found a calm spot in a very rough sea.

Please keep leading the way as you have many eyes upon you.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sarah Kavanagh
B.C. Canada.

Dear Bill,

Thankyou so much for creating this web-site. My 14 yr. old daughter goes to it often when

she has had a bad day at the hands of others. I'm the woman who initially wrote [A Concerened and Loving Parent](#).

I have passed this sight on to various educators in our local schools as well as to KINARK which is an Ontario based family services organization. It has also been passed on to a Psychiatrist in Youth Psychiatry at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. The reaction from all of these groups and individuals has been terrific. Keep up the good work.

Together we can all make a difference.

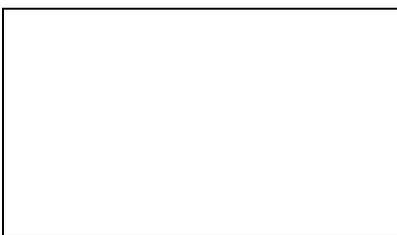
Kathleen Armour

Hi,

We have been on your website and we think it is brilliant! We really think that this will help alot of children who are being bullied. We'd also like to say to all the children who wrote a story, wrote a poem and the pictures ... well done!

Sincerely,

Sheena & Jade
in the United Kingdom



Congratulations! Your project was selected by our the Evaluation Team from Canada's SchoolNet as an outstanding example of telcollaborative, project-based learning. Your winning project will now be featured on the GrassRoots "Hall of Fame"

Hi Bill;

I wanted to tell you again how much I appreciate your website. So many people are starting to come forward and tell their stories. It's so wonderful to know that we are "NOT ALONE".

I'm not exactly an educator, not in the sense that I went to University and received a degree in education, but I am a parent who loves my children dearly and second to being a parent I guess I am their educator. I was the parent who introduced the Dare To Care Program to our school (Louis Riel) and have faced many obstacles and triumphs over the past year. It took a full year of talking to parents, teachers and administration to implement this program.

I still don't truly believe that our elementary teachers have bought into this program because I don't think that they fully understand the scope of the problem. Yes, they have heard it from Greg at CFS, and from Steve Harmer who presents Motivational Magic, but they are still having a hard time thinking outside the box.

Bill, because you believe whole heartedly in bully prevention, and you understand the scope of the problem and see the big picture, would you consider being a guest speaker at our school sometime this fall to speak to our teachers? Maybe they will listen to you.

Thanks again Bill, your website has made my mission just that much easier.

Yours in caring,

Jean Gould

Hello Mr. Belsey,

I am a licensed clinical social worker, the author of The Parent's Book About Bullying (Hazelden Information and Educational Services, 2000), and I have a website at www.stopbullyingnow.net.

I just discovered your site and it's terrific. I plan to include your site on my links page. Could you please return the favor and include my book and website?

Thank you very much,

Bill Voors

Hi Bill.

I have had a look at your web page and was deeply moved by the number of people who have suffered at the hands of others. It takes a really special person to recognise the need for these kids to relate their life stories and to feel as safe as you make them.

I hope that your "project" (life's work) continues to move people into being kinder and more forgiving of others. It also makes one realise that one small step of kindness could make a huge difference in someones life.

Regards

Jenny King
Acting Manager
Western Cape Schools Network
Cape Town, South Africa

Hello,

My name is Nigar. I am 15 year old a girl from Azerbaijan. I liked your web-site very much. It is very interesting.

We need the projects like this as much as possible because it helps us to see the truth.

With respect,

Nigar G. in Azerbaijan

Bill,

As a parent of two who suffered from bullying, I applaud your strength to go as far as you have with this site. It is excellent.

I think there are many parents like myself who would like to be more involved in working to address the bullying issue, but who are drained just dealing with the issues and effects that have resulted form extreme bullying. (in the case of my kids a stabbing that was random and bullying that was provoked and enabled by the teachers simply because they thought the child was a homosexual)

I wish you all the best and my prayers go out to all those who have suffered at the hands of the bullies.

Lucy

Wow! This site is really cool! I actually LIKE IT! Thank-you for your letters.

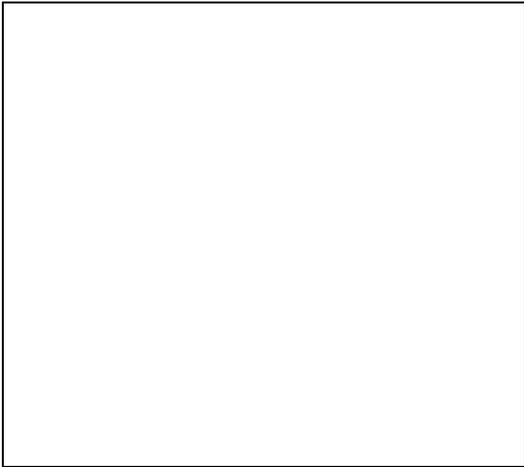
from Stacey in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Hello Bill,

Yes I really appreciate you thinking of us and letting me know about the CBC documentary "Teulon Six Months Later". My wife and I watched it with much interest. Thanks again. BTW, our daughter is doing much better so far this year. I still think your site and dedication to victimized students nation-wide is such a noble, honorable thing that it leaves me at a loss for words to describe. Heroes are those people that go out of their way to "help others" in their time of need. Your site has a positive impact on many families and young persons, their lives and futures.

Sincerely,

Brad Davidson



Congratulations!

Your site has been named a 2001 Excellence in Education for All Best of the Web Award Winner for 2001. This new award is being given to personal websites that provide information to students, parents, and educators concerning issues related to success in education.

I was recently in a practim placement at Ashland Elementary School, Lexington, KY, that participated in the Bullying Project (www.bullying.org). The school's guidance counselor came into my fourth grade classroom once a week to talk to the class about bullying. The discussions on the Web site were extremely helpful and the children were really interested. They were able to share many of their feelings on bullying, and they really opened up to the counselor. It seemed as if all of the children had been bullied at one time or another in their lives. They completed worksheets on bullying and watched videos. I think that the program was really helpful. The students took the issue seriously, and I could see that they really tried to reduce bullying in their classroom environments. The students saw how much that bullying affected themselves and others. I think that the program is great! It is being put to good use! I'm sure that our elementary schools are very thankful to participate in such a program.

Thanks,

Beth Rogers

Hi to all!,

This is a great and informative site. I am from Pakistan. I have been a senior secondary high school teacher since 1989.

I love this site.

Keep good deeds going on and onnnnnn!

Love you to all,

Bye.

Akhtar Humayun

Hi, my name is Brandon from Toronto Ontario, Canada. I am 14 years of age. I like your website because I can relate to a lot of stuff that people share on your site. I think this is also a good website because people like myself feel good that we can share things like this and feel proud.

I give your site TWO thumbs up!

