

HOW TO SPOT A BULLY

01

Teachers must be keen observers of their students' interactions.

02

Bullying can take many forms, from eye rolling to outright exclusion from social circles.

03

Teachers can proactively create an environment of inclusivity in the classroom, where each child feels included and valued.

Teachers must react to any bullying they do notice. Children must feel they are cared for by adults who will protect them from being bullied.

Parents should be involved in educating against bullying as well, creating an environment together with teachers in which bullying is never tolerated.

Operation Survival was founded in 1988 in the hopes of stemming the inevitable tide of drugs and alcohol seeping into the community.

Operation Survival provides evidence-based programming in the local yeshivas and public schools, art programs, rap groups, positive alternatives, and crisis assistance to thousands of students each year.

The program also networks with other agencies to disseminate information to educators, clergy, social service and medical professionals, and community agencies.

Operation Survival is the first program to combat alcoholism and substance abuse in both the Jewish and African-American communities of Crown Heights, and has been credited with bringing the racially diverse community together in common cause.

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PREVENTION 
Help Save a Life.

How Can I Detect Bullying in My Classroom?

A project of Operation Survival

To detect bullying in the classroom, teachers must be keen observers of their students' interactions. They must pay attention to the social climate and social fabric.



This means noticing who works with whom and who never has a partner. It means looking for those subtle signs of eye rolling every time somebody answers a question. Teachers must look at who brought invitations to school and who did they give them to. They need to notice who plays with whom during recess.

There are also many ways to create an inclusive culture on a much grander scale. For example, a kindergarten classroom was getting a new student mid-year. The day before the new student came, the teacher said, "We are taking down all the pictures and emptying all the cubbies because tomorrow we are a new class. Today, we are the class without Charlie, and tomorrow, we are a new class because we have a new member." This was a powerful message that conveyed how much the teacher valued every individual in the class.



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TEACHERS play an important role in teaching children to treat their peers with kindness, but it is not only the teacher's job. Parents also need to be involved in teaching their children how to interact appropriately with their peers. Together, teachers and parents can create a generation that does not resort to and does not tolerate bullying.

Teachers must be proactive, setting up rules and procedures that communicate how everyone is valued, everyone matters, and everyone is treated nicely. Teachers must also be reactive. When adults see bullying happen and do nothing, they send two really dangerous messages. They send a message to the bully that this behavior is tolerated and condoned. Even more dangerous and potentially deadly, this inaction tells the victim, *you are not protected or cared for. Even adults will let this happen to you.* We can't afford for children to feel the level of desperation that comes from that kind of non-response from adults.



► Based on interviews with Dr. Rona Novick, PhD, for Prevention 101 series.