Abstract

Many things have changed in America over the last few decades, including our understanding of how bullying is perpetuated and the effects of bullying victimization on children and adolescents. For much of America’s history, children who were being bullied were taught that it was simply a part of growing up and that it would help them build thicker skin. In actuality, bullying victimization manifests itself in higher rates of mental disorders and behavior problems, as well as lower academic performance and often the further perpetuation of bullying behaviors. With this more recent understanding of the effects of bullying victimization, there has been a push in states and communities to implement stricter anti-bullying policies, and even a push by some legislation to codify bullying behavior as criminal in certain circumstances. The advent of technology, and as a result cyber-bullying, has changed the landscape that schools and communities must learn to live with. This training will seek to give audiences an understanding of what bullying is and how it manifests itself in our society, with specific attention being paid to the effects of bullying victimization and the intersection of bullying and codified criminal behavior.
Learning Objectives

- Define the elements of bullying behavior as well as the various types of bullying - physical, social, and emotional
- Identify warning signs for individuals displaying bullying behavior and warning signs for those experiencing victimization of bullying
- Recognize areas in which bullying is prevalent in our society, and the patterns of prevalence in certain communities, including ethnic and sexual minorities.
- Identify effects of bullying victimization and how these differ among those that are “pure” victims of bullying, versus those that are identified as bully/victims
- Explain ways in which bullying and cyberbullying behaviors are different, and the impact that social media has had on cyberbullying
- Analyze the relationship between the act of bullying and codified criminal behavior, and be able to identify where the two intersect.

Methodology

The principles on which this training is centered on were developed by assessing training tools and resources that focus on various aspects of domestic violence prevention and prosecution, including research conducted by the Cyberbullying Research Institute, Pew Research Center, and Center for Disease Control. This training will cover these principles using topics and videos to present the material in an engaging format, and conclude with a case study designed to summarize and critically think about a number of topics covered. This training is designed to be presented as a whole or in parts as deemed most relevant to the site it is being provided to, and can be presented in person or in an electronic format via webinar or other available methods.

Agenda

- Bullying Definition
- Bullying Prevalence
- Effects of Bullying Victimization
- Bullying and Minority Populations
- Cyber Bullying
- When Does Bullying Become a Crime?
- Overview of Laws and Policy