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Review: Stop Bullying Bobby

By Alyice Edrich

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Stop Bullying Bobby!

Helping Children Cope with Teasing and Bullying

ISBN: 0-88282-253-5

New Horizon Press

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While I felt the story was "too grown up" to have been told by the seven-year-old narrator, I do believe the story was very well thought out and offers a valuable lesson for both children and adults, alike.

Stop Bullying Bobby shows how verbal and physical abuse can stifle victims while instructing children in healthy, safe ways to protect other children from bullies. It also reminds children that it's okay to be different and that in our differences, we're special and worthy of love and acceptance.

Finally, the book ends with great, short, but concise tips to help parents and teachers stop bullying in their community as well as tips on helping bullied children find protection and safety.

Courtesy of Alyice Edrich, editor of The Dabbling Mum.com; where BUSY parents find advice, balance, inspiration, and how-to e-books.

How To Stop Bullying

By News Canada

(NC)—According to Family Services Canada, approximately 12% of children are bullies. Additional research confirms that bullying occurs frequently: once every seven minutes on the playground and once every twenty-five minutes in class (Craig and Pepler, 1997).

To prevent bullying, it is important to consider not only the bully and victim, but also peers, school staff, parents, and the broader community. The best approach at school, is to develop a clearly stated code of behaviour with consistent follow-through.

All school staff should participate in educational sessions, together with parent and student representatives. Once adults learn to recognize problem behaviour and how to stop it, they can supervise and intervene more successfully.

Parent meetings and newsletters should address the problems of bullying. Parents need to talk to their children about bullying and look for signs of potential victimization.

Communication between parents and school is essential, as parents are often the first to find out that their children are being bullied. Peers also play a critical role in the prevention of bullying. If students are taught how to intervene appropriately, or get adult assistance, and to empathize with victims and condemn aggression, bullying can be reduced.

Bullies and victims require individual attention. Bullies should be told that their behaviour is not acceptable and that they will suffer consequences established in the code of behaviour. If a group of children are being bullied, bullies and bystanders should be brought to task. Victims need to be encouraged to speak up and ensured that their school will protect them from further harassment. Parents of bullies should be informed of their children's behaviour and enlisted to discipline the behaviour and mentor their child to help prevent further occurrences of bullying or victimization.

For more information on bullying and how early childhood intervention programs are helping to reduce crime and its associated costs in communities across Canada, visit the National Crime Prevention Strategy Web site at

or call toll-free 1-877-302-NCPC.

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