WHY BULLIES DO WHAT THEY DO

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The bullying incidents in schools are continuously increasing. This is because of unattended psychosocial needs. Schools should strengthen its anti-bullying programs to sufficiently address the problems. It is vital that administrators, teachers, parents, and guidance counselors fully understand the pathology of bullying.

The question is why do students bully? Bullies do what they do because of many reasons. These reasons include pretentions of being tough, unhappiness, the need for fake popularity, to hide insecurities, to copy other bullies, disliking themselves, and feelings of deep-seated inferiority. In short, bullies have huge psychosocial problems that are not resolved.

These negative feelings are the culprits why bullies keep on bugging others. It is necessary to guide and help them to properly manage these feelings. There is a right process to help them face their issues, deal with the issues, and manage these issues as effectively as possible. Guidance counsellors and psychologists are equipped and trained to help them.

At the school level, we as teachers can contribute to lessen bullying incidents. Teachers are known not only to teach but they also act as mothers/fathers, friends, advocates, counsellors, coaches, and wear other hats. Their flexibility can be of great help to support and guide their students who bully, and those students who are victims of bullying.

Of course, there can be other reasons why bullies do what they do. Thus, it is of utmost importance to investigate thoroughly incidents of bullying. Jumping to conclusions will not help at all. Teachers and administrators should not be biased and should remain as objective as possible during the investigation. It is also important to stay on track while investigations are going on to avoid influencing decisions in unlikely manner.
The bottom line in any bullying incident, no matter who are the persons involved, is that it is a call for genuine concern not only for the victims but to the offenders as well. While victims can be traumatized, it will be more helpful in the long term if the offenders are given appropriate attention and support to lovingly yet firmly correct their behavior.

References:

