

## **202-2: Truancy: Prevention and Intervention**

### **Appendix 1 Role Play of Bullying Incident**

Keisha is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Harrison Middle School. Keisha has been friends with a group of four or five girls since elementary school. However, over the past few weeks, this group of supposed friends has started to ignore her, not include her in social gatherings outside of school, and to verbally put her down throughout the week.

The following scene depicts one such event of verbal bullying. The scene is played out twice - once with Keisha not knowing what to say or do and once with Keisha knowing what to say that will not escalate the situation, knowing how to say it with confidence, knowing to leave the area, and knowing to get adult help if necessary. Keisha's guidance counselor worked with all the students at Harrison Middle School to help them feel comfortable using this skill. The teachers at school have also reinforced the students' use of the skills when incidents arise.

In the following role play, the facilitator plays the role of Keisha so that the skills can be demonstrated clearly. The facilitator asks one of the participants to play the role of Tanya, the student who verbally bullies Keisha.

Keisha: Hi Tanya. Did you get the social studies paper done last night?

Tanya: Sure, but I doubt very much that you got it done or, if you did, that you got it right.

Keisha: What are you talking about? What do you mean?

Tanya: I mean you have empty space under that ugly hair of yours and behind that freaky face of yours.

Keisha: Tanya, what are you talking about? Stop it!!!

Tanya: Yeah, of course you don't get what I'm saying to you because you are such an idiot.

(The facilitator stops the role play and asks the participants "Where is this incident headed"? The facilitator then states that the same scene will be acted out but with Keisha utilizing the skills of what to say, how to say it with confidence, leave, and get adult help if necessary.)

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### **Appendix 1 (continued) Role Play of Bullying Incident**

(Scene 2)

Keisha: Hi Tanya. Did you get the social studies paper done last night?

Tanya: Sure, but I doubt very much that you got it done or, if you did, that you got it right.

Keisha: What are you talking about? What do you mean?

Tanya: I mean you have empty space under that ugly hair of yours and behind that freaky face of yours.

Keisha: Whatever!!! [Keisha says this with confidence, turns around, and walks to the next classroom.]

(The facilitator also suggest other possible words/phrases that could be used such as, So!, Not really!, Your point is..., Yeah, right! The facilitator also asks participants to explore the What Ifs???? that can occur when utilizing these skills.)