# Violence

#### We'll learn about:

- Causes of violence
- Crimes of violence
- Responding to violence
- What to do about bullying and cyber-bullying



### Key Words

Word	Meaning	
Abuse	cruel or violent treatment. Improper use of something.	
	He abused her mentally over many years.	
aggressive	Forceful, Likely to attack.	
arrogance	Attitude of superiority. You think you're better.	
bully	Someone who tries to hurt, frighten or initimidate someone	
control	Power to rule or direct someone or something	
exploit	To make use of. To use in a way that may be unfair or wrong.	
fear	Bad feeling caused by threat of danger, harm or pain	
harass	to pressure aggressively He often stood close to her, asking if she would go out for a drink after work. After a few times she said "You're harassing me and I want you to stop".	
initimidate	frighten or menace someone, usually to make them do what you want	
respect	to admire or value He showed respect to others by being polite and listening carefully.	
resilience resilient	Able to recover or adjust after a difficulty, setback or misforture	

# **Fighting Violence**

#### **Fighting Violence**

#### Ukulele





#### Listen closely to the song.

What are the key messages? Analyse the music. Learn to play it on ukulele. www.rails.org.au/education

Don't judge people by the way they look.	understand		
See more than the cover, read the book.	understand		
We don't, what we don't know, so look and and learn and grow.	listen		
If we don't try, to	communicate		
it can lead us on, to fear and hate.			
Keep your cool, Keep a head. Just one punch, can leave someone dead.	wise		
Sometimes even good friends fight. Usually both sides think they're right.	respect		
Every body, should give and getViolence and hatred we must reject.	compromise		
Why words get turned to war!	courage		
Give and take, Tell the truth, tell no lies.	pride		
Your words won't hurt me because I'm proud of who I am.			
I deserve to be respected. I do the best I can.			

Though I might not look and talk like you, I'm same as you inside. If you're going my direction brother, come and join the ride.

Violence breeds violence nobody will win.

True \_\_\_\_\_\_ is finding the strength within.

No words can change what's true inside.

You don't need to fight to protect your \_\_\_\_\_.

Song made with students from Sunnybank High School, Brisbane.

### **Causes of Violence**

Violence can happen when people can't control anger or are arrogant, or want something you have, or want to control you or hurt you.

Violence also happens when people feel aggressive towards others because they belong to a different group or because something was done in the past which hasn't been resolved.

Violence may get worse if someone is affected by alcohol or other drugs.

Violence is not only physical. People can harm and be harmed emotionally and mentally. This is still abuse and a form of violence.

Violence in the home is called family and domestic violence and is covered in the 'Safe Homes' chapter.

#### Draw an angry face and a calm face. What makes them look different?

#### Note what happens to people's bodies when they're angry or scared

Fear makes our body want to fight or run away. It's called the 'fight or flight response'.



### **Crimes of Violence**

An **assault** is if you use force against someone without their consent. Even if you just threaten someone and they have a real fear that you will harm them, then it might still be an assault in law

A common assault is where someone threatens, or spits, or pushes or hits another but doesn't cause injuries to the body. The maximum penalty is 3 years prison (s.335 Criminal Code Qld). There are fines and other punishments a court may order where a common assault is not at the most serious end of the scale.

An assault where there is injury is called **Assault causing bodily harm** and has a maximum penalty of 7 years prison.

Assaults done in company with someone else or with a weapon have a maximum of 10 years prison (s 339 Criminal Code Qld)

Assaults where there is very serious injury has a maximum penalty of 14 years (called 'Grievous bodily harm' – s.320 Criminal Code Qld).

Sexual assaults are also very serious and have penalties of up to 14 years prison.

**Stalking** is doing things that frighten people, like following them, contacting them repeatedly when they don't want you to, or sending them things that offend them. The maximum penalty is 5 years, or 7 years if there's threats of violence (see s.359 Criminal Code Qld)

Facts	Name of offence	Maximum penalty
Kay pushes and hits Bee, but no injuries are caused		
Dee and Artee attack Jay leaving him with scratches on his arms		
Albee keeps sending Teedie sexual texts for weeks after they break up. He also keeps calling her, asking her to come back to him.		
Esstee hits Vee with a cricket bat and breaks her thumb.		
Dee hits Jay who falls over and hits his head, causing a serious brain injury.		

#### Research:

Search for the above offences. Just Google them or search the internet.

AustLII data base (Australasian Legal Information Institute).

# **Family Violence**

#### Storms

Ukulele



Sailing together in the intimacy, of a relationship \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the key. But when storms come around then life gets rough Staying \_\_\_\_\_\_ can be really tough

Conflict is natural but can be sorted out

By \_\_\_\_\_ about our fears and doubts

By giving and being \_\_\_\_\_, and loving again

and never stop respecting even when love brings pain

But when love and \_\_\_\_\_\_ are broken - and so is respect In icy cold water, relationship's wrecked

Storms are all around and life gets really tough

Where's the \_\_\_\_\_\_ when you've had enough of

Violence is violence is against the law

It's hitting, it's punching and it's so much more

It's threats It's control and \_\_\_\_\_

Family Violence is a \_\_\_\_\_\_ will you leave this time?

When you need to be rescued, when you're drowning alone,

in this deep dark ocean of \_\_\_\_\_ in the home

But you're still in love and can't work it out

Where do you go to sort your \_\_\_\_\_ and doubts

Talk to \_\_\_\_\_\_ and counsellors and legal aid

There's free \_\_\_\_\_\_to go to if it's not safe to stay

\_\_\_\_\_ they must help you, Magistrates too

when family violence is threatening you .



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#### What are some of the most important points the song makes?

### **Responding to violence**

#### Can you use self-defence?

The law allows you to use equal force to try to stop an attack against you, BUT:

- You MUST try to get away from the conflict if that's possible.
- **AND** if you use greater force than the attacker used, then you may be the person charged with assault even though you didn't start it.

If someone attacks you and you fight back and injure the attacker, the police may charge YOU with a crime. To beat this charge you would have to prove in court that you acted in 'self-defence'. This means you would have to prove you did not use 'excessive (too much) force'. That can be difficult.

#### Give an example of excessive force used in a fight:

#### Write a mini-story of a fight showing why it started and what happened:

Write a mini-story about two people having an angry argument and then one of them does or says somethings that stops the argument getting violent.

# Bullying

A **bully** is a person who tries to hurt or frighten you to force you to do something. Bullying is violence.

A **cyber-bully** is someone who tries to hurt someone by sending messages through the internet. Cyber bullying includes online teasing, spreading rumours, sending hurtful, hateful messages or threats of physical harm.

Bullies want to have power over you and hurt you.

Bullies can cause physical or emotional harm. Emotional pain is similar to physical pain and can be very serious. If you keep emotional fear or pain inside then it gets bigger.

Cyber bullying can happen in school, college or at work, from people you know or people you don't know. It can leave you feeling unsafe and alone.

If you have been physically hurt or followed, or you fear for your safety, report it to police (131 444)

#### **Complaining about bullying**

Schools and workplaces have duties under the law to keep their places safe. They should have clear rules about bullying and how it should be dealt with.

All complaints about bullying should be investigated fairly. The person accused or blamed for doing the bullying has the right to a 'fair process' – that is, to be able to have their say, to be given a fair decision, and to be able to appeal against that decision. Everyone has a right to be treated with respect

#### **Dealing with bullies**

Discuss and write stories of people being bullies and how you or others did or could deal with it in a non-violent ways. Don't mention people's names - make up fictitious names.

### Laws against bullying

Bullying is often best dealt with between people themselves or with help and action from teachers or work managers. However, if a bully causes physical harm or damages property or threatens to seriously harm someone, it will be a crime and the police should be involved.

Bullying can be an 'assault' if someone threatens serious harm and it is likely that the threat might be carried out (s.245 Criminal Code Qld).

Bullying can be the crime of 'stalking'. Queensland Criminal Code(s.359B) says unlawful stalking includes '... ongoing contact by phone, mail, fax, email or through any technology .. so as to cause fear or offence to a person, including mental or emotional harm'. The maximum penalty is 5 years prison.

#### Cyber-bullying can be a crime:

It's a crime under federal law to use internet, social media or phone to 'menace, harass or cause offence'. Maximum penalty 3 years prison or \$30,000 fine (s.474.17 Federal Criminal Code Act 1995).

It's a crime to distribute or just threaten to distribute sexual images without consent if it would cause distress (in Queensland, s.223 Criminal Code Qld).

Cyber-racism (posting hate messages online) is unlawful under the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 which says it's unlawful to do a public act likely to 'offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate' someone because of their race, colour or national or ethnic origin (s.18C).

#### Search 'assault' and 'stalking' in your State law:

- how does it say that a threat to harm can be an assult (s.245-)

- what things are defined as stalking? (s359B (C))

- what are the penalties? (s.359E-)

(In Queensland look up the Criminal Code Act 1899 sections 245, 359B, 359E)

# **Dealing with Bullying**

#### BULLYING

- If you keep emotional fear or pain inside then it gets bigger.
- Talk to trusted family, teachers or friends.
- There's free confidential helplines (Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800, Lifeline 13 11 14)
- If the bully harms or threatens to harm you or property, contact police 131 444 or 000 in an emergency.
- Build resilience if you can choose to react in a way where you don't get upset.
- Speak up for people who are being bullied.

#### CYBER BULLYING

- You be in control. Don't let anger or fear guide what you do or say.
- Don't respond to a bully. Talk to trusted people about it.
- If it's friends teasing, ask them to stop.
- Block and delete bullies
- Save the evidence. Report the abuse to the website administrator.
- Have strong Privacy Settings. Be careful who you 'friend'
- Turn on comment moderation on blogs
- Be careful about what you say on the internet. The whole world could see it.

### Take Care

#### Ukulele





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### Rap a snapshot

Rap, tap, drum, hum, sing out a tune. Write a rap message, get on to it soon as you can, form an 'air band' plan a play, show and say, give a way we all can recall, what we learnt today.

#### Write / sketch your ideas?



Play with the key messages from the Module. Say them out loud, put a rhythm to the sentences, add beatbox, dance and rhyme sometime!