

# **BULLYING, VERBAL AND PHYSICAL ASSAULT, AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT STATISTICS**

**The introduction to the article, “An Ecological Perspective To School-Based Bullying Prevention” by Dorothy L. Espelage, PhD., the Prevention Researcher, Vol. 11, Number 3, 2004 reports—**

“The past five years have seen an increase in the recognition among scholars, school administrators and parents that bullying among American students occurs at a great frequency. One survey of over 15,000 youth found that 30% reported frequent involvement in bullying.”

Montgomery County Maryland Public Schools issued a review of its “Serious Incident Reporting,” which provided highlights of a joint study between the National Center for Education and the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice entitled, “Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2005.” It reports—

61% of primary schools experienced a violent incident (physical attack or fight without a weapon and threat of physical attack without a weapon).

14% of six grade students surveyed in 2003 reported being bullied at school during the previous six months.

**The Committee for Children: 2007 reports—**

“One researcher calls sexual harassment the ‘older cousin to bullying’ (Stein and Sjostrom, 1994). The American Association of University Women (AAUW) conducted a landmark survey of 1,632 students in Grades 8-11. An astonishing 85% of the girls and 76% of the boys reported experiencing some kind of harassment.”

A Washington Post Investigative Report: “Fixing DC’s Public Schools,” June 10, 2007 reports—

“Many teachers and students spend their days in an environment hostile to learning. . . Private security guards work at each school under the supervision of the Metropolitan Police Department. Guards are required to record incidents and crimes at the schools in a data base. The data obtained shows that more than one-half of teenage students attend schools that meet the District’s definition of ‘persistently dangerous’ because of the number of violent crimes, according to an analysis of school reports. Across the city, nine violent incidents are reported on atypical day including fights and attacks with weapons.”