

Evidence-based prevention of school bullying: KiVa antibullying program

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www.kivaprogram.net



School is not only about learning...

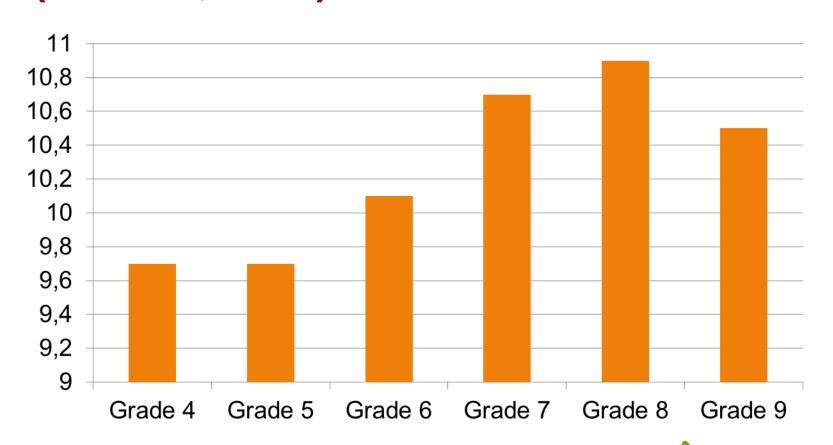








Students NOT feeling safe at school, % (Finland, 2009)





Not feeling safe at school

Correlates significantly with being bullied by peers









Bullying

- Systematic aggressive behavior against a person who finds it difficult to defend him/herself against the perpetrator(s)
 - Repeated attacks and power differential are central features



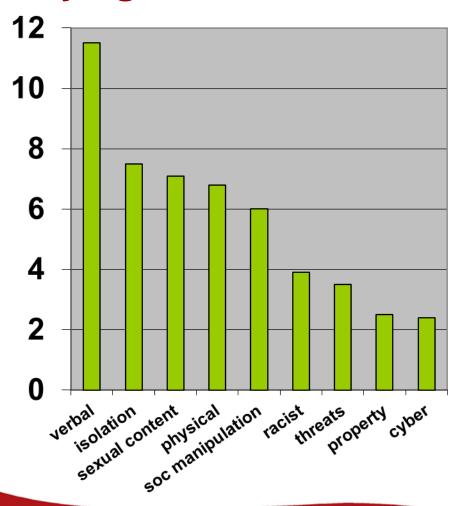


Bullying

- Takes numerous forms
 - Most often verbal abuse, public ridicule
 - BUT many other forms as well: physical, social isolation, rumor-spreading, cyberbullying, ...

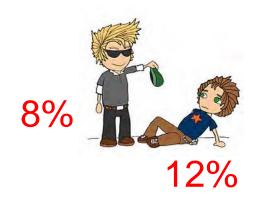


Students targeted by different forms of bullying



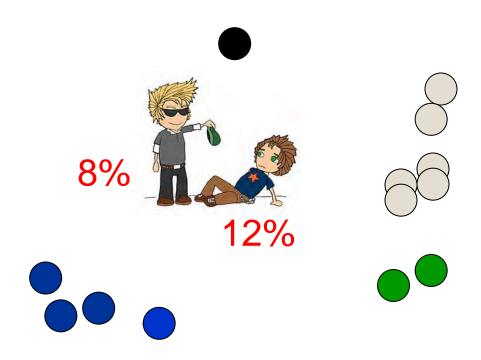
A child who is bullied is typically targeted in multiple ways





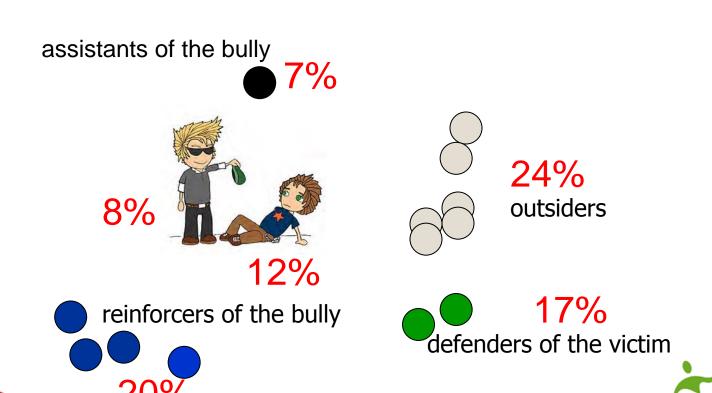


Participant roles in bullying (Salmivalli et al., 1996)





Participant roles in bullying (Salmivalli et al., 1996)



 Despite their anti-bullying attitudes, many students behave in ways which maintain, even fuel the bullying behavior



The responses of peer bystanders *matter*

- Individual effects: short term
 - the defended victims are better adjusted than the undefended ones (Sainio, Veenstra, Huitsing, & Salmivalli, 2010)
- Individual effects: long term
 - the most negative memory related to bullying is often "no-one cared" (Teräsahjo & Salmivalli, 2000)



The responses of peer bystanders *matter*

- Classroom level:
 - In classrooms where students tend to reinforce the bully, rather than support the bullied classmates...
 - Bullying occurs more frequently (Salmivalli, Voeten & Poskiparta, 2011)
 - Vulnerabe children (e.g., socially anxious ones) are more likely to end up as targets of bullying (Kärnä, Voeten, Poskiparta, & Salmivalli, 2010)



KiVa antibullying program

- The meaning of "KiVa"
- Developed at the University of Turku with funding from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture
 - Program co-leaders: Professor Christina Salmivalli and PhD, special researcher Elisa Poskiparta
- In Finland, used by 90% of schools providing comprehensive education (basic education, grades 1-9)
- Now implemented in several other countries as well



In order to reduce bullying...

- We do not necessarily need to change the victims, making them "less vulnerable"
- Influencing the behavior of bystanders can reduce the rewards gained by the bullies and consequently, their motivation to bully in the first place
 UNIVERSAL
- However, the victims need to feel that they are heard and helped by the adults at school
- The bullies need to be confronted for their unacceptable behavior



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INDICATED

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KiVa™ universal and indicated actions

Parent materials



Visible vests for persons supervising recess time



Student lessons and materials involved (teacher manuals, short films)



Interventive

Preventive

Monitoring

Presentation graphics for student lessons, for the meeting of the school staff, and for meetings with parents



Online antibullying games

Online surveys with feedback of progress Monitoring implementation and long-term effects

KiVa[™] team Clear guidelines for tackling bullying





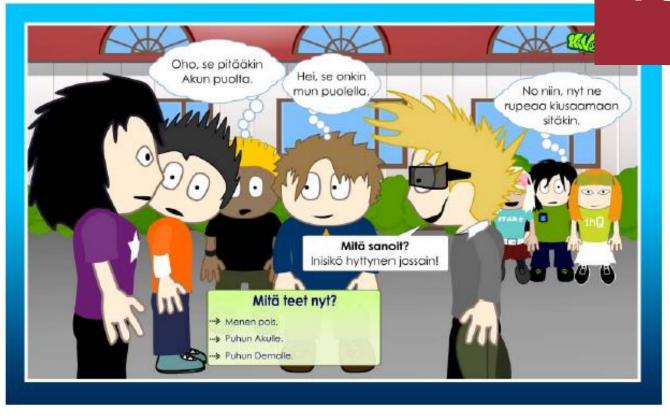
Activities included in student lessons



- Creating awareness of how the group might maintain and fuel bullying
- Providing safe strategies to support victimized peers



I CAN / Unit 2





"Virtual mailbox" in the online games











KIRJE KOULUN KIVA-TIIMILLE

84 / 600

I don't want to come to school anymore. Other kids are not playing with me anymore...









Indicated actions: Tackling the cases of bullying

KiVa team









Monitoring tool: Annual school-based feedback

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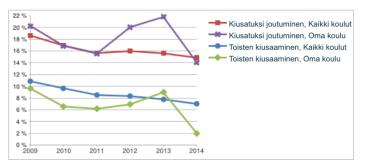
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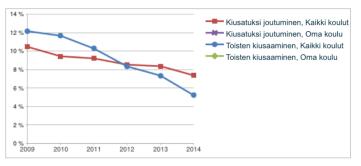
KiVa Koul... •••

Osuus <u>alakoulun</u> oppilaista, jotka ovat kiusanneet muita tai kokeneet tuleensa kiusatuksi *kaksi tai kolme* kertaa kuukaudessa tai useammin

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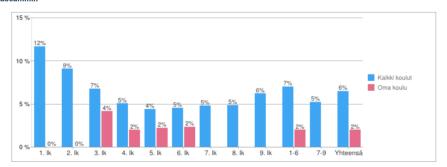
Osuus <u>yläkoulun</u> oppilaista, jotka ovat kiusanneet muita tai kokeneet tuleensa kiusatuksi *kaksi tai kolme* kertaa kuukaudessa tai useammin



Lisätietoa kysymyksistä: "Miten usein olet kiusannut koulussa toista oppilasta viimeisen parin kuukauden ailkana?" ja "Miten usein sinua on kiusattu koulussa parin viime kuukauden aikana?" Vastausvaihtoehdot: *ei lainkaan", "kerran tia kaska", "2–3 kertaa kuukaudessa", "noin kerran viikossa" tai "useita kertoja viikossa".

Toisten kiusaaminen ja kiusatuksi joutuminen 2014

Osuudet eri luokka-asteiden oppilaista, jotka ovat <u>kiusanneet muita</u> *kaksi tai kolme kertaa kuukaudessa* tai *useammin*



Lisätietoa kysymyksestä: "Miten usein olet kiusannut koulussa toista oppilasta viimeisen parin kuukauden

Parents' involvement

Information newsletter to parents (www)

Parents' guide (print/www)



Back-to-school night



Indicated actions-Tackling the cases coming to attention

 Individual discussions with the victim and with the bullying children

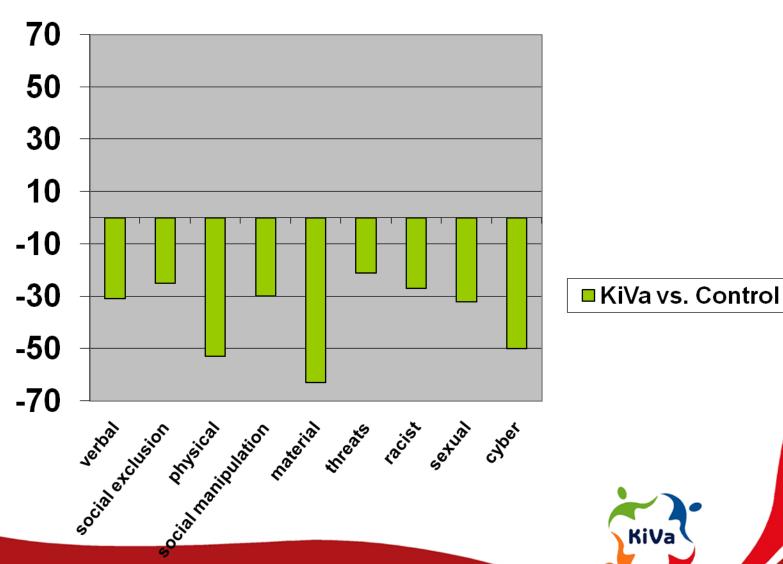
KIVA TEAM

- + utilizing prosocial, high-status peers
 - "your help is needed" CLASSROOM TEACHER
 - setting standards for others
 - making the victim feel better
 - protecting the victimized child from further attacks





Changes in being bullied by different forms during one school year, RCT 2007-2008



Additionally KiVa...

 reduced students' anxiety and depression and had a positive impact on their perceptions of peer climate



positive effects on school liking and academic motivation

(Williford et al, 2011)

(Salmivalli, Garandeau & Veenstra, 2012)



KiVa also Influenced...

- children's perceptions on their teachers' attitudes and how well the teacher is able to do to reduce bullying
- teachers self-evaluated competence to tackle bullying, and teacher perceptions of bullying.



(Ahtola et al. 2012; Veenstra et al. 2014)



Mechanisms of KiVa

Changes in...

antibullying attitudes

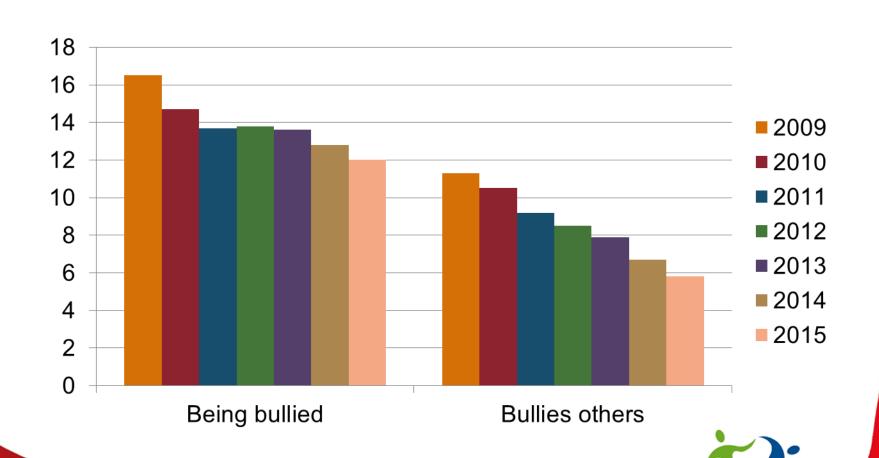
students perceptions of peers' responses and teacher attitudes

Reductions in bullying

Saarento, S., Boulton, A., & Salmivalli, C. (2015). Reducing bullying and victimization: Student- and classroom-level mechanisms of change. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology, 43,* 61-76.

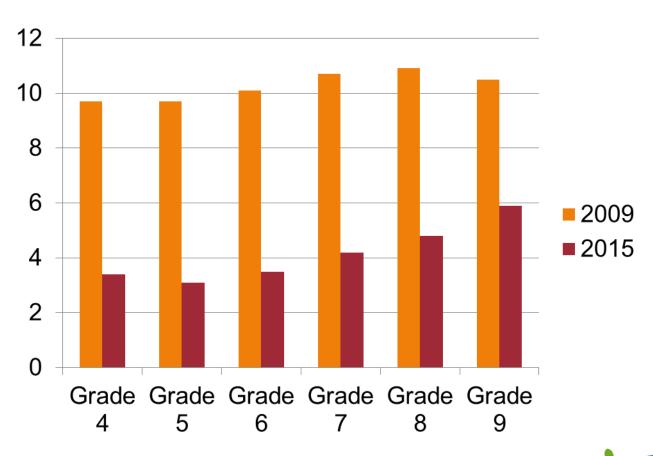


Long-term effects: Proportion of students who have been bullied / who are bullying others repeatedly in KiVa schools, 2009-2015



KiVa

NOT feeling safe at school, %





- 2009 Roll-out in Finland: 1465 schools
- 2010 + 817 Finnish schools
- 2011 + 290 Finnish schools + Åland Island
- 2012 + 31 Finnish schools
- Evaluation studies in the Netherlands and in Delaware begin
- Pilots in Wales, Luxembourg, Sweden
- 2013 + 17 Finnish schools
- Evaluation studies in Estonia, Italy, Wales begin
- 2014 The 1st training for international trainers
- Implementation in Belgium, Estonia, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, UK, The European School Network
- 2015 The 2nd training for international trainers
- Implementation in Sweden
- 2016 The 3rd training for international trainers
- Evaluation study in Chile begins
- Implementation in Hungary



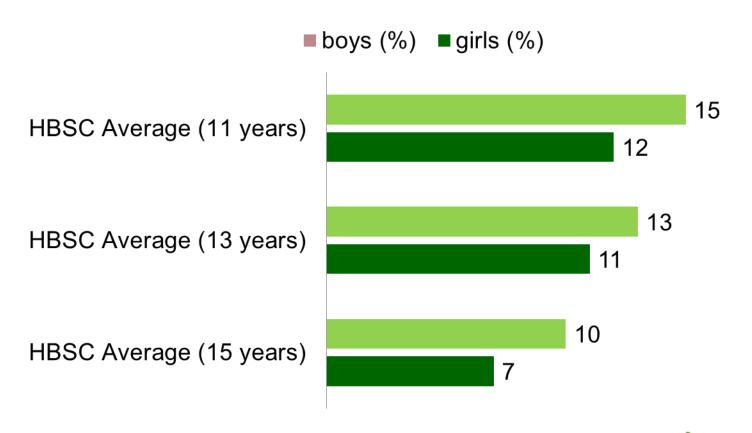


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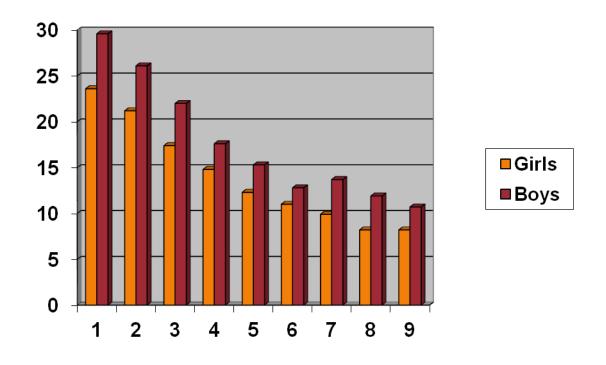


WHO study 2009/2010: being bullied by others



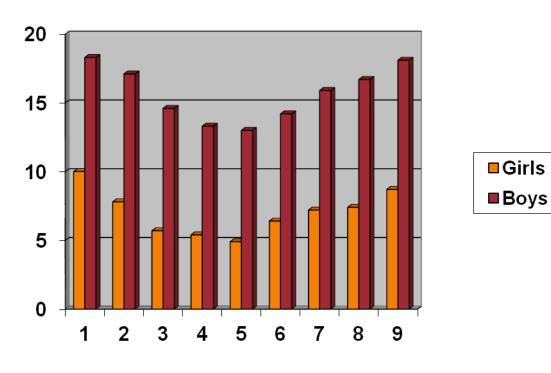


Finland: Been bullied, %



Spring 2009, N > 150 000

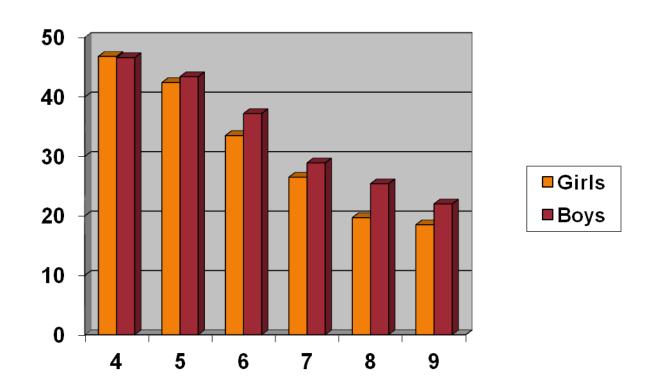
Finland: Bullying others, %



Spring 2009, N > 150 000

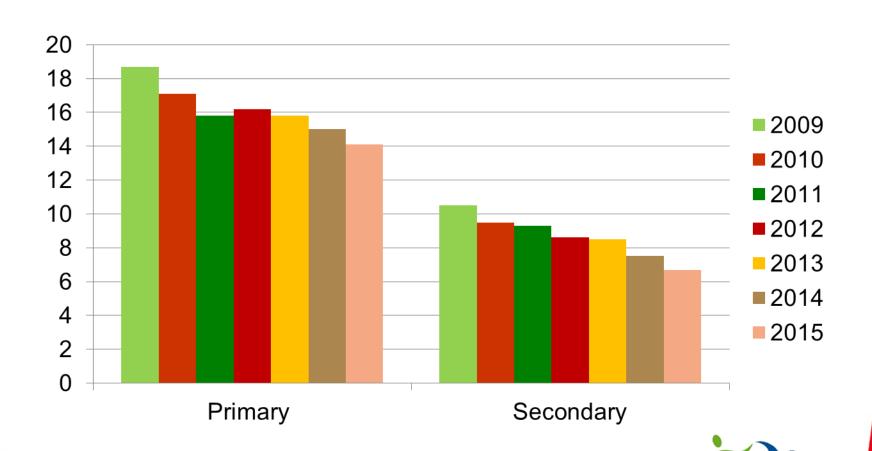


Finland: Teachers can do "much" or "very much" to decrease bullying, % respondents





Proportion of students being bullied repeatedly, Finnish KiVa schools, 2009-2015



Proportion of students bullying others repeatedly, Finnish KiVa schools, 2009-2015

