

## **Our School** **(10 Minutes)**

**Objective:** Students discuss the impact that bullying has on their school environment.

**Materials:** None

Review with students the definition of “bullying.” (*Merriam-Webster defines “bullying” as “to treat abusively.”*)

Ask students to raise their hands if they or someone they know could answer yes to any of the following questions. You may want to add a few questions of your own, depending on your knowledge of the students and the thoughts they shared when defining “bullying.”

- Have you, or someone you know, ever felt any pressure to let someone cheat off of you on a test or copy an essay?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever been teased in school or teased another person in school?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever threatened someone online?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever felt pressure from another student to do something against school rules?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever felt any pressure to give a classmate money?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever felt any relationship pressure?
- Have you, or someone you know, ever had a rumor spread about you, or have spread a rumor about another person?

Finally, ask, “Is there a bullying problem in our school?” Ask students for a show of hands to vote on an answer. Students should raise their hand either for a yes or a no answer to the question.

To conclude the activity, ask:

- Do students respect one another in our school? Give an example of respect/disrespect among students.

- Do teachers respect one another in our school? Give an example of respect/disrespect among teachers.
- Do teachers and students respect one another? Give an example of respect/disrespect between teachers and students.