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PEER REVIEW STUDENT CHECKLIST #2

Writer's Name:

Reviewer's Name:

Cause/Effect: School Violence & Bullying

In this paper you will learn the causes and effects of school violence and bullying. It will talk about what causes these issues and the results that occur after.

School violence is a big problem here in the world today. Students do not feel that everyone are equal. Some students think that are better than the next student, or one student may think that they are not as good as the next student. School violence is caused by anger and aggression from students and from students who are not emotionally stable.

Some students with disorders such as depression, or bipolar disease find it hard to see anything positive in their day-to-day lives. It has been said that the media, namely TV shows, music, and movies has contributed to school violence. Some students copy what they see on television and think it is ok to repeat. Another cause of school violence can come from the student's home. It can be caused by parents consistently use physical abuse against a student. He or she may use violence against another student because they see it at home.

Bullying is the use of force, coercion, or threat, to abuse, aggressively dominate or intimidate. The behavior is often repeated and habitual. Bullying can be caused by jealousy. A student may be jealous of another student because of what that student may be wearing. Bullying can also be caused from low self-esteem. If a student is feeling unworthy, they can do hurtful things to other students to make themselves feel better.

Cyberbullying is also a big factor in the US today. Cyberbullying can cause psychological, emotional, and physical stress. Cyberbullying or cyber harassment is a form of bullying or harassment using electronic means. Some students may cyberbully to get revenge from other peers. Some students cyberbully to boost their ego, some do it for entertainment purposes, or to get laughs from their peers. Cyberbullying has tons of

effects. Students who are cyberbullied may start attacking within their home, they may start acting out in school, and they can become very fearful of people.

There are just as many effects² as there are causes. When there is school violence, students may be less inclined to study for tests, so they may fail the class as a result. Students may begin to feel uncomfortable at school due to violence, they may even avoid class or drop out of school completely, just to escape the negativity.

When victimized students are consistently targeted by bullies the resulting depression and low self-esteem can lead to tragedy. Sometimes students may decide to take their anger out on the bullying classmates in further displays of school violence. School violence can have very serious effects, causing serious harm to students and staff. School violence can lead to school shootings, school bombings, or bomb threat, and suicides.

Bullying has harmful effects also. Suicides have a high rate in the country right now. Bullying has a repeating effect; students repeat what they see other students do. Bullying will give students depression or anxiety. Students may start doing drugs or become a school dropout. Bullying can put students into social isolation.

School violence and bullying are very well known. If everyone⁴ can just get along and treat others with respect this could all be ended. There are several precautions that might be implemented against bullying. Such as setting clear rules and expected code of conduct and putting in a place mechanism for open communications.

School violence and bullying does not always just affect the victim, it can affect a bystander also. A bystander could feel fearful of another student, they could feel powerless to act, guilty for not acting, or might join the act of bullying. One of the many ways to prevent bullying and school violence is to be active. If you see it report it, say something, or do something about it, you never know what can happen you might save a life.

References

Gerri, B. (2017, April 18). The Causes and Effects of School Violence. How to Adult.

<https://howtoadult.com/causes-effects-school-violence-6063974.html>

Mark, L & Ratliff, K. (2011). Cyber Worlds: New Playgrounds for Bullying.

1

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INSTRUCTIONS: Read the essay twice, once to get an overview of the paper, and a second time to provide constructive criticism for the author to use when revising his/her paper.

Complete the following checklist and answer each question below.

- ☒ 1. What question, problem, or issue does this essay address?

The essay starts by letting any reader know that it addresses the causes and effects of violence and cyberbullying which is the main issue being addressed. However, as the writer progresses focus is on bullying and violence. There are different forms of violence that learners may experience while at school. In this regard, it is important to pinpoint the exact type of violence. School violence is a general description, where bullying is just one example.

- 1
☒ 2. What is the complete thesis statement?

NOTE: If you have trouble identifying either the question/problem/issue or the thesis, be sure to concentrate on how to help the writer clarify the problem.

A **thesis statement** indicates an author's position regarding a topic. In academics, it is the last sentence of the introduction paragraph. In this essay, there is a clear thesis statement namely "In this paper you will learn the causes and effects of school violence and bullying. It will talk about what causes these issues and the results that occur after".

- 1
☒ 3. Note with a wavy line in the margin the places where you got confused as a reader. (Or describe which places were confusing to you.)

One of the confusing issues is lack of proper citations in this essay. For example, when the writer says "Cyberbullying is also a big factor in the US today." There is no evidence produced, for instance, a recent study or report from a credible firm. Besides, the definition of bullying is somewhere in the middle of the essay. Normally, definitions should be in the initial paragraphs because it is confusing when the reader has to read an essay then find the definition of a term towards the end of the paper. Besides, the writer talks about the effects of bullying in a confusing and general manner. It is very difficult to follow, for instance, the effects of cyberbullying which are all over the paragraphs in a random manner.

- 1
☒ 4. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the paper? Provide at least three strengths and three weaknesses.

The work is formatted in a readable manner where the reader does not have to strain to read

paragraphs. Second, there are valid points brought forward by the writer. For instance, the harmful effects of bullying are well articulated, though not in a well-organized and easy to follow method. Third, the writer reminds us that the effects of bullying can be experienced even when it does not affect an individual directly. However, the paper has several weaknesses: the first is that even though it is well-formatted, there is no use of transition or joining words. Additionally, there are no references to the information offered in the essay. An example is when the writer talks about the effects of bullying. The information provided is not backed by research and may have been their personal opinion as it is not cited. Besides, the writer talks about personal feelings and writes in the first person when the essay is not an opinion paper.

¹
☒ 5. Where do you agree and disagree with the writer?

I completely agree with this writer that cyberbullying is an issue and it can negatively affect learners in different ways. However, I do not agree with the writer when they write statements like "It has been said that the media....." The writer should properly acknowledge the sources they use when writing. That is the norm in academic writing. I also do not agree that school violence is a vice. It is more of a generalized term for the problems that bedevil the learning environment, and cyberbullying is also one example of school violence.

¹
☒ 6. Reread the draft. Where is the quality of support? Does the writer offer enough details (data, statistics, quotes, references) to support his/her argument? Does the writer need to do more research? Are there peer-reviewed sources?

As stated earlier, this writer failed to offer adequate details. For example, the writer talks about the causes of school violence but fails to reference or quote peer-reviewed sources. At the same time, the writer failed to tell readers where the definition of cyberbullying comes from. For that reason, the writer must support his or her arguments with data, statistics, and quotes from peer-reviewed sources which are available in the university libraries.

¹
☒ 7. Make three or four statements recommending specific changes which should be made in the next draft.

a. The author must come up with a clear thesis statement. The thesis statement must state their clear position regarding the topic.

b. The writer must back their arguments with data, statistics, reports, and quotes from peer-reviewed sources. That is the norm and standard practice in academic writing.

c. The writer should also arrange their arguments properly. As it is, the essay is not chronological. The definition of bullying comes in the middle of the essay, yet it should be in the initial paragraphs. Also, the causes and effects of school violence and cyberbullying are randomized in the paper. The paper should have a clear format of introduction, together with a clear thesis statement, then body where the writer talks about the causes and effects, what should be done to curb the vice, then a conclusion which is more of a summary of the main points. At this point, the writer can again restate the thesis statement and conclude writing. As it is, the paper looks like a magazine and not an academic paper.

d. The writer should also get rid of the extra white spaces in the paper.

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