Stuttering and Bullying: Strategies for Kids and Teens

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Financial – No relevant financial relationships to disclose.
Non-financial
Chair-Elect of the International Cluttering Association (ICA).
Member of ICA, IFA, bvss, ivs, dbi

Overview
✓ What is bullying?
✓ Relationship between bullying and stuttering
✓ What can SLPs do?
✓ Available resources
✓ Q & A

Facts about bullying
✓ Bullying is a serious problem that affects many children and adolescents (Blood, Boyle, Blood & Nalesnik, 2008).
✓ Behavior intended to cause distress (Olweus, 1993)
✓ Situation in which a student is a repeated target of negative actions by one or more others – actions involve verbal, indirect and direct aggression (Hunter, Boyle & Warden, 2007).
✓ Bullying is “a form of abuse at the hands of peers, that can take different forms at different ages.” (Craig et al., 2007, p.466).
✓ Bully is in the position of having more power than the victim. (Craig et al., 2007).

Facts about bullying
Definition by Mark Dobson (2002)
Bullying is when people...
✓ Make you do something you don’t want to do.
✓ Make you feel a way you don’t want to feel.
✓ Treat you in a way that you don’t want to be treated.
Bullying Styles
- one-off
- on-sight
- repetitive
- permanent
- strategic, calculated, vindictive

Types of Bullying
- Physical
- Verbal
- Relational
- Cyber Bullying

Dobson, 2002

Stuttering and Bullying: Facts
- 59% of participants in a study reported being teased or bullied (Langevin et al., 1998)
- Retrospective study of Hugh-Jones & Smith, 1999
- Replicated in Germany by Benecken & Spindler (2004) with supplemented and expanded study, confirmed results from British study.
- CWS are less likely to be nominated as a leader (Davis et al. 2002)

What is our role as an SLP?
We are ADVOCATES for children who stutter!

Strategies by Mark Dobson
1. How do you stand?
2. Don’t react
3. Don’t argue, just agree
4. Keep a journal

Six Steps (Murphy, Queal, Reardon-Reeves, & Yanus)  
1. Knowledge about stuttering
2. Knowledge about bullying
3. Think differently about stuttering
4. Help to respond appropriately to bullying
5. Educate peers
6. Teach parents, teachers and admins about stuttering

Websites:
stutteringhelp.org
westutter.org
stutteringtherapyresources.com

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Literature


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