

## **Bullying Case Studies**

The following case studies are based on real-life situations. They may be helpful in the classroom or with clients for educational and demonstrative purposes.

### **Case Study Number Two**

On the second day of eighth grade, a girl in Emily's class shoved her into the road. Thinking she was playing, Emily shoved her back. Rumors began circulating within the school and Emily gained a reputation. The girl was part of a group of girls who continued to spread rumors about Emily; they also began stalking her in the playground. Some of the teachers, believing the rumors about Emily, accused her of bullying the other girl, and cautioned her parents about her behavior. Roughly once every 2 weeks Emily's parents would meet with the principal to try to convince him that Emily was the victim. No one in authority admitted that bullying existed at the school. Nothing was done.

For 3 years, the bullying continued with silent phone calls, threats, and occasional physical incidents. Each time after Emily or her parents complained, the teachers would glare at her in the hallway. After the bully graduated, the rest of the group of girls continued the bullying. Once when they cornered Emily against the wall, a teacher approached them and threatened Emily with further punishment if she continued her behavior. The teacher then sent the other girls back to the playground.

### ***Discussion Questions***

- What could Emily's parents do to help the school realize that a problem exists?
- What can a teacher do for Emily? What could a counselor do for Emily?
- Who is the bully in this case?
- How might this continued abuse affect Emily in the long term?