



"Peaceful-Warrior" Anti-bullying School Program, Whitehorse, Oct-Dec.2012 The Final Thoughts

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There's an old saying: "If there is no struggle, there is no progress," and we must struggle to combat the bullying epidemic on all scales. Changes in laws, the way we think, and ultimately our behaviours are difficult to create, yet that is the challenge ahead of us. We need new and innovative solutions to combat bullying, solutions that protect young people by empowering school leaders and responsible adults everywhere to create safe environment for each child.

First of all, we must better equip educators – teachers, professionals and adults who have a role in carrying for our youth – with the funding and training they need to keep each child safe and secure. Bus drivers must also be trained and empowered to safeguard the children in their care. School infirmaries must be properly staffed, and each medical staff member must be properly trained to identify and treat the emotional trauma of bullying – social anxiety, substance abuse, and a sudden drop in academic performance.

Administrators and teachers must learn to put more attention to bullying, be fully prepared to deal with a problem in their schools and drop down their passivity and indifference! These educators play key roles in managing the front lines of bullying by coping with situations of physical and emotional violence, addressing situations with students and their parents, and fostering an environment of tolerance and inclusivity in their classrooms and playgrounds. These educators must be equipped with training and tools they need to break existing cycles of bullying and to prevent countless more before even start.

Parents and other adults also have to stop be passive but to be leaders and set right examples for all children with moral conduct and ethics.

Stopping bullying means real liberation for each child. It means activating the power and strength and intelligence that is within each child. We all know what it feels to be left out, ignored, name-called, and made to feel unworthy of people's respect and attention.

As a martial artist I also understand what it is like to embrace that moment of empowerment, to feel safe and secure, to feel ready and able to pursue your greatest hopes in life, to awaken the 'giant' within. I am always ready to do my part to ensure that each and every young person in the Yukon has the opportunity to embrace such challenge and moment and to make a difference.

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"The Way Of The Warrior Is To Stop Trouble Before It Starts"