CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCES OF RACISM

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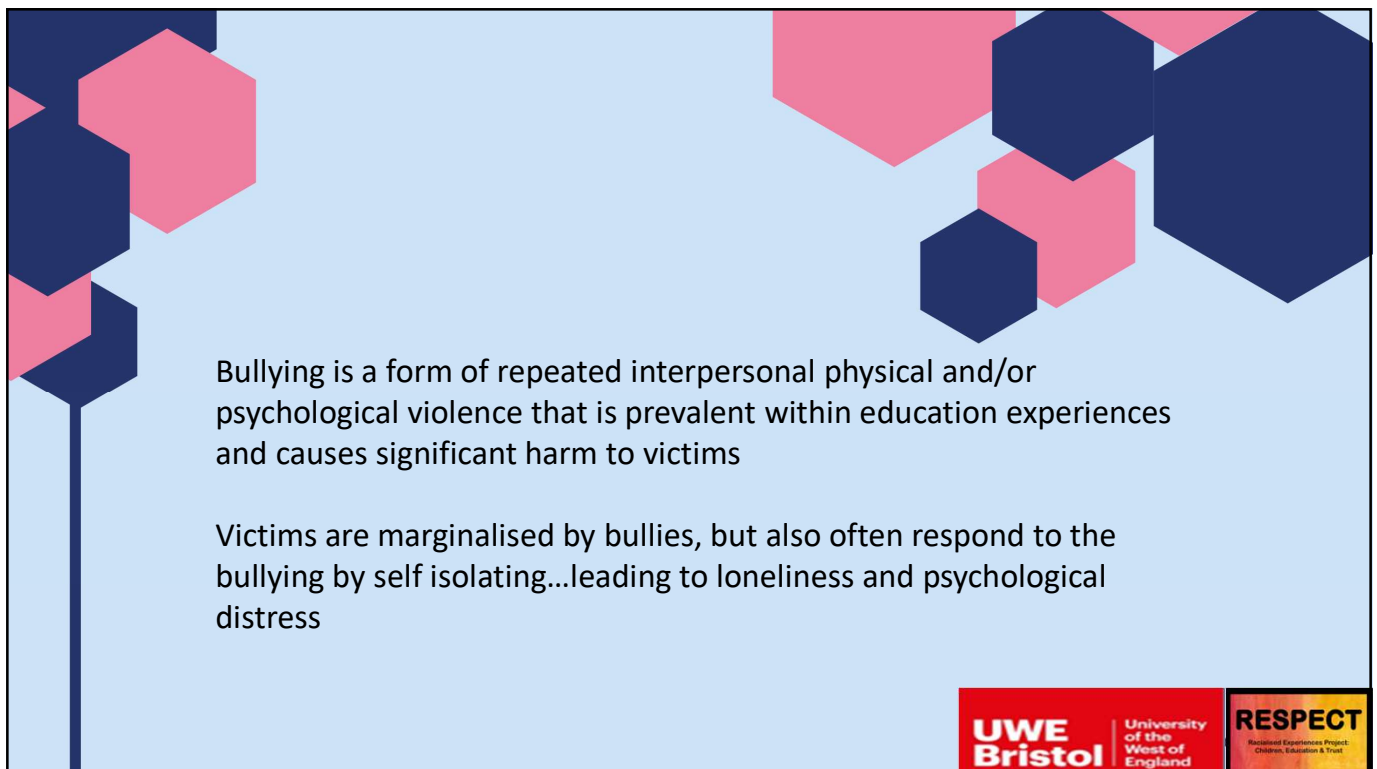
RESPECT
Racialised Experiences Project: Children, Education & Trust

Emerging Minds

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CHARTERED COLLEGE OF TEACHING

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Bullying is a form of repeated interpersonal physical and/or psychological violence that is prevalent within education experiences and causes significant harm to victims

Victims are marginalised by bullies, but also often respond to the bullying by self isolating…leading to loneliness and psychological distress

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WHAT IS BULLYING?

- **Social exchange of repeated and persistent victimisation intended to harm physically or psychologically** (Olweus, 1978)

- **Different forms:**
- Physical (hitting, taking possessions)
- Verbal (name-calling, verbal cruelty, threatening)
- Psychological (malicious gossip, social exclusion, isolation)

- Direct vs Indirect (Rivers & Smith, 1994)

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BULLYING IN SCHOOL IS COMMON

-Most common form of aggression in schools (Ross, 2002)

-Approx 50% experience some form of bullying during education
(Charach, Pepler, & Ziegler, 1995; Farrington, 1993)

-It is a **within-schoo**l phenomenon (rather than on the way to school)
(Olweus, 1991; 1993; 1994)

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IMPACT ON VICTIMS

- Decline in academic performance

- Self blame and decline in self esteem

- Lashing out in response to frustration = impact on relationships

- Depression and social anxiety

(Ambert, 1994; Card, 2003; Hawker & Boulton, 2000; Hazler, Hoover, & Oliver, 1992; Nishina & Juvonen, 2003; Olweus, 1978)

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TEACHER BLIND SPOT?

To some extent normalised in society:
 "a part of growing up" "Character forming"
(Siris, 2001; Smith & Brain, 2000)

Are we as responsive to psychological (non-physical) bullying?
-1 in 4 teachers reported name calling, spreading rumours, or intimidating by staring were not bullying (Boulton, 1997)

-Teachers report physical threats or abuse significantly more severe than verbal and/or social and emotional abuse (Shields & Cicchetti, 2001

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SCHOOL RISK FACTORS

Increased prevalence in:
-large city schools
-schools that serve students from lower SES backgrounds
                    (Olweus, 1994; Whitney & Smith, 1993)

Decreased prevalence in schools:
…which proactively intervene in cases of bullying incidents
                (Clarke & Kiselica, 1997; Roberts & Coursol, 1996)

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RACISM

…some children are also experiencing:
 - racism **directly and indirectly**
 - racism **physically, verbally and psychologically**
 - racism **within schools**

Children experiencing racism are also experiencing many of the same deleterious impacts…and a range of additional assaults with implications for their developing send of identity and view of the world

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WHERE NEXT...

In order to ensure we address this within practice, we need to interrogate....

- how we can minimise any blind spots?
- how we ensure we are proactively intervening within schools?

Teacher training / CPD

Resources

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NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK

If racism vanished for a day,
I would feel totally comfortable
wearing my hair like this.

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