

e-SAVE SOURCE

Youth Voices...Grown-Up Choices!

National Association
of Students Against
Violence Everywhere

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Diversity

What Do You Think?

As an attorney, I often think about the legal issues involved with preventing youth violence. Technological advances have created exciting new ways for all of us to share, learn, and communicate. But those advances have also created new opportunities for violence. Our legal system is struggling to create rules that allow students to enjoy the benefits of new technologies while also ensuring that students enjoy those benefits within a safe, peaceful, and secure environment.

Nowhere are those rules more important—and more difficult to create—than on the Internet. Students often access the web after school hours, and sometimes use chat rooms, blogs, or instant messaging to bully or harass their peers. How should our legal system stop such cyberbullying? Should the law give teachers and schools the authority to punish students who bully their peers online from a home computer?

Our courts are struggling to answer those questions. In one recent case, a high school student in West Virginia created a MySpace page that called another student hateful and offensive names. When school officials learned about the online postings, they suspended the student for violating the school's code of conduct. The student then sued the school. She argued that the school did not have the power to punish her for what she posted online after school hours, and she claimed that the school violated her First Amendment free speech rights. The court disagreed with the student and rejected her claim, reasoning that the school could discipline the student in order to prevent a disruption on campus that might result from the student's off-campus speech.

Other courts faced with similar facts have ruled in favor of the student. Those courts say that allowing schools to punish a student's online speech extends the arm of school authority too far: schools are not regulators of the Internet, and what happens off campus is beyond their reach. Students have free speech rights, too, and what they say off campus—no matter how offensive—is simply not within the school's disciplinary jurisdiction.

So what do you think? Should schools be able to punish students who harass their peers online from a home computer? What can teachers, schools, and SAVE members do to prevent cyberbullying that occurs after school hours?

I hope you will discuss these difficult questions at your next chapter meeting. Be sure to share your insights on our Facebook page so that I and SAVE members across the country can hear what you have to say!

- Brandon Boxler, SAVE Board Chairman



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UPCOMING EVENTS



DATE	EVENT	MORE INFO
FEBRUARY 15-17	NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BULLYING ORLANDO, FL • THE SCHOOL SAFETY ADVOCACY COUNCIL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (FASRO) AND SAVE (STUDENTS AGAINST VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE) ANNOUNCE THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BULLYING AT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL & RESORT. SPECIAL RATES AT THIS DISNEY PARTNER RESORT APPLY AND INCLUDE FREE TRANSPORTATION TO ALL DISNEY AND UNIVERSAL PARKS. THE EVENT WILL FEATURE SOME OF THE NATION'S LEADING EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF BULLYING, FROM THE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SIDE.	http://www.schoolsafety911.com/
MARCH 4-7	23RD ANNUAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE	http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/yarregister.html
MARCH 19-23	NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/YVPC.php
APRIL 1-31	NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH	http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/
APRIL 2-4	NATIONAL AFTER SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE	http://www.naaweb.org/default.asp?contentID=659
APRIL 22-28	NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK	http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_2012NCVRWResourceGuide192
MAY 1-31	NATIONAL YOUTH TRAFFIC SAFETY MONTH	http://www.nationalsave.org/main/teendrivingfocus.php
JUNE 14-16	LIFESAVERS: 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO HIGHWAY SAFETY!	http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101808979916-808/Lifesavers+Conference+Save+the+Dates.pdf

Monthly Focus: Diversity

Recognizing diversity is important at every age level and in every part of the country. In every school there will be different groups and issues to consider. Look at your own chapter, school and community, is the membership in your chapter a reflection of your student body? Are there recruitment activities that you could use to bring in new members from under-represented groups? Many chapters face challenges recruiting male members. Talk to males in your student body to see what might encourage more of them to join and be active in SAVE. Emphasize that being against violence doesn't make you a wimp or less macho. Continue to make being in SAVE a "cool" thing to do.

For suggested activities and downloads, visit:

<http://www.nationalsave.org/main/januarytheme.php>

For additional information on upcoming monthly topics, visit:

<http://www.nationalsave.org/main/calendar>.

SAVE Question of the Month:

Please share the SAVE Question of the Month with your SAVE members. The Youth Voices section of the web is a place for students to ask questions and get responses from SAVE members across the country.

December QoM: *"On January 17, 2012 the nation recognizes the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his dedication to end violence and discrimination in our society. How is your SAVE Chapter celebrating/continuing Dr. King's efforts?"*

Please send your responses to: forum@nationalsave.org

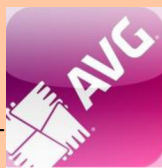
Check out: <http://www.nationalsave.org/forum/index.php> to see your response posted!

Techno Tidbit

AVG Family Safety:

The AVG Family Safety app is a web browser which protects users from accessing objectionable websites. This FREE browser from AVG prevents users from viewing sites categorized as adult web sites or malware and is perfect if your child uses an iPad or iPhone or has access to either of yours.

Check out this link: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/avg-family-safety/id423567709?mt=8>



Sabrina Steger... From A Parent's Perspective

Happy New Year everyone! New years are new beginnings, fresh chances to try to get it right. This month SAVE focuses on diversity. I hope I haven't messed up the whole New Year's thing, but in my world there isn't much diversity. In my world, you either understand that violence isn't a good thing, or you don't. We can call it bullying, assault, cruelty or terrorism and we can come up with lots of different ideas on how to prevent it or end it (I'm all for that kind of diversity). But we have to continue to reach out to everybody and to understand that each of us is unique.



We have different backgrounds, different life experiences, different religions, values and goals. Our differences mean that it is harder for some of us to understand how destructive violence is than for others.

I know a man who was bullied as a child. He was bullied at school (back then schools accepted bullying as a fact of life – to be endured regardless of the pain and consequences) and his home life wasn't any better. His stepfather was mean and his mom was away working much of the time. He had many struggles, but he grew up to become a good man who helps others. However the scars of his childhood affect how he does his job, how he raises his kids, how he sees the world and it affects how he feels about violence. Although he is strong and tough and nobody bullies him today, he is still scarred by what happened to him many years ago.

I wish we could all live in a world without violence, but we don't. Do we give up? No! Because for each person we reach, for each incident where a peaceful solution is found or a dangerous situation is diffused without resorting to violence, we have a victory. All the little victories add up to bigger victories. Diversity comes into play as we learn how different backgrounds and beliefs can help us find peaceful solutions that are acceptable to everybody. Let's say we have some teams playing a game. The prize is an apple for each winning team member. If a few individuals on one team hate apples, or don't think an apple is worth the effort, then that team probably won't do too well in the game. If another team has a smart coach who knows his players well, he might get the prize changed to oranges or a dozen apples per player or change the players' attitudes...whatever it takes to motivate the team to play their best. Each of us can be coaches in the game of life. Whether our team is just ourselves or the whole school, we can help make peace the prize that everybody values.

In 2012, make a resolution to learn more about someone else, particularly someone from a different environment than you. You may end up with a great new friend! At the very least you will learn about a different perspective. But don't expect me to diversify - either you understand that violence isn't good, or you are someone I'd like to reach.



Katrina Reynolds, 2011 SAVE Advisor of the Year: From the Heart!

As I sit down to write my article for this month, I have many thoughts running through my mind. I know many of you have just returned from spending time with your family and friends enjoying celebrations, renewing acquaintances, and long awaited visits that may come once a year. I have also thought of those that have been left out; the ones many of us may not think about. The student in your school you asked before you left for the Christmas holidays, "So, what are you going to do for Christmas?". The answer may have been, "Oh, you know just hang out, the usual". Sometimes we get so caught up in our own lives that we don't think about the holidays being a very hard time for some people. In every school, community or club in your area, whether it be a SAVE chapter, student council, beta club, chess, etc., someone is hurting and is the odd-man-out. It is up to us as individuals to make a difference. At the beginning of every school year, I challenge my students to start at least one new SAVE chapter in our area! We have found that while "word of mouth" will reach a small audience, actions speak much louder than words. Our Ira SAVE group is preparing to have the second annual West Texas SAVE Summit, at the end of March and if you are in our area or would like to attend we invite you to do so. This is an event that is about leadership and teaching different schools and organizations what SAVE is all about and how it can make a difference in your community. I would like to give you all a New Years challenge! If every SAVE chapter starts another chapter by the end of this school year we could change so many lives - who knows what we could do! I know one thing is for sure, I am going to grab my sunglasses because to me the future is so bright we are going to need them! I believe we can do this! Are you on board with me for this challenge? Good luck and I hope you have a great New Year!

From the Heart - Katrina Reynolds

YABer Yak: National Youth Advisory Board Member Jessica Weber ~ Cuthbertson High School, (NC)



Diversity is a huge part of our society. Today's culture is a melting pot of different races, religions, and beliefs. The best way to spread a positive influence is to get involved with your community. The Cuthbertson High School SAVE Chapter, in Waxahw, North Carolina, does a lot with the community. We constantly hold fund raisers, blanket drives, toy drives, and participate in community service to assist our community and build positive trends for future generations. I do not dedicate anything to one specific person because I believe great differences come from the collaboration of many people working towards a common goal. Our chapter is aware of the great people throughout history who have made an impact on society such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Gandhi, and many more. Our SAVE chapter's shirts even have a quote from Gandhi stating, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

In our efforts to continue Martin Luther King Jr.'s efforts, SAVE chapters preach that violence is not the answer. Violence only makes matters worse and will only force the situation to grow negatively exponentially. The Cuthbertson SAVE Chapter invites guest speakers to present to us the long term effects of violence. Our SAVE chapter loves this because we make it a great experience and we end up learning from different men and women who are currently doing what they can to make a difference. For January we are working with Turning Point. Turning Point is an organization that sells clothing and the profits go to different battered women's shelters in the area. Turning Point is a great program that our SAVE chapter works with hand in hand.

Last but not least, on MLK Day our SAVE chapter will share our knowledge and experience with our high school and hold events that our student body can participate in; such as color wars, SAVE spirit, and fun facts about Martin Luther King, Jr.. I encourage everyone to spread the knowledge about Martin Luther King, Jr. and SAVE. Knowledge goes a long way and it makes a great impact on the future.



Prevention Resources:

BREAKING THROUGH TO BOYS IN CRISIS - Insights from Inmates



Dr. Jody Roy, SAVE Director Emeritus and Shawn Karsten, SAVE Regional Youth Advisor, recently completed a project with the inmates and staff of the Diversity Enhancement Program of Fox Lake Correctional Institution. *Breaking Through to Boys in Crisis: Insights From Inmates* is a thought-provoking compilation of their numerous discussions and inmate writings from the project. The content

presented in the publication is intended to help people reflect on and understand the dynamics involved in some elements of youth criminality. The project sought to engage inmates in sharing their opinions and feelings about their lives before crime, the social forces and individual desires that lead them to crime, and the consequences they have experienced as a result. The men of the Diversity Enhancement Program hope *Breaking Through to Boys in Crisis* will help at least one reader better understand how they might try to save one boy from a life of crime. Many discussions focused around the chronic social problems some boys face every day – poverty, parental addition and neglect – the problems that define communities with very high levels of youth criminality. While much of what the inmates shared is in line with standing theories of criminology and in accord with data on criminal behavior, none of the specific material within the document has been corroborated against particular theories, statistics or best-practices protocols of law enforcement, social work, or psychiatric organizations.

This publication is a must read if you are working with a high risk youth population. Parents, grandparents, juvenile justice workers, school resource officers and youth leaders, will appreciate the honesty and frankness of the inmates. Readers may find the inmates stories useful in understanding the motivations behind some young men's first steps toward crime and how quickly the criminal lifestyle envelopes some young men. The document is not intended for youth, and does contain explicit language and graphic reference to violent acts. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of *Breaking Through to Boys in Crisis*, please contact SAVE at info@nationalsave.org. The resource is available free of charge.

GIG Spark: A Lesson on Compassion

Deadline: January 9, 2012

A "GIG Spark" is a short 1-1:30 minute video that inspires viewers to take action and help others after they've watched the video. The video will feature you showing and telling viewers what you want them to do and show it on video. <http://www.goinspirego.com/gigspark/>

Funding/Contest Opportunities:

Allstate Foundation Mini Grants Available for Teen Safe Driving Activities!

Many schools and community agencies are planning activities to encourage Teen Safe Driving during key times including back to school, America's Safe Schools Week, holidays, National Youth Violence Prevention Week, National Youth Traffic Safety Month, Prom and Graduation. The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) has mini grants available for schools and community agencies who are conducting activities this fall in the following states: AK, CO, DC, DE, HI, ID, IN, IA, KS, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, ND, OH, OR, SD, VA, WA, WV, and WY. Mini grants are \$1,000 and include educational items, materials, Teen Safe Driving Toolkits and a free SAVE Chapter affiliation. For a very brief (less than 2 pages) grant application, contact: info@nationalsave.org



2012 Wildlife Conservation Youth Engagement Grants

Deadline: February 1, 2012

Planet Connect is offering high school students grants of \$1,000 to implement their problem-solving projects and participate in a local internship focused on wildlife conservation. Winners receive \$500.00 to turn your project into a reality and an 80-hour wildlife conservation or natural resource internship with a \$500 stipend in your local community during the summer of 2012. <http://bit.ly/SPM29L>

Fellowship for Black Male Achievement

Deadline: January 9, 2012

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to improve the life of black men and boys in the U.S. by supporting social entrepreneurs who are starting up new and innovative organizations in the field of black male achievement. This fellowship grant includes start-up capital and technical assistance over 18 months to help new leaders launch and build their organizations, among other types of assistance. <http://www.echoinggreen.org/bma-fellowship#Eligibility>

Healthcare Fellowships

Deadline: April 27, 2012

Families USA is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable healthcare for all Americans. <http://www.familiesusa.org/fellowships/>

Mini-Grants Available to Support 2012 Kick Butts Day Events

Deadline: January 27, 2012

Mini-grants of \$500 and \$1,000 are available to fund youth anti-tobacco events in the United States on Kick Butts Day (March 21, 2012)...

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=364800055

National Bullying Conference - February 15 - 17, 2012

Sponsored by SAVE In Partnership With The School Safety Advocacy Council and FASRO

Experts in the field have long explained that the root causation to many of our schools most violent incidents have been episodes of bullying. From the Elementary School, Middle School, High School and even during camps and daycare programs, bullying can strike fear in children that can result in the most dramatic endings. If left unaddressed or not taken seriously, the consequences can be devastating on the victim.

This National Conference will take an in depth look at the causation, prevention and mitigation of what has become one of our nation's most pressing problems. Nationally recognized speakers will address the following topics:



- Bullying Program Showcase
- Using Digital Literacy to Combat Bullying
- Bullying-What are the Trends Telling US?
 - Cyber-Bullying
- The Reality Television Generation
- Liability 101-How not to be Successfully Sued



And more..... If you work among our nation's youth, this is a conference you will not want to miss.

For more information: <http://www.schoolsafety911.org/event05.html>

National Bullying Program Awards!

Apply Now to Have Your Program
Nationally Recognized



Each day an estimated 160,000 students in the United States refuse to go to school because they fear physical and verbal aggression of their peers, and the isolation that comes from being the target of

rumors and cyber-bullying. Many more attend school in a state of anxiety and depression.

Do you know a community, school, or private anti bullying program or initiative doing extraordinary work to prevent bullying? Are you involved in or know of an anti bullying effort that deserves national recognition? If you answer yes to either of these questions nominate them for the National Anti-Bullying Awards sponsored by the School Safety Advocacy Council and presented at the 2012 National Conference on Bullying, February 15-17, 2012 at the DoubleTree Sea World Resort Orlando in Orlando, Florida.

Nominations due by January 10, 2012. For questions regarding awards please email us at resourcer@aol.com.

Good luck!!

We're Doin'...! ~ What U Doin'?

Belmont Middle School Save Club: will be helping with supplies for the Women's Shelter - a big demand particularly this time of the season. Peggy Gorton is the SAVE Chapter advisor.

Chapel Hill High School students took part in the X the TXT campaign. Students added their thumbprints to a banner as a symbol of their promise not to text while driving. Jim Wise is the SAVE Chapter Advisor.

Mayfield High School "kicked-off" their teen safe driving activities with a Holiday Safe Driving/Safe Party. Ms. Kris Fleck is the SAVE Chapter advisor.

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center Chapter members will sponsor a blood donation drive for the American Red Cross. The SAVE Chapter advisor is Amy Jaramillo.

West Albany High School will hold an "Invisible Student Day" in which students wear red shirts symbolic of students lost to unsafe teen behavior. Jodi Howell is the SAVE Chapter Advisor.

("We're doin'! ~ What U Doin'?" contributions can be emailed to: dpell@nationalsave.org)