

Progressive Youth Connection

Preventing Violence, Promoting Peace.



PROGRESSIVE YOUTH
CONNECTION

Student Safety

Bringing Violence Prevention
to your School District



We Believe...

PYC believes that children should have the right to grow up in a safe environment.

PYC recognizes that each child has strengths inherent to that child and these strengths:

- allow children to function in their daily life
- overcome obstacles
- deal with life situations

PYC works to create safe environments where children can discover these strengths and successfully navigate life.

The Need is Real

In 2006, 1,250 teachers in the St. Louis Metropolitan area were surveyed on their experiences with school violence in the 2005-2006 school year. Of those surveyed:

25%

had seen guns, knives, or other dangerous weapons at school

77%

either witnessed or experienced violent behavior

16%

said either students or parents had assaulted them

Everyone is at Risk

\$1.7 Million **1 in 3**

Each high risk juvenile prevented from adopting a life of crime could save the country between \$1.7 million and \$2.3 million.

Teachers say they have seriously considered quitting the profession because student discipline and behavior became so intolerable.

75%

90,000

A Secret Service study of school shootings found that almost three-quarters of attackers felt persecuted, bullied, threatened, attacked or injured by others prior to the incident

Teachers were the victims of violent crimes at schools during a 5 year period.

Kids may commit violent acts for many reasons:

- Feeling frustration or anger, and not knowing how to cope
- Thinking violence is the only answer to their problems
- Trying to control or manipulate others or get something they want
- To get back at someone who hurt them or hurt someone they care about

Essentially, these violent actions are a result of kids not having good ways to cope with their emotions or deal with other people. They have learned violent ways of reacting to their problems, but they can still learn better skills for coping with challenges.

Our Mission

PYC creates strong communities by generating deep learning experiences designed to keep youth safe while successfully dealing with life situations and allowing them to grow into productive adults.



What does this mean?

- Our programs give kids the tools they need to make positive decisions that keep them healthy and safe as they begin their lives out in the world.
- Our teaching methods are designed to facilitate a learning experience, after which kids leave with a solid prevention knowledge base that they can apply to situations that occur in their day-to-day lives.
- This deep learning experience is achieved by putting the kids in the position to teach and learn from each other.



Drastic Consequences

Bullying, fighting, racial disharmony

Disrespect, disharmony, depression

Violence, suicide, bullycide



- **Poor grades**
- **Suspensions**
- **Injury**
- **Negative Media**
- **Legal Action**
- **Fatalities**

Prevention Works!

The Answer

PYC will designate a
**Violence Prevention
Specialist**
to your district.

Services

Parent Education

Staff Development

Student Leadership Training

Assessment

Programming

Immediate Intervention

Our Programs

Count to Ten

Anger Management

Communication

Resolving Conflict

Feelings

Compromise

Violence Education

Valuing Non-Violence

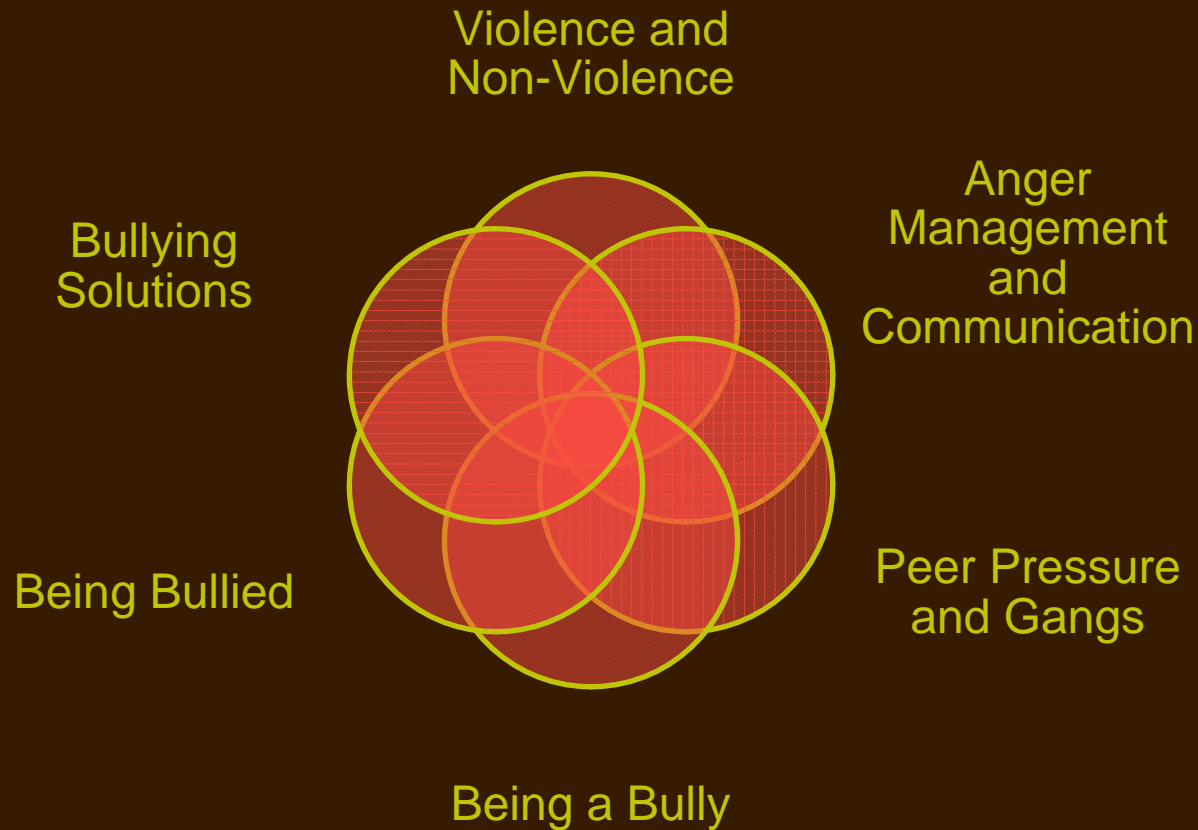
Managing Anger

Assertive Communication

Peer Pressure Resistance Skills

Dealing With Bullies

Stand Up for You



Building Healthy Lives

Anger Management

Communication

Self-Esteem and Body Image

Decision Making and Goal
Setting

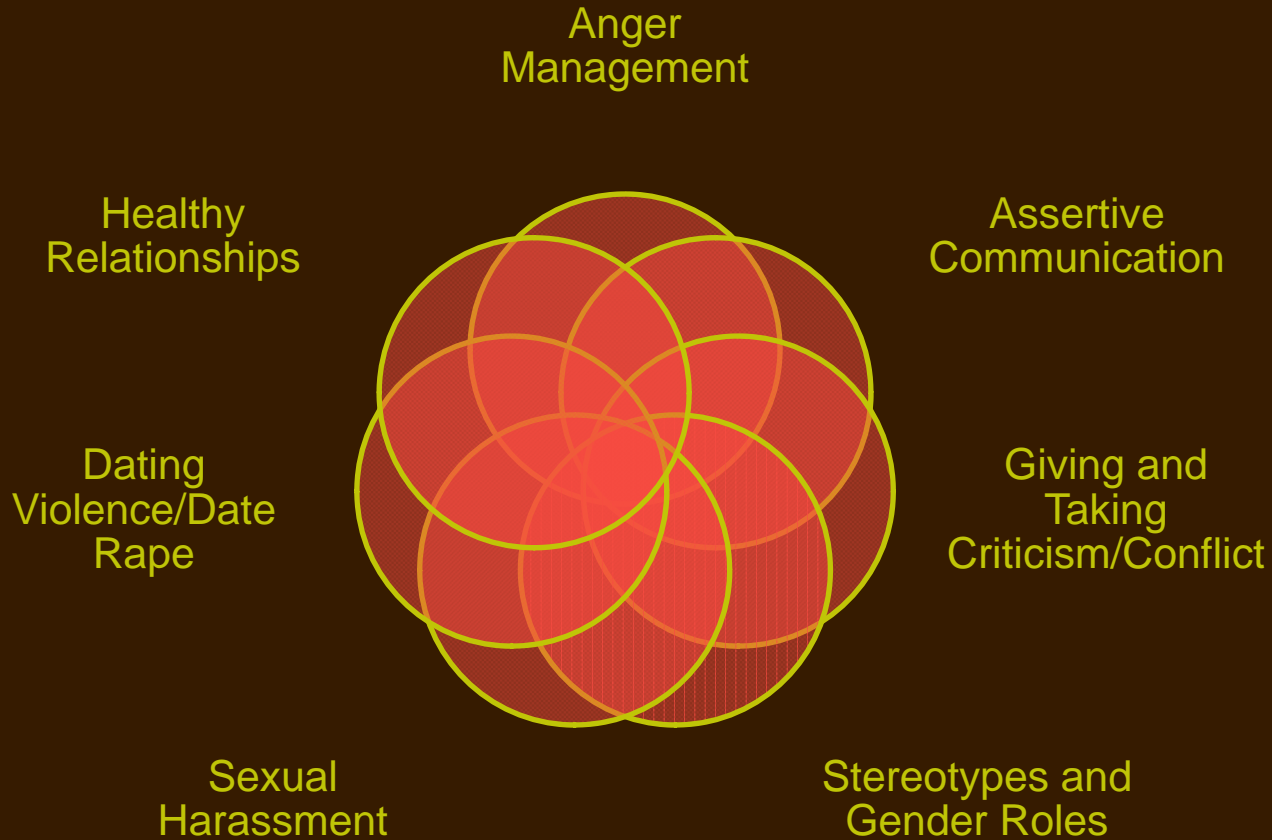
Stereotypes and Gender
Roles

Violent/Abusive and Healthy
Relationships

Violence and Non-Violence

Peer Pressure and Bullying

Real Life, Real Relationships



We Are One

Diversity

Friendship

Name Calling and
Empathy

Trust

Communication

Stereotypes and Prejudice

Discrimination

Parent Education

Motivating your Child



Working through Conflict 101

When My Children Are Angry

Helping Children Work through Their Anger

Time-Out (for You)

Time-Out (for your Children)

The Basics of Working through Conflict

Guidelines for Dealing with Conflict

Find the Best Solutions

Mediation in your Family

Guidelines for Family Meetings

An Effective Communication Strategy

Stress Relaxation Techniques

Bullying 101

Testing your Bullying IQ

Defining Bullying

Myths about Bullying

Why is it Important to Stop Bullying?

The Effects of Being Bullied

Could your Child be Experiencing Bullying

Conversation Starters

What can you do to help your child

What can your child do if he or she is bullied

What can your child do to help someone else

Cyber Bullying

Cyber Bullying - What can parents do?

Healthy Families 101

What is Healthy

Setting rules and limits

Rules and limits in my family

Discipline vs. Punishment

What Discipline has to do with Healthy Families

Fundamentals of Effective Discipline

An Effective Communication Strategy

Ways to Communicate with your Child

Leisure Time

Benefits

Students

- District wide teaching of prevention skills
- Increased self-esteem
- Increased productivity
- Decreased anxiety
- Decreased fear
- Increased sense of belonging
- Increased focus and concentration
- Positive school experience

District

- Proactive (versus reactive)
- Decrease in student suspensions
- Decrease in acts of bullying and violence
- Immediate response to situations of bullying and violence
- Creates and emphasizes a school environment that embraces peaceful resolution to conflict
- Access to multiple programs
- Positive response in the community

Parents

- Creates a safe environment for their children
- Access to parenting education and tips
- Positive response to parental concerns regarding bullying and school violence
- Reduces anxiety and concerns regarding school environment
- Provides a defined, positive approach to school violence

Student Leadership

Student Violence Prevention Initiative

- Students develop and implement a violence prevention awareness program
- Students receive leadership training including decision making, public speaking, and data assessment
- Students receive mentoring by the PYC Board of Directors
- Led by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Other Potential Collaborations

Potential Collaborations

If the district is interested in these services, PYC will facilitate a collaboration.

- Suicide Prevention
 - Be a Positive Light
 - Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri
- Restorative Justice
 - Community Conflict Services

Most Important...

KIDS WIN!





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Progressive Youth Connection
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