

Honors Day Abstract - Abigail Williams

The title of my project is “Bully Prevention in the Classroom: Is What We Offer Our Teachers Good Enough?” The specific topic of research is school bullying. The question I am trying to answer is whether the programs that teachers are provided with to learn how to deal with bullying in their classrooms are effective or not. As well as if they use those strategies taught to them when faced with this problem or if those techniques are only dependable in a perfect scenario. The goal is to provide real teachers' take on the programs and how they have used them in their classrooms. By doing this, I am hoping to find out if the programs are worth it and if not, how they could be changed to be beneficial. To find my answers, I have found my research through numerous academic literature. I have also set up interviews with 24 teachers and administrative staff to hear their opinions on the programs and what they use in their classrooms. My research is still in progress, but with the interviews I have completed so far, it is starting to look like the programs are beneficial. I have only done a small fraction, however, so this could change once I do the rest of the interviews. My initial hypothesis was that the programs would not be beneficial because of how fast-changing a classroom can be and I also thought that teachers would not be interested in the program if it was mandatory. However, this seems to not be the case and I am very interested to see what the rest of the research leads me to as more answers come in and hope to provide more research on this topic.