

Lesson 24



Area: Don't Gossip

Title: **Gossip As Harassment**

Objective: Students will recognize gossip as harassment and develop strategies to handle gossip and rumors.

Materials: "Gossip As Harassment" Scenario Sheet

Activity:

1. Divide students into small groups, preferably 4-7 students each.
2. Choose among the scenarios and hand out one to each small group.
3. In light of their scenario, have students discuss the following:

“If you and your friends are talking about this situation, is it gossip?”

“How can you get yourself out of the discussion?”

“What can you do to put an end to the discussion?”

“Is gossip harassment?”

Closure: Tell the class that gossip can be hurtful. The harm is often unintentional, but is sometimes meant to hurt. Gossip is harassment.



Gossip As Harassment Scenario Sheet

Directions: Cut out the following scenarios on the dotted line. For use with the lesson "Gossip As Harassment".

 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class has a parent in jail.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class is gay.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class gets beat up by their Dad.</p>
 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class is dating a 9th grader.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class is getting drunk and stoned every weekend.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class got a big part in the new play at the Depot.</p>
 <p>You heard from two people that someone in your class has a family member who just won big in the lottery.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that your friend was shoplifting last weekend and was showing off the DVD that she stole.</p>	 <p>You heard from two people that your locker partner cheated on a math test and someone else got blamed.</p>