

Untold Stories Screening Evaluation Results

Nov. 7, 2008

4 peer groups in Waterville from high schools

39 Youth

4 Youth Advisors

Question 1: More aware of the problem of bullying / harassment / peer aggression?

36 Yes

7 No

Question 2: More sensitive to the fact that young people are being hurt and are in pain?

32 Yes

9 Somewhat

2 No

Comments on answer:

- It made me feel sorry for the girls and I put myself in their position and it is not a good feeling
- because it showed real feelings
- because people are inflicting more pain on themselves
- A variety of issues were represented
- I said yes, because it is a serious situation.
- Because you actually see someone go through this through their perspective
- because the issue is vast and alarming and I think we need to come together in unison and help
- because people don't need to be treated poorly
- it shows more of how peoples words can affect others
- I can now see the effects of it and what takes place behind closed doors
- it makes you really think to just say hi to someone who may feel alone, it can make a change
- It is a lot more painful than just the share at school
- I never knew bullying was this much of a problem
- Bully is an awful thing
- because it is not nice to bully other people
- because it hurts me. I was bullied for nine years and I know how they feel.
- This serves as a reminder that this is going on.
- It makes it more powerful to see it portrayed.
- Didn't realize it occurred that often
- It was a good example to open people's eyes.just that it can get very bad and kids go to the extreme
- because I do the same thing that Alex and Jordan do
- because of bullying and harassment
- because I don't like to see people hurt
- because they could get hurt
- because some stuff like this happens at our school
- because I go through this. I used to be one of them so I know people

- because people shouldn't be bullied so I'm not a sensitive person
- It grabs my attention and helps me realize that it is a problem
- It was interesting to watch how badly they were hurt.
- because they are not happy
- Watching the movie opened my eyes and made me realize what people actually go through if they are bullied

Question 3: What were the highlights of the screening for you today? What stuck out?

- because I guess I never realized that girls would go to that extreme! Cutting I mean.
- what the bullies said; how the girls got treated; how it made them feel; the cutting and the vomiting
- the scene with the blood and sick at the end, very powerful - girl speaking at the end awesome
- the crying and the cutting, it showed what some people really do
- Everything was right on as far as issues. The things they said / talked about. It was like every other high school
- How people are hurting themselves even more intentionally thinking it will make them feel better
- The Alex girl and what happened to her
- How she reacted towards the harassment
- The dialogue and scenarios were realistic, and not overdone, giving the film more power. I'm sure it will touch many people, and create awareness.
- the name calling; cyberbullying
- The ending where the Director is speaking
- the painful choice to start cutting yourself; when the director spoke at the end of the film
- how upset the girls were with what others thought of them, they obviously had really low self-esteem
- it was fairly realistic
- The fact that the parents just went in with their children and assumed they were fine, when in fact they need help. Also in the guidance office, I found it very shocking that he did virtually nothing
- when they got bullied in more than one way The girl cutting her wrist - it showed just how much pain she was in internally to resort to that.
- the whole thing
- it was good
- throwing the underwear at Alex
- The fact that so much happens "behind the scenes" away from adult view.
- The hurt bullying causes
- emotion - the toll it takes on someone's mind Course of action taken by the girls being harassed
- The girls struggles from bullying
- the cutting and making yourself throw up and people starting rumors and all of that stuff
- cutting and throwing up and pain from the rumors
- The cutting stuck out
- The fact that the bullying was done by other females as well as males
- It does a good job of portraying the effects of bullying from the victims point of view

- It is a realistic movie the pain and situations that the girls went through is real and does happen.
- The pain the girls went through from being bullied.
- That bullying is a big problem
- The difference between what their problem was but now both girls were hurt so they were alike

Question 4: Please rate the potential usefulness of this movie to raise awareness (on a scale of 1 to 5, 5 being the highest).

14 Five
 22 Four
 6 Three
 1 Two
 0 One

Question 5: Do you have suggestions or input for us? What, if anything, could be done to improve the movie or add to it?

- maybe try and make it more realistic.
- Like some things they say are childish or corny not as mean as it could be
- some things that were said were not as realistic as others
- more background on the two girls. Confused at times of who was who and issues leading up to why they did what they did; certain parts are hard to take serious (acting, etc.)
- I thought it was great. At first I was confused, I didn't realize there were two people
- It was good.
- The beginning was confusing with the two friends splitting up.
- Maybe how it could be fixed Characters were somewhat unclear at times.
- Add more to the story make it long by adding more detail
- you could even add more to the ending, it seemed very short
- it's good as it is
- nothing
- explain how the bully feels
- characters were a bit unclear I thought Sarah was on welfare?? She did not look like she was
- maybe use a boy situation as well as a girls
- It was good
- I think it was gruesome
- I think it was good.
- no, well done
- It was a bit confusing at times to follow which girl is which and what the storyline was.
- I thought the ending was good when they panned to all the kids.
- (show) how they got through some of the hard times
- put some bad influences
- The movie is perfect the way it is - I was almost in tears watching it.
- If someone relates to this what should they do
- more bullying in the beginning. She was sort of stressed over something little.
- I like how the movie was, but some of the people needed more practice in acting

- Better acting and a distinction between the two girls. I got confused.
- better acting

Question 6: Would you recommend this movie to others?

40 Yes

0 No

3 No comment

Comments on answer:

- middle school high school
- MS & HS
- MS & HS
- Yes. My school has these problems and people don't seem to understand the effect it has on people.
- Just middle school because I see it there more
- it's a wake up call because many kids do cut today
- probably not I doubt I would have the guts
- definitely
- because it shows bullying
- quite powerful
- but it does have potential to bring hard feelings / memories / thoughts to past victims.
- very sad but also powerful
- depends on what context
- It was an eye opener
- It's an eye opener

Question 7: In the space below, please share a thought, insight, or experience that we could use to tell others about "Untold Stories"

- It would allow them to feel how some people feel when they are bullied
- It is hard to believe that two beautiful girls were concerned about weight, however peers do have power over their friends so it is good to see that no matter what you look like it can happen to you
- more people are being bullied than people think
- I liked the movie. I know a lot of "Alex" and "Jordan" s
- There is a girl in my school and 3 of my friends harass her every day and I try to tell them it's not right but they don't seem to understand.
- I remember back in middle school there was one person that was always picked on, this movie makes me realize more why these people do what they do to themselves. Now that I know this I know how to help too. I think that "Untold Stories" will be a true eye opener especially for adults who are unaware of these issues.
- It's just something we are so used to seeing that you often forget
- it is very powerful; this stuff happens every day
- powerful message that all should consider viewing
- cutting is a serious problem that needs to be addressed
- other people's words or actions really do stick with people. Even "just kidding" don't mend the wound. I don't think people understand the effect they have on others

- It was the best most well done movie on this subject and kept me interested throughout the whole thing. Thanks so much for sharing
- It shows how serious bullying is
- I get threatened and bullied and pushed in school
- That bullying is not fun because I got bullied for 9 years and still today I am getting bullied.
- this should be shown to every grade 7-12 student in the state of Maine
- very powerful
- I can see that lots of students struggle with bullying. how people cut because they are so depressed because that's what I do. I always do that for my depression.
- I almost started crying.
- How people cut because they are so depressed, because that's what I do when I am depressed
- Constantly told that you are fat so bad that you start to believe it yourself. People say you are ugly so you cover up with make up.
- I have been where these girls are and that just wants to know that there are more and more people being hurt by bullying every day.
- My concern is that some young people may see cutting as a solution or what is expected.
- Well I have been bullied by notes before. Someone took all my notes I had given someone and bullied me by passing them around the school for everyone to read and make fun of.

Other verbal comments post screening:

- boys issues missing
- show it to every middle and high school in Maine at the beginning of each school year
- girl
- would show it at their weekly school meeting which can be extended she will talk to
- Did not like it because it portrayed adults in a very negative way.
- It was intense