

## Author's Comments and Introduction to IS THIS NICE?

*Bullying is a learned behavior.*

Most anti-bullying programs are directed at middle and high-school students; however, by this age, the behavior has been learned, and the damage from this behavior can be irreparable to the victims.

My book, *You Are Too a Bully!* addresses this troubling behavior for elementary school children, using questions at the end of the story to stimulate thought and discussion—both at home and at school.

By demystifying bullying behavior and teaching students what bullying is early in their academic life, this abuse can be prevented. Therefore, it is *most important* to begin working with our youngest students—children in pre-school and early elementary grades—regarding appropriate behavior towards others.

Of course these young children are not “bullies” at this age; however, they can be helped to understand what positive behavior is by introducing them to these, “IS THIS NICE?” questions. These same questions will help them understand, in a non-threatening way, what “not nice” behavior is.

A positive introduction and regular review of these behavioral questions can help prevent the development of bullying behavior in very young children *before* they advance in grade. When they are old enough to read, *You Are Too a Bully!* these students will already understand what bullying is, and will know what to do if it should happen to them.

MaryAnn Milton Butterfield  
Author of Award Winning, *You Are Too a Bully!*  
[www.butterfieldstories.com](http://www.butterfieldstories.com)

