

# #SaveYourVI

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT SCHOOL



## What to do if you are harassed\* (bullied) at school

### Students:

#### HARASSMENT IS NOT YOUR FAULT.

You have a protected right to **feel safe at school.**

It is the right of all students to be free from discrimination from others—other kids or adults—at school.

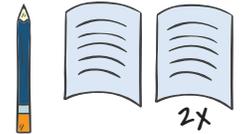


Write it down

1

#### Keep notes, make an incident report

Always make a copy (or write it twice).



Tell someone at home

2

#### Talk to a parent or trusted adult

Tell someone the first time it happens.

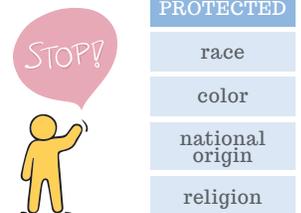


Tell someone at school

3

#### Notify the school administration

about the situation and request, specifically, that they "stop the harassment."



### Parents:

What parents can do (or any adult) if a child reports harassment to you:

**Talk to your student to make sure you have all the details of the incident(s).** Have your student fill out the Campus Climate Check-Up.

#### 1: NOTIFY THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Your student's school is required to initiate an internal grievance procedure upon notice of harassment. You may use their procedure **'AND/OR'** file an OCR complaint to address an inadequate response to your student's complaints.

#### 2: FILE AN OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS (OCR) COMPLAINT

Anyone who believes an act of discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin has occurred against any person or group may file a complaint with OCR under Title VI. The person filing need not be the victim of the alleged discrimination. Complaint letters should explain: who was discriminated against, in what way, by whom, when it took place, who was harmed, and who to contact for more info.

### \*What is harassment?

It's when someone or some people keep saying or doing something to a student even if the student doesn't want them to and has tried to stop it. It's illegal under federal law. Students at any age level have the right not to be harassed.

#### Title VI states that:

"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of **race, color, or national origin**, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."



**Gender is protected under Title IX** and is also under the jurisdiction of the Office for Civil Rights.

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/hq43e4.html>