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Pre-Essay to School Shooters

School violence is varied from a moderate to an extreme level. I consider bullying to be on the moderate side of the scale, but can branch into more extreme aspects. Bullying is beyond just physical and can be sometimes overlooked in schools, even though there is a lot of programs out there to prevent that activity. The more society modernizes, bullying can form into new sections. With the advancement in social media, cyberbullying has gone beyond chatrooms to big outlets like Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc. As hard it is to stop completely, it becomes easy

for students to perform.

In my experience, I had been bullied all throughout elementary and middle school. The form of bullying was mostly verbal, but sometimes physical. In my Elementary years, The bullying was more so physical with verbal segments. At that time it insisted of pushing and shoving each other with name calling. I was a larger sized child, so weight was an issue. The bullying was almost always about a physical appearance aspect but it consisted of things of mostly, “You are fat” or “You are ugly”. As we got older it subsided, but the form switched. Middle School was always about popularity. As a student, it was one of the defining times of ourselves before entering High School. Verbal bullying was constant if you messed with the wrong person. We knew if things got physical, the time was short lived before adult involvement. The topics of the bullying were consistent in appearance and attributes, but the vulgarity was increased. By High School, In my experience, bullying was not a priority like it used to be. Students would just stick to their friend groups and worry about assignments for classes. Not to say that it did not take place, at that age, it was beyond most to stoop to that level.

On the extreme side of school violence, I had labelled school shootings. Within the past few years, it seemed like there was a spike in these acts to alleviate pain from former students. From the news putting light on the topic over the past four years, it puts the “shooter” for lack of a better term in the light of a mentally challenged individual with a history of torment. It has caused a rise in younger generations to become more involved in politics and have a louder voice than in the past. In my sophomore year of High School, there were two students, a sophomore and a senior, who had implemented a plan to have my High School on the next school shooting statistics. The school found out about the plot a week before the students were going to put it into action. The senior was caught a day after the school found out, and the sophomore was caught a day before he was going to partake without his partner. To say that was scary was an understatement.

All of what I had experienced and what the media covers is the extent of my knowledge of bullying. I am aware that the media is not the best form of knowledge of clear cut facts, but it is a good resource to become aware and do further research. I believe that the smaller forms of bullying are a leading cause in the more advanced, extreme notions of school violence. Most schools do not have the proper resources to handle school violence. Between gun laws and measures schools are considering to prevent these actions is just not enough. No matter the time is put into preventing this, it will happen one way or another if change is not in full force.