

BRNET April 2012 Newsletter

Dear BRNET Members:

Thank you for being a part of the Bullying Research Network. Below you will find recent updates from BRNET. Be sure to check our website at <http://brnet.unl.edu>.

BRNET 2012 Think Tank

Our second annual Bullying Research Network Think Tank will be held on June 21-22 at the University of Virginia. All BRNET members are invited to join us as we bring together many of the top researchers, educators, and policy makers in our field. This year, our focus will be on positive youth development. Information on travel, lodging, scheduling, and more can be found on the BRNET 2012 Think Tank website at <http://cehs15.unl.edu/cms/index.php?s=2&p=175>. Please read this information and let us know if you have any questions. If you plan to attend the Think Tank, please **RSVP** by emailing **Crystal Haislip at chaislip@virginia.edu**. We hope to see you in Virginia in June!

Save the Date for an Upcoming Bullying Conference in Virginia

Save the Date for the upcoming "Bullying Prevention in the Promotion of a Positive School Climate: Effective Principles and Practices" conference! The conference will be held in Charlottesville, Virginia on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, and will precede the BRNET Think Tank. Several BRNET speakers, including Drs. Catherine Bradshaw, Dorothy Espelage, Susan Limber, Susan Swearer, and Dewey Cornell will be speaking.

Recently Released National Association of School Psychologists Position Statement

In February 2012, the National Association of School Psychologists Delegate Assembly approved the position statement on Bullying Prevention and Intervention in Schools. BRNET member, Dr. Susan Swearer, was one of the co-authors on the NASP position statement. It is [attached here](#) and you can find the link on the [NASP website](#).

What Can Schools Do About Causes of Bullying?

Dr. Ken Rigby has recently authored a new article appearing in *Pastoral Care in Education* entitled "What can schools do about causes of bullying?" The reference and abstract are below. Interested readers can contact Dr. Rigby for copies of the article.

Reference: Rigby, K. (2011). What can schools do about causes of bullying? *Pastoral Care in Education*, 29, 273-285.

Abstract: Reports from schoolchildren across a range of countries indicate that interventions by teachers in cases of bullying are commonly unsuccessful, especially with older students. This article provides a brief description and critical examination of six major intervention strategies employed in schools and points to the need for better training of teachers in this area and the development of judgment about which methods to employ in particular cases.

Additionally, Dr. Rigby has recently authored two separate books. More information on his work can be found at www.kenrigby.net

1. Ken Rigby (2010). *Bullying interventions in schools: six basic approaches*. Camberwell: Australian Council for Educational Research

Drawing on research evidence in a range of countries this book addresses the urgent need for improving the effectiveness of school interventions in cases of bullying. It critically examines six major intervention methods: the traditional disciplinary approach; strengthening the victim; mediation; restorative practice; the support group method; and the method of shared concern and advises on their appropriateness in different situations.

2. Ken Rigby (2011). *The Method of Shared Concern: a positive approach to bullying in schools*. Camberwell: Australian Council for Educational Research.

This book examines in detail the Method of Shared Concern, a non-punitive approach to addressing bullying in which there is significant group involvement. It presents and appraises the research evidence available from different countries regarding its effectiveness, and discusses how it can be applied by trained practitioners in selected cases of bullying.

BRNET Goal #5: To close the gap between research and practice in bullying prevention and intervention by disseminating research findings through unique outlets.

BRNET members, Drs. Shelley Hymel, Amanda Nickerson, and Susan Swearer recently co-edited the 3rd edition of "Bullying @ School and Online" on Education.com (www.education.com). Many BRNET members contributed articles to this translational research effort. As part of the launch of the 3rd edition, BRNET member Amanda Nickerson participated on a panel (with a parent, school counselor, and school principal) for a town hall meeting at the National Association of Elementary School Principals conference in Seattle on March 22 in her role as an Education.com expert. After viewing the trailer for the newly released "Bully" documentary, the panel focused on using the movie as an opportunity to engage in

conversation about how the entire community can work together to create a culture of kindness, respect and inclusion in the schools, and to respond consistently and effectively when bullying incidents occur. Nickerson directs the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention at the University at Buffalo, SUNY's Graduate School of Education (gse.buffalo.edu/alberticenter), which focuses on reducing bullying abuse in schools by contributing knowledge and providing research-based tools to actively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. BRNET members Susan Swearer, Dorothy Espelage, Dewey Cornell, Debra Pepler, and Jamie Ostrov serve on the Advisory Council for the Alberti Center.

Thank you for your involvement in the Bullying Research Network! If you have any news, information, research, suggestions for new members, or other materials that our members would find useful, please do not hesitate to email us at bullyresearchnet@gmail.com.

Most sincerely,



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