

# Bullying & People with Disabilities

Andy Arias

# Background

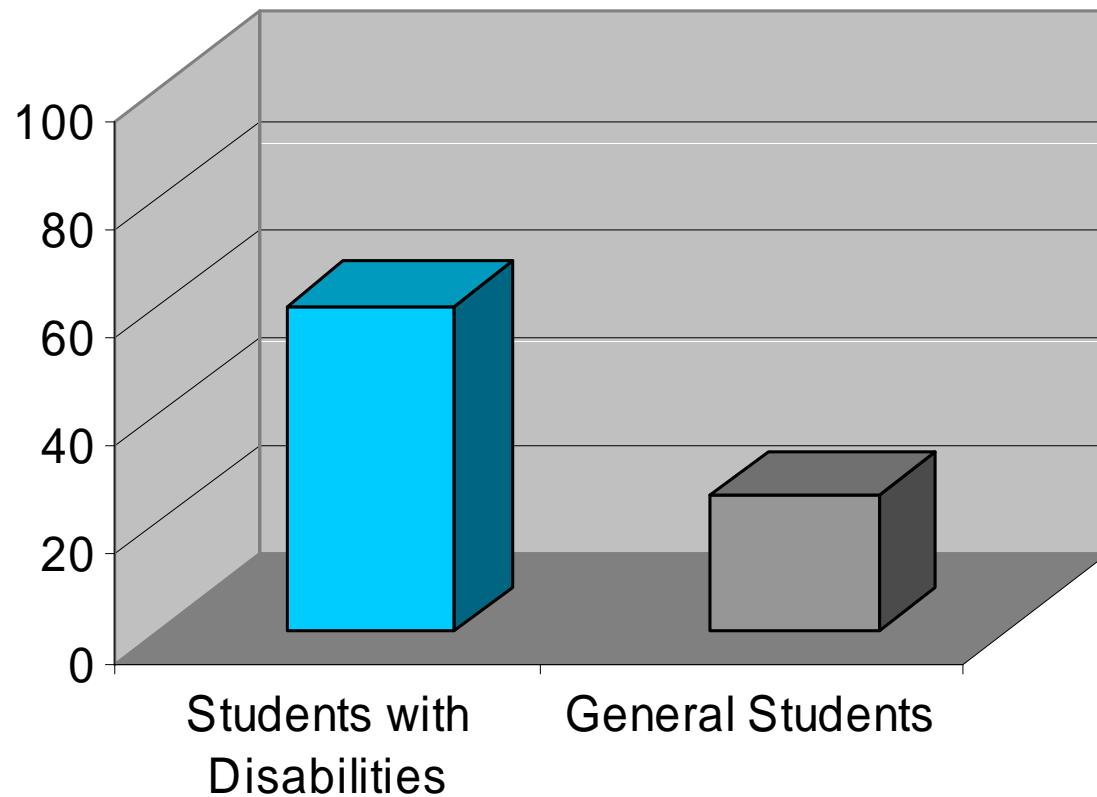
- Historically and constantly occurring, but often ignored
- Bullies are often students or peers
- Victims:
  - Usually shy, sad, weak, and helpless
  - Experience emotional trauma

# Background

- Where?
  - Public
    - School, work, stores, etc...
  - Home
    - Siblings
  - Online
    - Social networking sites, YouTube, etc...
  - Many more

# Background – Statistics

**Percent of Student Population Bullied**



# Story 1

- Victim: Autistic Grade-school student
- Issue: Bullied since kindergarten and has elevated to sexual harassment. Nothing has been done by the school, but the family is fighting against the school district in court.
- Resolved: Currently ongoing

# Story 1



# Story 2

- Victim: 13 year old boy with special needs
- Issue: Peers created a “hate group” on Facebook directed at the victim.
- Resolved: Page deleted, creator found and punished, victim no longer attends that school

# Story 2





# Story 3

- Victim: Autistic Child
- Issue: Classmates took his things, spit in his food and called him names.
- Resolved: He is now deceased, but the school is now more aware

# Story 3



# My Story

- Everyone has been touched by bullying in one way or another I know I've been touched by it. Everyone jokes about their high school experience and how bad it was for them. My High school experience was extremely turbulent. I jumped from one group of friends to another trying to find where I would fit in. I struggled to find a group of people who would care for me the way that I care for most people. I was on the high school student council thinking that this would make a part of the in crowd that I desperately wanted to belong.

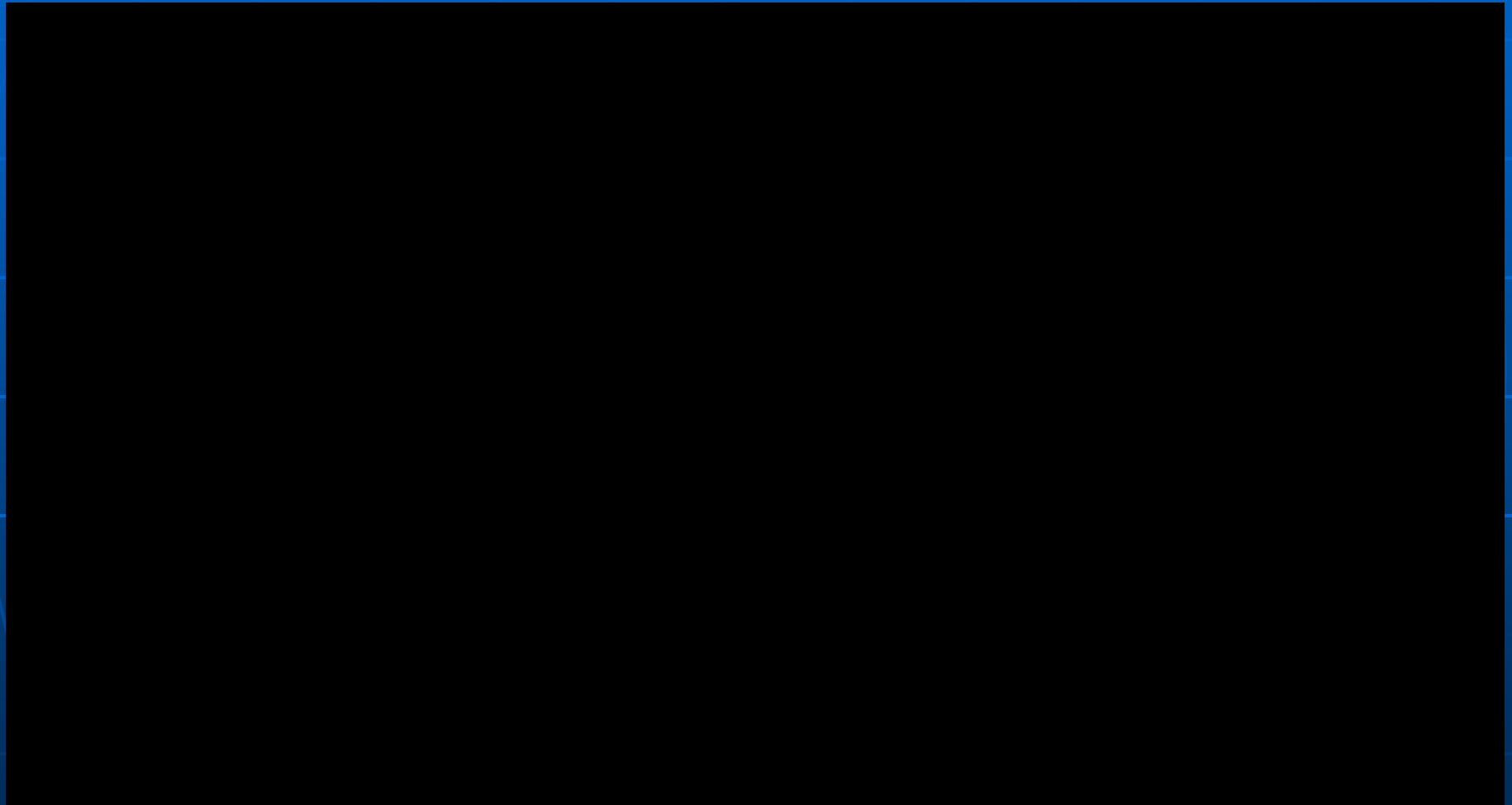
# My Story

- I threw myself into every activity and did everything for everybody that wanted me to do it. I thought I had a great best friend in high school, but during one of our events, he poured chocolate milk all over me in front of the whole school. I rolled around the whole day covered in chocolate milk. I could not do anything because I was stuck at school. The saddest part about this story is that I stayed friend with this person because I had no self worth at the time. There were no positive disabled people to look up to so I was constantly berated about my disability. Looking at my life now I feel completely blessed and would like to share this story with anyone.

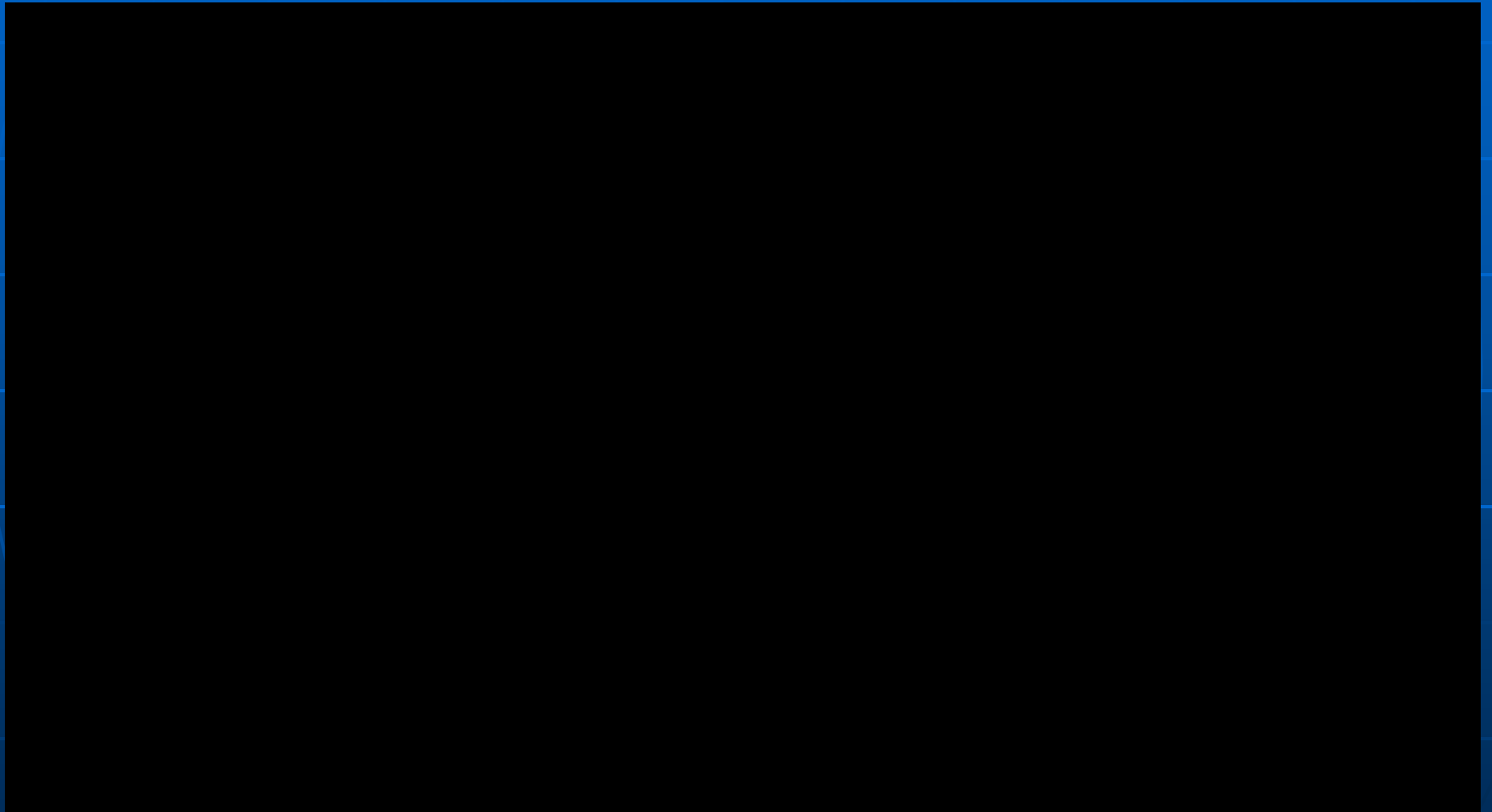
# My Story

- What I wish for is that people get educated about disabled people. Someday young disabled people can look up to you. Disabled education needs to be taught in schools not only for the value to disabled young person's but for all people. Bullying has adverse long term effects.

# Educational Video



# Prevention and Solutions: Teaching Disability History



# Sources

- [http://www.abilitypath.org/areas-of-development/learning--schools/bullying/articles/bullying-special-needs-parent-testimonials\\_02.html](http://www.abilitypath.org/areas-of-development/learning--schools/bullying/articles/bullying-special-needs-parent-testimonials_02.html)
- <http://community.abilitypath.org/>
- <http://www.abilitypath.org/areas-of-development/learning--schools/bullying/articles/bullying-report-summary.pdf>
- <http://www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.asp?id=1332>