

A Case of Bullying

ROLE CARD 4 - Teacher

Background information

Sixteen-year-old James Donovan was regularly beaten up at school by his class mate Robert Mwuwu . A number of other students knew about it, some even watched. Robert, a coloured boy with an immigrant background, afterwards said that James had provoked him numerous times by teasing him and giving him insulting nicknames.

James got so scared to go to school that he faked illness even to his doctor in order to be allowed to stay at home. He thought he had been attacked because Robert envied him his brand clothes and his expensive electronic gadgets.

The form teacher knew about the beatings, however he said he hadn't been trained to handle violent, abusive, disruptive pupils. He hoped the boys would sort it out themselves. He was usually sitting in another room while the student was being tortured.

At last the headmaster was informed and now he has organized a meeting where the victim, the aggressor, the teacher, the headmaster are present. The aim of the meeting is to find out exactly what happened, to find a suitable punishment for the student as well as suggestions on how to proceed in the future.

TEACHER MR CRAMMER

- Introduce yourself.
- Explain how you heard about the goings-on in your class.
- Explain the reasons why you didn't react.
- What are in your opinion the reasons why the beatings took place.
- Suggest what in your eyes is the best procedure for the future.