

Bullying Persuasive Speech

I can't imagine the feeling that boy's mom had when she opened the door to his room. Peyton James was only getting his start in life. As a mere teenager, this funny, kind, and quirky boy had hung himself. The cause? Bullying. The reason? Something as trivial as the color of his teeth. Things like this aren't supposed to happen. A life could have been spared. Why wasn't it? Again, bullying.

Bullying, to me, is when an individual, almost always having lots of power or strength, repeatedly cuts down or picks on someone, verbally or physically. Bullying can occur in any setting, including social media. It can happen because of peer pressure or because the bully feels insecure about themselves.

Now let's come back to Peyton. He was born very early, and because of that and a lack of oxygen, his teeth were extremely discolored. Kids would pick on him, call him names, and ask him things like, "Why don't you brush your teeth?" Things like this violate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to have a full and happy life just because they're human. But this didn't happen for Peyton. Eventually, the bullying got worse and worse, and one day his mom found him in his room, dead. There was nothing she could do.

What could I have done? I wish that I could have just had a chance to ask Peyton some questions. We don't know when he made the choice to hang himself, or who put this idea in his mind. If I had just gotten a chance to know what was going through his mind at that time, there would have been so many ways to save that boy's life.

This story about Peyton is one of many. Bullying leading to suicide is the highest cause of death in Peyton's age group. The worst decision he made was to keep to himself. If he had just told someone he trusted—anyone he trusted—he might have been alive and well today.

So what can we do to prevent bullying in the first place? The best way to prevent bullying is to stop it before it even begins. Always remember to be kind to everyone around you and keep the Golden Rule in mind. You don't know what might be going on at home that causes someone to act a certain way. You don't know if someone is suffering inside.

So why bully? Think of one good reason. To get back at someone? To prove something to your friends? Is that how you would want to be remembered? The person who caused someone to commit suicide just because you were being ignorant and selfish?

I'll ask just one thing: Think before you act. Save a life before you try to save your reputation. Kids are dying—65 thousand kids a year. Is that how you would want to end your life? Of course not! So take a stand. Stop bullying.