

HE CALLS HER
 HE CALLS HER 50 TIMES A DAY

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GOOD RELATIONSHIP AND A BAD ONE. SPEAK UP AGAINST ABUSE.

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SHE TAKES HER OUT
 SHE TAKES IT OUT ON HER

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GOOD RELATIONSHIP AND A BAD ONE. SPEAK UP AGAINST ABUSE.

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HE THINKS OF HER
 HE THINKS OF HER AS HIS PROPERTY

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HE HITS ON GIRLS
 HE HITS GIRLS

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SHIFTING BOUNDARIES:

Lessons on Relationships for Students in Middle School

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What is a Boundary?



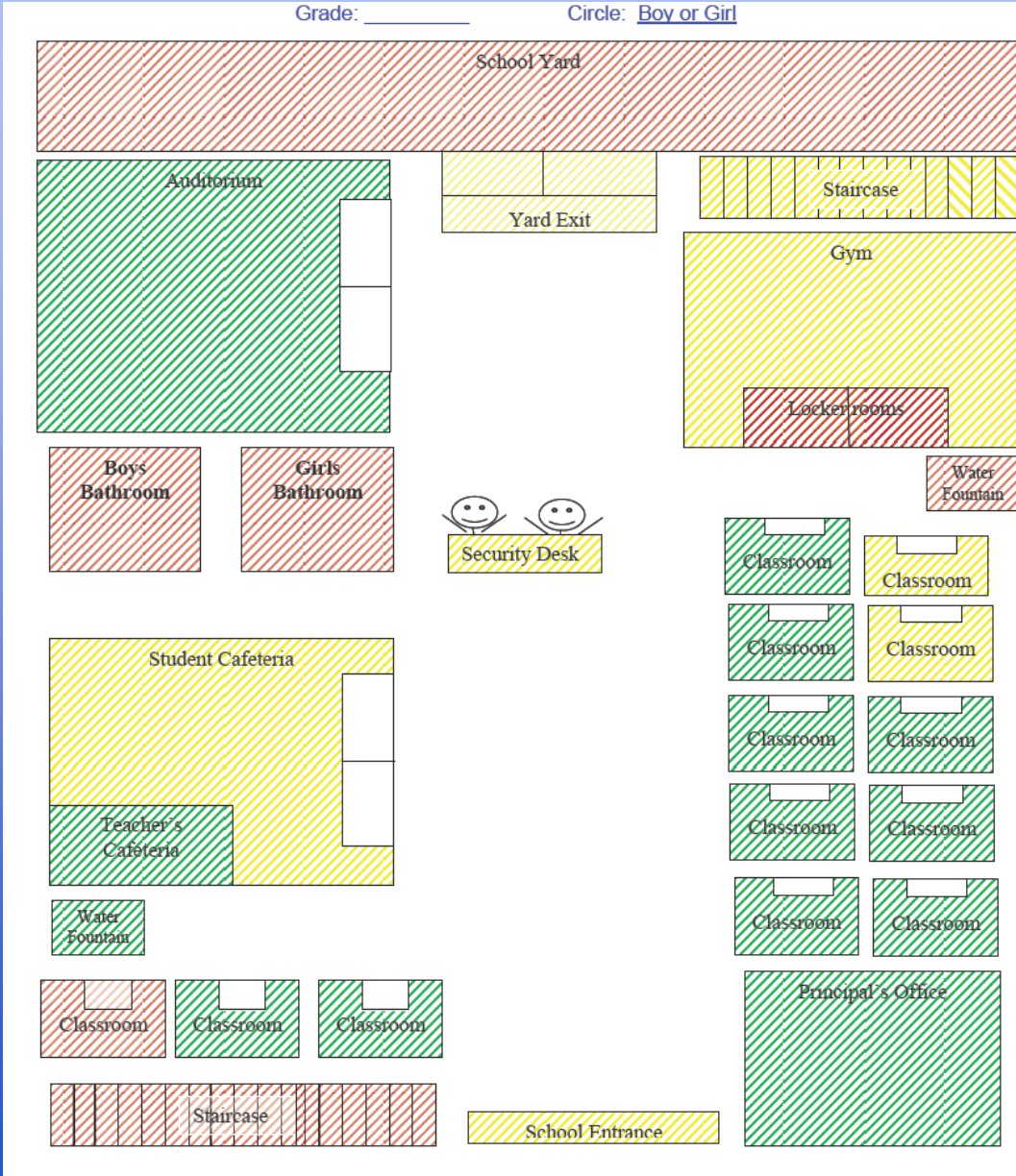
All nations have a boundary line that one must have permission to cross.

Boundaries range from the personal to the geo-political. Nations have a boundary line that one must have permission to cross. Laws and rules serve as boundaries that ensure that people do not engage in certain behaviors before they reach a certain age (e.g. drinking alcohol, seeing R-rated movies, etc). Additionally, laws and rules establish a standard threshold for certain privileges (e.g. voting, getting a driver's license, entering into a legal contract). People have boundaries too, and determining other people's boundaries often takes some time to figure out. Personal boundaries aren't fixed, but can differ depending on the situation, so they are harder to figure out than a state or legal boundaries. Some people, for instance, don't like when others stand too close to them; other people don't mind. Certain kinds of language (e.g. vulgar or lewd language), especially when directed at someone, can violate a person's personal boundaries.

What is a Boundary?

1. What are boundaries in this school? In this classroom?
2. How do other people set boundaries for you?
3. What boundaries have your parents set for you?
4. How do you recognize when you have crossed a boundary? What may happen?
5. Are boundaries the same for boys? For girls?
6. What are some behaviors that kids legally cannot do because of their age?
7. What boundaries do you have for yourself?
8. How do you respond if your boundaries are crossed?
9. How do other people know your personal boundaries?
10. Do you feel you are in control of your boundaries?

Sample Blueprint of Safe and Unsafe Spaces



Mapping Discussion

Discussion questions:

1. Which areas on your map do you consider “cool” locations, places that are safe and welcoming?
2. Which areas on your map do you consider “hot” or unsafe, or do you try to avoid?
3. Might certain locations be considered “cool” by some people but “hot” by others?
 - If yes, which? Why might that happen?
4. Might the “hot or coolness” of certain areas differ depending on your gender? If so, why?
5. Might the “hot or coolness” of certain areas differ depending on your age and grade? If so, why?
6. Might the “hot or coolness” of certain areas differ depending on your physical size? If so, why?
7. What are other reasons certain areas may be labeled as “hot” or “cool”?
8. What can we as students do to make the problem areas safer and more welcoming? How can we feel safer and more comfortable at school?
9. In what ways could the school staff make the problem areas “cooler”?

Big Deal or No Big Deal?

Read each of the listed behaviors and decide if you think they are **no big deal**, **against school rules** or **against the law** when they occur with all males, all females, females to males, and males to females among people your own age. Circle your response.

| | Males to Males | Females to Females | Females to Males | Males to Females |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Calling someone a swear word | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 2. Mocking someone's appearance | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 3. Calling someone "gay" or "fag" as a put-down | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 4. Calling someone a "slut" or "ho" | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 5. Calling someone a "b*tch" | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 6. Making fun of someone's private parts | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 7. Grabbing butts | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 8. Groping the chest | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 9. "Pants-ing" (pulling down someone else's pants) | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 10. Slamming someone against a locker | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 11. Having sex when both people are 14 years old | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 12. Having sex when one person is 14 years old and the other is 18 years old | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |
| 13. Spreading sexual rumors by texting or the internet | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law | No big deal Against school rules Against the law |

SAYS WHO? A QUESTIONNAIRE



Read each statement.



Check "A" if you agree with the statement.



Check "D" if you disagree with the statement.

A D

1. Boys cannot be sexually harassed by girls.

2. If a girl wears a short skirt or tight jeans, she is asking for sexual attention.

3. If no one else sees me being harassed, there's nothing I can do because the harasser will just say I'm lying.

4. If I've flirted with this person in the past, then I have to be okay with them flirting and more with me.

5. Girls cannot sexually harass other girls.

6. Boys are sexually harassed just as often as girls.

A D

7. If you ignore sexual harassment, more than likely it will stop.

8. A boy who claims he has been sexually harassed is a nerd, wimp, sissy, or "wuss."

9. Writing dirty things about someone on a bathroom wall or in a text or email at school is sexual harassment.

A D

10. When a girl says "no," she really means "yes" or "maybe" or "later."

11. If a girl says she is being sexually harassed and the boy says he is only fooling, then it's not sexual harassment.

12. Sexual harassment isn't a serious problem in school since it only affects a few people.



HE PAYS ATTENTION TO HER

HE PAYS ATTENTION TO HER EVERY MOVE

see and speak up

SHE TAKES HER OUT

SHE TAKES IT OUT ON HER

see and speak up

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