

National Day of Action not the way to stop bullying

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YOUR SAY: [READING the article by Tobi Loftus, Standing up to bullies \(TC 17/3\)](#), I was both perplexed and annoyed by the message the powers-that-be are trying to convey to people and their covert attempts to indoctrinate naive children.

Ok, so the national day of action might have been a feel-good moment for many, but it was by no means a clear watershed in the fight against bullying.

Many must wonder who comes up with these braindead notions and ideas that people power (lest of all children) can change anything and everything?

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Have any of these dogooders experienced the realities of being bullied?

I was bullied incessantly for many years; I know what I am talking about.

Bullies are nefarious individuals hell-bent on taunting, harassing, and badgering their victims with physical violence and online intimidation, coupled with verbal and emotional abuse in order to diminish the dignity and self-esteem of their victims so as to hurt and isolate them.

"Positive messages written in chalk on the ground and wearing orange." How is that going to restrain a bully from doing his best at doing the worst to some poor person targeted for no other reason than he or she is different in some way?

It should not be the responsibility of children to have to shoulder the obligation of dealing with bullies and bullying, that responsibility rests squarely at the feet of parents, teachers, and ultimately governments to identify and publicly discipline the perpetrators.

Many forget, can't understand, or simply don't appreciate that the effects of bullying last a lifetime.

The effects of bullying shape a person and define a victim for life.

The only result of such feel-good programs is that they will be cause for bullies to be more tenacious, crafty and clandestine in their insidious actions: whispering abuse when none other is looking; a punch from behind in a crowded bus; a smack in the

head on the stairs; a trip-up in a crowd; well-timed ridicule and sarcastic belittlement; deliberate exclusion from group and team events; the list is endless.

Proactive and public discipline targeting individual bullies is the only answer to this social crisis.

Bring back corporeal punishment.

George W Helon, Toowoomba