

HANDOUT: DEFUSING SCHOOL VIOLENCE

What Do We Do Now?

After students reported on their one-to-one dialogues, they knew something had to be done. But what? They brainstormed and came up with the following list of possibilities:

1. Getting (or increasing the number of) police at the school
2. Educating teachers about how to break up fights
3. Holding anti-bullying workshops for students
4. Having students talk to their peers and tell them to stop it
5. Having more severe punishments for students who start fights and get into them
6. _____
7. _____

With your group, see if you can come up with any more possible actions. Add them to the list. Then use the following questions to guide a discussion among group members.

1. Use the following T-chart to identify the benefits and drawbacks of each possible solution. Some questions to help you:

- Do you think the solution will be effective? Why or why not?
- How long will it take for the solution to be implemented?
- Who will need to approve the solution—Students? Parents? Teachers? School administrators? School board members?
- Will the solution be expensive to implement?

SOLUTION	BENEFITS	DRAWBACKS
1 Getting (or increasing the number of) police at the school		

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MIDDLE & UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

SOLUTION	BENEFITS	DRAWBACKS
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

2. Now study your chart with your group members. Rank the options. Which option would you recommend first? Which would you recommend second? Continue down the list until you've ranked all the options.