

Name _____

Silent Struggles: Understanding Why Some Kids Don't Tell Adults About Bullying

Short Answer Key

1. "Fear of retaliation" refers to the concern that if a child reports bullying to adults, the bullies may react aggressively or harmfully in response. The child worries that reporting will lead to further harassment, making the situation worse.
2. Peer pressure can influence a child's decision not to report bullying by creating a social dynamic where reporting is discouraged. Children may fear that reporting will disrupt their relationships within their peer group, leading to exclusion or isolation.
3. Schools and parents can create a safe and trusting environment by fostering open communication, actively listening to children's concerns, providing anonymous reporting options, implementing anti-bullying programs, and consistently addressing reported incidents with care and sensitivity.
4. A child's decision not to report bullying and endure it silently can have various consequences, including prolonged emotional distress, decreased self-esteem, physical harm in some cases, and a perpetuation of the bullying behavior.
5. Answers will vary based on personal experiences and observations. The outcome and impact of the child's decision not to report bullying should be discussed in relation to the specific situation described.

