

## Foreword

In the age of globalization, national interdependence has brought issues of bullying and the value of human life to the forefront of social discussion and policy. Indiana University Office of Community and School Partnerships have invited Shawn Woods onto the Indiana University campus on several occasions due to his skills as a speaker, his ability to relate to people, and the positive message of his platform. Shawn was the guest speaker for **Moving beyond Fear: Anti-bullying Awareness Day**, which concentrates its focus on the scourge of bullying, and its proven mortal consequences. Shawn received a proclamation from the city of Bloomington Mayor's office proclaiming, April 1, 2012 Anti Bullying Awareness Day in Bloomington, Indiana. The day brought together high and middle school students, parents, staff, administrators and city officials from the surrounding Bloomington community to address issues facing bullying. He was well received by the audience. Shawn disarmed the apprehensions of most audience members by maintaining a constant conversation with them. He was able to establish a rapport with the audience allowing him to delve into the varied issues affecting the participants. His program provided a platform for substantive expression, and offered up solutions to the identified problems. Shawn seeks to promote world peace by raising awareness about bullying between individuals. The levels of analysis entail the use of fear, coercion, and intimidation that together play a role in undermining security, while eroding freedom.

In this book, Shawn Wood is splendidly detailed. He raises awareness about how individuals, institutions and entire nations will need to transform their violent and destructive thoughts and behavior so that they may overcome the current global impasse and usher in a future of peace and hope. As everyone is affected by bullying, it's only appropriate to extend a standing, worldwide invitation to help support Anti-bullying. Individuals need to learn how to foster dialogue as a means of problem solving and solution building.

I myself found that some pages brought to life stories of people searching for meaning. By reading Shawn's book you will learn about some of life fascinating stories of people searching for new insights, new ideas, and new interpretations on what it means to be bullied and how to combat bullying with positive interactions. This book will make a difference in the way people treat students, adults and seniors. Shawn's book brings out the fact that in an increasingly interdependent world, we share responsibility for the security of all human beings. Conflict and mistrust between communities, crime, domestic violence and abuse – even the biting comment are all part of the larger culture of violence. The broad base of the pyramid is the silent violence of apathy – our willingness to live comfortably while ignoring the reality that others are in pain.

This book should make a difference in the way you view bullying. It will teach us how to view our challenges and rise above the violence. Always remain confident in your ability to prevail over any bullying situation. You will read about the personal anecdotes, research and interviews with people whom experience bullying first hand. Shawn brings some underlying issues to the forefront. He teaches the best ways to interact with people so that they empower them rather than limit them through seemingly harmless acts. Shawn provides tools, and ideas to help combat ignorance and cultural

incongruence in order to help foster an atmosphere that promotes, and nurtures peace. You will learn that when obstacles arise we must also create opportunities to help circumvent them.

No matter how insurmountable a situation may seem, Shawn urge you to hold your head high and remind yourself that nothing can hinder you or take your joy away, unless you give them that power. Forward step by step, encourage and support one another to win over bullying. Remember you all are most prized treasures and gifts to the world. Let's not let BULLYING stand in the way.

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