

Name: _____

Red Light: Tricky Situations

Bullying is not just a problem between the person bullying and the person being bullied—it is a problem that unfolds in a peer group. Students who witness bullying may feel uncomfortable but not know what to do. They may be drawn into the event and into bullying. Students who don't do anything (for example, just watching) may be letting the person bullying think they approve of this behavior, when really they don't.

What would you do if you were caught in a tricky situation with a friend? Sometimes friends put pressure on you without really thinking about your feelings. These situations can be very difficult to deal with. Look at the situations below. How could you address these problems and still try to maintain a friendship with these people?

1. Your friend starts behaving toward others in a way that bothers you by harassing one of the other students in your group and trying to get you to do the same.

2. You find out your friend has been spreading stories about you online that aren't true but are based on things you told your friend in confidence.

3. One of your friends wants to spend more time with you than you are comfortable with. You like this person, but you want to be able to spend time with other people too.

4. Two friends of yours are having problems with each other. They are putting you in a difficult position by trying to make you choose a side. You don't want to lose either friend.
