



## Every student deserves to be safe in school

No one should be harassed or bullied. No one should fear walking through the halls. But it happens...Establishing strong anti-harassment policies and procedures sends the message that bullying is unacceptable. The Dignity in All Schools Act (DASA) is a law that, if implemented, would prohibit harassment, making schools more accountable and allowing students to reach their fullest potential.

### A little history...

Mayor Bloomberg refuses to implement DASA. The bill was passed by the City Council in 2004 and vetoed by Bloomberg immediately after. DASA was then re-passed with an overwhelming majority in the Council. Bloomberg's unwillingness to implement this law has real dangerous consequences to the lives of young people in New York City.

# Dignity

\dig-n?-te\ 1: the quality or state of being worthy, honored, or esteemed

## what we're gonna do:

The New York Civil Liberties Union is writing a report on Mayor Bloomberg's denial of DASA and the effect it has on NYC students. It will include stories from young people who have faced harassment and bullying in their schools. Youth narratives are integral to put pressure on Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Joel Klein to show them the danger of ignoring such an important law.

**Nationally 65 percent of teens have been harassed or assaulted during the past year because of their appearance or their perceived or actual gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, disability, gender expression, or religion.**

# DASA

a guide to the dignity in all schools act

## How you can help?

I bet you have seen harassment take place in your school. Maybe it happened to you, maybe to a friend of yours. We need your help! We are asking you to share your story with us.

Tell us about what harassment or bullying is like in your school.

- **How does it affect you?**
- **Have you ever experienced it personally?**
- **Did you see it happening?**
- **Did it affect your grades or ability to focus?**
- **Were teachers responsive when they saw or heard about it?**

## Contact:

Please send any stories, narratives or questions to Erica Braudy at [ebraudy@nyclu.org](mailto:ebraudy@nyclu.org) or 125 Broad St, 19th Floor NY, NY 10004. Phone: 212.607.3361.  
[myspace.com/nyclu](http://myspace.com/nyclu) Check out our Facebook group



**NYCLU**  
NEW YORK CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

*The NYCLU fights for civil liberties & civil rights through a multi-layered program of litigation, advocacy, public education, and community organizing. We have a growing network of over 48,000 members statewide.*

# DASA

a guide to the dignity in all schools act