

# Eight Reasons Why the Safe Schools Coalition Offers These Workshops

1. Because every child is *entitled* to equal opportunity to learn, in an emotionally and physically safe place.
2. Because children come from diverse kinds of families and have diverse orientations and identities ... and public schools are supposed to serve them all.
3. Because learning can only take place when the teacher and the student feel respected and secure.
4. Because anti-gay harassment and violence make schools unsafe for *everybody*, gay and straight.
5. Because many incidents never come to the attention of the school and it's time we understood what students (faculty, parents) experience.
6. Because schools cannot address what they do not know is happening.
7. Because once we know that harassment is happening, we can educate. Only education can prevent harassment; rules are not enough.
8. Because we cannot educate without tools. We need tools with which to prevent harassment, respond to it, recover from it ... and allies in the larger community to support our efforts. We *are* a village. We *can* be there for every child. Together.