

MYLCNOTES

October 21, 2011

MYLC's hallway activity to raise awareness of bullying.

Stamford High
October 21,
2011



“It Takes Guts.”

MYLC's bullying campaign continues

“The courage shown by these students is humbling, their example inspiring. More important, their action...could actually help change our culture.

Think about it - what better way to diffuse a bully's power than to simply take away his or her ammunition? Owning your insecurity makes it tough for someone else to use it against you. The trick is having the guts

to do it.” (Students Next T-Shirts Should Read ‘I’ve Got Guts’, Editorial, Stamford Advocate, October 21, 2011)

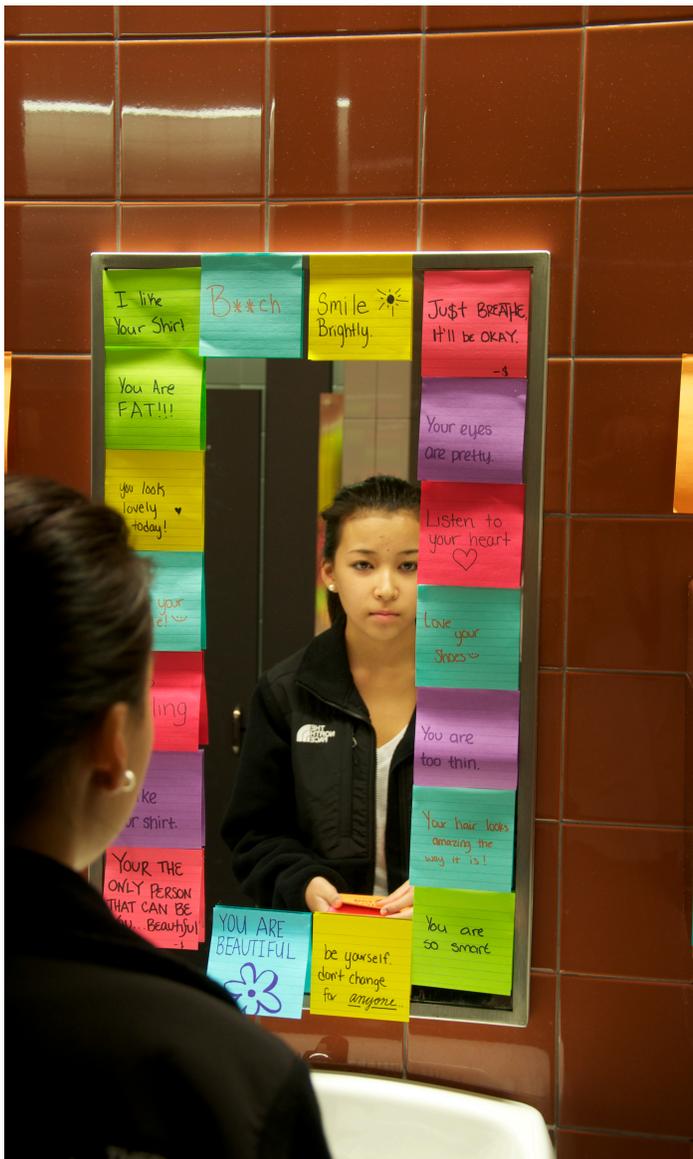
Excerpt from an editorial about MYLC's t-shirt bullying project .

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Members of the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council are always looking for unique ways to raise awareness of bullying and

dating violence. Last week they held signs during hallway demonstrations and plastered post-it notes all over the mirrors of a student bathroom.

“Are you a bully?” was the hallway sign that got the most negative attention. Lots of students joked out loud - “Look at me, I’m a bully. I just



MYLC's bullying activities at Stamford High included the Post It Notes Project and hallway demonstrations.

In the photo on the left, Holly Matura of MYLC checks out one of several bathroom mirrors we plastered with notes about bullying.

In the photo below, Melissa Sigua and other members of MYLC hold signs during passing time between periods 2-3.

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bullied someone.” Other comments were less than appropriate. “I think we have a long way to go to change people’s thinking about bullying,” said Patricia Villanueva, one of the sign holders.

The sign that got the most positive attention read, “Hey Mary, I’m so sorry for bullying you in middle school. Can you forgive me?” Maybe the sign resonated with people because they are bullies, or because they were bullied. Whatever the reason, people are talking, which is one of

the first steps in changing attitudes. To that end, MYLC will apply its “no more secrets” campaign to bullying. Adopted three years ago in support of MYLC’s dating violence prevention initiative, the campaign looks to remove the stigma associated with deeply personal issues; issues that a lot of people - regardless of race, gender or social status - experience. We will keep you posted.

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