

Operation RESPECT

Operation Respect

Operation Respect is a non-profit organization working to transform the climate of schools, summer-camps and other such organizations into ones that provide children and youth a compassionate, safe and respectful environment; one that encourages their growth into productive, caring, contributing adult members of society. Founded by Peter Yarrow of the folk group Peter, Paul & Mary, the organization provides advocacy and inspiration for leaders, administrators and practitioners in various arenas of policy and practice, helping to advance the healthy, positive, development of children and youth.

“Don’t Laugh at Me” Program

Operation Respect also offers its own program, “Don’t Laugh At Me” (DLAM), available free of charge, courtesy of The McGraw Hill Companies, that provides effective introductory strategies for creating positive transformational change. DLAM combines with other programs of a similar perspective, incorporating unique elements of music and the arts to reach and open the hearts of adults and children, creating a strong sense of community that is essential to the successful pursuit of such work.

DLAM program offerings include assemblies for the entire school, professional development workshops for teacher and counselors, workshops for parents and classroom curricula. Beyond reducing ridicule, bullying and physical violence, program strategies help to transform the school environment into ones that are powerfully supportive of the academic growth and progress of children and youth; environments that can fully support their health and welfare and happiness.

The DLAM Curricula

Operation Respect developed specific curricula for elementary schools, middle schools, summer camps and other youth-serving organizations. The curricula include lessons and exercises that help students express their feelings, help them become more caring, compassionate and cooperative in their relationships with others, resolve conflicts peacefully and creatively, value and appreciate diversity, value one-another for their intrinsic selves, and for their contributions to the class, school, and service to the community. The curricula also encourages classrooms and the schools to establish themselves as “ridicule free zones” in which the staff, faculty, students and parents share a common commitment to treat each other with respect and compassion.

Professional Development

Transforming the culture of a classroom and school takes time, patience, sustained effort, and support. Operation Respect provides exceptional professional development opportunities to support ongoing program implementation. Our goal is to equip teachers, school counselors, principals, and other educators with the necessary skills and confidence to launch, and sustain, the program successfully.

Operation Respect offers professional development workshops and staff development opportunities to provide: an introduction to the background, need, scope, and pedagogy of the DLAM Program; an opportunity for participants to explore their feelings around the impact bullying can have on school environments; an examination of the components of the DLAM teaching resources; hands-on experience with curriculum strategies; an opportunity to meet in small groups to plan steps toward implementation and develop school action plans; in-school support to teachers implementing DLAM in their classrooms; and, advanced facilitation and coaching skills that will be useful in managing challenging situations.

School Assemblies

To engage the entire school in the launch of DLAM, Operation Respect offers assembly presentations designed to unite the students and staff in a joint effort to create respectful school climates. Dynamic performers use the Don't Laugh at Me song as a centerpiece of their presentations. They begin with an interactive dialogue with students around the meaning of the song and incorporate music throughout the program to help build community and create an enjoyable learning experience.

Parent Workshops

Operation Respect also offers workshop for parents focused on bullying prevention and intervention and promoting a safe and supportive school environment for all students. Our goals are to: provide greater understanding of bullying; establish why adult intervention is necessary for both the victim and the bully; provide direction and tools for parents to become key players in school bullying prevention and intervention plans; and to support their role in working with other parents as partners in preventing bullying and promoting safety and caring in each school.

More Information

If you would like to download or order a free individual copy of the curriculum, preview the materials, or contact institutions that have implemented DLAM, please visit: www.operationrespect.org. To organize professional development workshops or school assemblies, please contact Elizabeth Kolodny, at: ekolodny@operationrespect.org or 212-904-3616.



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Through music, video, and classroom activities, the "Don't Laugh at Me" (DLAM) programs help sensitize children to the painful effects of behaviors that too often are accepted as necessary rites of passage in childhood - ridicule, disrespect, ostracism and bullying. Children participating in DLAM learn that by working together they can positively shape their school environment, and eventually bring this message to the broader community.



DLAM is designed to inspire students, along with their teachers and other educators, to transform their classrooms and schools into "Ridicule Free Zones". The program materials include a curriculum guide, CD, video and pre-and-post implementation questionnaires for both schools and summer camps. The school program consists of two separate curricula; one developed for grades 2-5 and the second developed for grades 6-8.

Sign Up for a FREE DLAM Packet

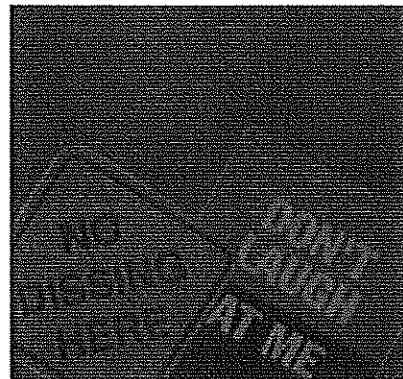
ORDER NOW

Includes:
Curriculum Guide,
Evaluations, CD & Video

Please click on the "Sign up for a FREE DLAM Packet" sign to register and order a copy of the DLAM Program of your choice, which will be delivered free of charge, courtesy of [The McGraw-Hill Companies](#). When you complete the registration process your order will be automatically sent to The McGraw-Hill Companies for processing. You will also be given the link to our download page so you will have the option of downloading the materials from our website. If you experience technical difficulties, or do not receive the materials within two weeks of placing your order, please email info@operationrespect.org. Please note, orders placed for delivery to educators residing in countries outside of the United States may take four to six weeks to arrive and may include a nominal fee for shipping expenses (between \$10-\$30 US dollars depending upon the country).

Operation Respect/ESR also grants educators permission to reproduce the written DLAM materials, the copywritten CD and video, free of charge. If you would like to order multiple copies of the curriculum guides, VHS videos and CDs, please email your order to Kristen Sensenig at: ksensenig@operationrespect.org The materials are available for a nominal fee of \$1 per curriculum guide, \$1.15 per VHS video and 90 cents per CD. Alternatively, if you would like to order the materials in bulk, please call United AVG 800-247-8606 or 818-980-6700 to place your order. The CDs and videos are available for a nominal fee of 90 cents/per CD and \$1.15/per VHS video. The "Don't Laugh at Me" music video featuring Peter, Paul and Mary is also available on DVD through United AVG for a nominal fee of \$2 per DVD. Please note, United AVG only fulfills bulk orders (25 CDs and 50 videos) and the DVDs are only available through United AVG.

You are among the many teachers, school counselors, principals, school social workers and other educational and healthcare professionals who have expressed an interest in learning about and/or implementing DLAM. The program focuses on fostering four characteristics of a caring community: the healthy expression of feelings; caring, compassion, and cooperation; creative resolution of conflicts; and, appreciation of differences.



The three DLAM curricula were written by Laura Parker Roerden and created under the direction of Linda Lantieri, the Founder of Educators for Social Responsibility's Resolving Conflict Creatively Program (RCCP) who collaborated with DLAM to shepherd the curricula's development. The Southern Poverty Law Center and other distinguished educational organizations pursuing objectives parallel to those of DLAM offered additional guidance and input.

We recognize that you bring a wide range of talents and experiences to your work, including in some cases training in social and emotional learning and character education. We strongly believe that such training is crucial to the successful implementation and delivery of the DLAM curriculum. Please visit our professional development section to learn more about opportunities to participate and/or organize a DLAM workshop.

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