

Activity: Scenario Role-playing

(dramatization)

### **Scenario A:**

During school interval Fotis stands in line to buy his breakfast from the school canteen. Melios, a student of a bigger grade approaches him and tells him "Give me your money or else...?"

As **responsible viewers** we say and do the following.....

### **Scenario B:**

Lola starts to spread gossips and she names Voula with a bad adjective. Voula realises that the same torture has once again started but she's afraid of saying anything.

As **responsible viewers** we say and do the following...

### **Scenario C:**

The school bell has just rung and children run to get into their classrooms. Rogiros says to Modesto loudly "If you raise your hand and speak Greek, you will be in trouble when school finishes!!!"

As **responsible viewers** we say and do the following....

### **Scenario D:**

A group of boys play football in the schoolyard. Miltos looks angrily Filio and says: "You're useless at football! Don't even think that because we let you play with us yesterday, it will happen the same today. Did you hear me?"

As **responsible viewers** we say and do the following.....

### **Scenario E:**

Just before the teacher enters the classroom a group of students hides Cassandra's book and warns her: "Don't you dare tell us on the teacher!" Cassandra is speechless, blushes with shame but says nothing.

## **5. Panic in the Cyber world**

Panic in the air! That's how she Sierif feels every time he pushes the "on" button on his computer. Recently, he feels the same way every time he receives a message on his mobile. His hands shake, his heart beats and he feels that he loses the earth under his feet. How did that happen so suddenly? He has always love spending hours in front of the computer. He has

always loved spending hours on his own in his room. But lately he can't stand being alone and can't bare being in his room alone not even for a minute.

He started having these strange feelings of fear just with the idea that his computer and mobile were in his bedroom. Lately he has been feeling uncomfortable at his own room. The room is not actually his as he shares it with his younger brother. Sierif has five siblings, two brothers and three sisters. His parents come from Kurdistan and work long hours in order to raise their five children. They brought their family in this small country and settled in this small town four years ago with the dream and hope of a better life.

Sierif remembers that there was a time he liked spending time in front of his computer which he persistently asked from his father although he knew how difficult they make ends meet. All children needed it for school so on his last birthday his father bought the magic box with the promise that his siblings could use too. What joy and happiness he felt that day!

He remembers waiting anxiously to finish his homework and then open the computer. He remembers how impatiently he was waiting for his brothers to finish and for his turn to come. "When I grow up I'm going to study computers and also design them", he kept saying until a while ago. He had become an expert at these "electronics" as his mother used to call them. He has got email, msn, facebook, an electronic farm with wheat, corn and cows and all these stuff.

Lately, he doesn't use the computer at all. He freezes to the idea of using his computer and after a lot of effort and struggle with himself he decides to read his messages. He shudders at the thought what's awaiting him every time. It's been month since his life has become unbearable. It's been months since he has been the target and he's afraid to push the buttons. He hasn't shared his secrets with anyone. He has been feeling helpless, desperate and so scared.

Today, he has decided to push the button and sees in front of him once again messages awaiting to be read. They look as if they want to swallow him up!

Messages full of hatred, taunts and irony. Anonymous messages but he himself knows from whom they are. At school a group of students don't let him in peace, not even for a minute. He has become the target and shoot him daily. They shoot him not with words, not with actions but through his favourite computer and through his cheap, lovable mobile which he bought this summer after working hard at his father's friend tavern. Messages on msn or on facebook, everywhere welcome him with malice and they seem to fill the room. His head starts to ache as he tries to read them! "Let's welcome the curly head...." "Welcome negro, black dog!" "Welcome coal dealer with the plumb teeth". Quiz on facebook: "Who is the worst student in our class?", and more comments of this kind.

He is ashamed of himself. He is ashamed of his curly hair and of his body which doesn't grow and doesn't change as his peers'. He's ashamed of his colour and of his teeth and he feels shame at being unable to speak Greek properly. He has so much difficulty with Greek! He feels uncomfortable in his own body. He would like to be tall, well-built, blonde or at

least brown and also to be the best student. In reality, though, he feels so ugly, so swarthy, so diminutive like a baby trapped in his tiny body. He is different and he knows it. He is different and he doesn't want to.

On his mobile there is shower of messages: "you're like an eggplant!" "You look like a coal." "You're ugly and stupid.", "You're, you're, you're....." Sierif lies in his bed and cries till he falls asleep, exhausted. He dreams of himself as being strong and tall just like his peers with long blonde hair, green eyes and big white straight teeth. He sleeps peacefully and in the morning he doesn't want to go to school. He wants to keep dreaming!

He has pretended to be sick for the third time this week and his mother worries whether there is something wrong. She tries to approach him, to talk to him and tell her what bothers him but Sierif keeps his mouth wide shut. "There is nothing wrong mum. I've just had a headache because I've studying a lot"! How could he tell her that he feels ugly and hates himself? Could he tell her that he is afraid to go to school? Could he tell her that he's afraid of his classmates and how they tease him all the time? Could he tell her that he wished he were another person? She wouldn't understand! She would tell him how handsome and smart he is and he won't believe a word!

He got up in boredom without looking himself at the mirror. He doesn't like what he sees, so he decided never to look himself at the mirror again!

As he was running upstairs at school, he saw the group of students that bullies him regularly, staring at him, with a persistent, creepy look in the rise. He went towards them and his heart was beating faster and faster. It's early and there aren't any other students at school. The group of students comes close to him and pushes him on the ground powerfully. At the same time they start taking photos of him continuously. He seemed very funny with a silly look and a frightening look in his eyes. The group of students uploaded the photo on facebook immediately, after having processed it. They did whatever they could..... They had drawn a huge loose on this head, so huge that you thought it was like a scampi! His teeth looked bigger and huge. He looked like he had a darker complexion like a coal. They set as a title: "The boy from the coal village!" Afterwards, they sent the message to all his classmates!

**STOP! : How do you think the story will continue?**

### **Suggested end of the story:**

At school Sierif wouldn't speak to anyone, he wanted to vanish into thin air. He wanted to ignore all these and go unnoticed, but this was very difficult. The fear in his face was betraying him. He wished to have a magical mantle that would make him invisible. But he was not that lucky! The group of students wouldn't be satisfied if they didn't the "the magnitude" on his face every time he was ready to burst into tears. " Let's welcome the coal dealer!...." "What's up Sierif? Why don't you stay at home? Do you want to stick us one of the numerous lice that have nested in your head? The surrounded place filled with taunts and laughters. Sierif would

not stand this once more and he burst into tears. His friends would not calm down. "The more he cried, the more they made fun of him. "If only you could stand on your feet and stand up for your self! How can you put up with all this?" Miranda would wonder.

Miranda was a good friend of his. As a friend and neighbor, she always used to be sweet and tender to him. When she first came at school, she was helping Sierif in Greek while he was helping her in Maths. He was having difficulty in all courses but he was the best student in Maths. He loved Maths and ICT. Until recently though, since now he only loves Maths at school. Miranda used to go to Sierif's house in the afternoons, because it was very close to hers. She remembers the first time she had been there and how much uncomfortably she felt, when she saw how small the apartment was and how many people could fit in it. What also made her an impression was how much happy and smiling everyone in the house were. She loved the food that Sierif's mother used to prepare and she would often join them for dinner. His father was always absent, since he had been working until late.

Sierif was no longer happy and smiling at home. He was constantly sitting in the kitchen, completely abstracted. He did not want to go to school and if he did, with great difficulty after his mother entreaties. One day, they called his mother from school and told her that Sierif had not showed up that day. She was a lot worried since she was certain that Sierif left home for school just like every other day. She quickly left her job and ran home. There, she found Sierif sitting on the sofa, abstractly looking at the ceiling! When she asked him the reason why he had not gone to school, he abruptly replied that he was sick and went down to the yard.

Sierif's parents started getting really worried! They decided to talk to Miranda, and ask her what was going on at school. Miranda sat with his parents and narrated the events. She could not stop talking and she was feeling better and better that she finally decided to help her friend. Altogether, his parents and Miranda stepped into Sierif's room and decided to talk about the problem and try to find solutions. Sierif felt standing on his feet. His friend's support was enough to give him courage in order to face the bullying and violence that he was consistently receiving at school. He felt strong again and ready to face his problems. He hugged Miranda and next morning they both talked to their teacher about this issue and asked for her help!

It has been some days since Sierif took matters into his own arms. He is no longer afraid of the p.c. and his mobile phone has come again into his life. He feels stronger and more self-confident than ever! He proudly stood in front of the mirror he placed in his bedroom; he passionately combed his curly hair and took the road to school.

#### ACTIVITY A': TEXT EDITING

1. How does Sierif feel? What do you believe?

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. How does Sierif feel when he realizes the power hidden inside him?

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. For which reasons, based on your point of view, the kids-offenders intimidate Sierif?

.....

.....

.....

.....

### **ACTIVITY B': I DRAW THE STORY**

1. I draw a part of the story I chose.
2. I draw the story's ending.

### **ACTIVITY C': SCENARIO FOR ROLE-PLAYING**

#### **(DRAMATIZATION)**

**In the story Miranda decides to support Sierif and together face the problem of bullying with the help of computer as well as with the help of technology in general.**

**Pupils dramatize the dialogue among Sierif, Miranda and their classmates.**

Aim:

- Students realize that there are ways of facing the phenomenon of school bullying.
- Children become sensitive in diversity

**WORKSHEET**

## How can we help you?

Think of ways in which you can help Sierif feel better.

1.....

.....

.....

.....

2.....

.....

.....

.....

3.....

.....

.....

.....

4.....

.....

.....

.....