**TO B(ully)E OR NOT TO B(ully)E**

According to research, peer harassment affects about 35% of primary and secondary school students. Peer bullying is a complex process involving not only students and teachers, but also parents and families. Bullying can affect both victims and witnesses and can lead to consequences such as increased anxiety, withdrawal, distrust, and can have a significant impact on physical and mental health.

Research on bullying covers the severity of the phenomenon, perception of support, consequences, school activities, attributions, causes, and peer group norms. The literature lacks the perspective of parents and their experiences related to peer violence including the definition of bullying and therefore we decided to focus on it. We believe that it is crucial for the fact that parents have a direct impact on a child's wellbeing and social functioning. “Bullying and Parenting” is a qualitative research project. A grounded theory approach was used to gather and analyze the data. Individual in-depth, semi-structured interviews with 20 parents were conducted, recorded, then transcribed and analyzed using the Maxqda software.

Parents specify the following manifestations as peer violence: physical violence, exclusion, harm and mockery. Respondents define bullying as something negative that can result in physical and mental problems. Parents define the reasons for bullying by filtering the situation through their own child’s perspective and experiences related to him/her, ignoring the perpetrator's guilt. They use behavioral or characterological attribution when explaining child’s victimization suggesting that it is for the fact that the child is for example shy or different in some way (appearance, different interests, or illness). Bullying doesn't end at school or in the yard but it is also present in the Internet, expanding its audience and exposing the victim to even greater stigma, therefore, comprehensive assistance is needed, in which both the school community and parents should be involved.