

PROGRAM SUMMARY and BENEFITS

KELSO'S CHOICE CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

is a powerful and timely tool to build a vital life skill for young people in today's world. The program philosophy is simple:

Each child is smart enough and strong enough to resolve conflict. Unlike some programs that tout peer mediators who are trained to intervene as conflict managers, Kelso's Choice assumes that all young people are capable of becoming peacemakers. Developed in 1992 and revised in 2004, 2007 and 2011 the program reflects a proven way to:

- Empower young people with the ability to determine their own behavior, encouraging an internal locus of control and appropriate problem ownership. Statements such as "He made me do it!" and "She did it first!" become obsolete as students become accountable for their own choices.
- Reduce tattling through a proactive, preventative approach that keeps minor problems from escalating and prevents negative attention-getting mechanisms from occurring.
- Systematize expectations of student behavior and provide consistency in rules and discipline on a school-wide basis.
- Provide a cognitive structure for discriminating between "small" or "minor" problems young people can resolve and "BIG" or "SERIOUS" problems that require adult intervention.
- Increase feelings of personal competence as young people successfully resolve conflicts, both within the structured lessons and in their own lives.
- Develop an important linkage between home and school as the program is shared with parents.
- Give young people an important conflict resolution tool they can use when adults are not available or readily accessible. These situations might include riding bikes around the neighborhood, waiting at the bus stop, or playing games in the far corner of school grounds.

School counselors, teachers, and administrators can present the lessons and activities to students. The curriculum is easily adapted to a variety of settings: classrooms, small groups, individual counseling, and school-wide programs. Each lesson is catered to fit into a 30 minute class period.

Each lesson encompasses all three learning styles: Auditory, Visual and Kinesthetic.

In addition to the Reproducible Masters found at the end of this book, there are also a number of reproducible handouts featured throughout this Leader's Guide. Printable files are available at KelsosChoice.com.



Note:

Although the entire Leader's Guide is available to you on our website, the only pages you are granted permission to reproduce are the Reproducible Masters and those found on the following pages: 34, 36, 37, 38, 45, 53, 62, 67, 68, 71 and 72.