

PAVE (PROJECT ANTI-VIOLENCE EDUCATION)



Program History

PAVE, which stands for Project Anti-Violence Education, is an innovative program developed to address the problem of youth violence. Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri developed the PAVE program to help girls grow strong by empowering them to prevent violence in their lives. PAVE has been delivered to 150,000 youth in the Greater St. Louis area since its inception in 2000. PAVE addresses issues affecting kids today in their relationships. It is designed to help youth deal with problems associated with verbal, physical, emotional, and sexual abuse including bullying, cliques, gangs and threats.

“(She is) more agreeable and willing to discuss things more, share more and make friends,” (PAVE Mother)

Schools that received PAVE sessions for six years saw a 30% reduction in school violence as compared with surrounding schools that did not participate in PAVE, according to research conducted by the Director of Research and Evaluations at the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri.

The PAVE program includes:

The classroom educational program presented in schools to grades K - 12. The following topics are offered:

- Violence & Abusive Behavior
- Bullying
- Conflict Resolution Strategies

Girl Power...Get the 411 groups are offered to girls in grades 5-12 as an in-school or after-school program for eight weeks. The groups address issues related to aggressive behavior and peer abuse between girls.

PAVE Camp is held at one of the Girl Scout camps and is offered to girls between the ages of 9-17 who have experienced violence in their lives.

PAVE Troop Patch Program is offered to Girl Scout leaders. This consists of educational workshops and program guides for leaders to present PAVE programs to their troops.

PAVE Girl Symposium provides anti-violence education opportunities for girls in troops.

Program Outcomes*

Girls discovered new ideas about violence, what a bully looks like, that they can make choices of how they act when they are angry, what a healthy relationship looks like and how they can be hurt when they hurt someone else.

Girls connected with others with improved conflict resolution skills, techniques to deal with a bully, methods to protect themselves and others in a violent situation and increased knowledge of the characteristics of healthy relationships.

Girl Scouts indicated they intended to take action by using their hands for good things, trying to stop violence and be a peaceful person, making a protection plan for themselves and trying to use the techniques they learned to cool off when they feel angry.

*2007 PAVE Evaluation, Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri

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