Interview Guide for Understanding School Harassment amongst teenagers.

Objectives

To understand the "why" behind teenagers' experiences with bullying:

- What triggers bullying and its impact on victims, perpetrators, and witnesses?
- What drives behaviors related to bullying?
- What solutions can help reduce bullying or its impact?

Hypothesis.

- Most bullying occurs in unmonitored areas like school hallways, online platforms, or during extracurricular activities.
- Victims of bullying are hesitant to report incidents due to fear of escalation or lack of trust in authority figures.
- Social media plays a significant role in amplifying bullying.

Main Topics & Questions

Topic 1: Bullying Experiences

- 1. Can you describe a time when you witnessed or experienced bullying?
- 2. How did it make you feel, and what were your thoughts during or after the event?
- 3. What do you think triggered the bullying in that situation?

Topic 2: Coping Mechanisms

- 1. How do you usually react when you are bullied or see someone else being bullied?
- 2. Have you ever reached out to someone for help? Why or why not?
- 3. What support would have helped you (or the victim) in those moments?

Topic 3: Social Media and Digital Interaction

- 1. Have you seen bullying happen on social media? Can you share an example?
- 2. Why do you think people bully others online?
- 3. What could platforms do to make online spaces safer?

Topic 4: School/Community Response

1. What actions does your school take to prevent or handle bullying?

- 2. Do you feel comfortable reporting bullying? Why or why not?
- 3. If you could change one thing in how bullying is addressed, what would it be?

Topic 5: Future Solutions

- 1. What would make you feel safer at school or online?
- 2. What would you like adults (teachers, parents, community leaders) to do differently?
- 3. If you had a chance to create an anti-bullying app or tool, what features would it include?

Screening Questions

- 1. How old are you?
- 2. What's your gender identity?
- 3. Where are you located?
- 4. Do you spend more time at school or online?
- 5. How often do you interact with peers (online and offline)?

Interview Structure.

1. Introduction (2-3 min):

- o Greet the interviewee and explain the purpose of the interview.
- o Reassure confidentiality and encourage honesty.
- Ex: "Hi, I'm Raymond, and I'm conducting a study on bullying among teenagers. The purpose of this interview is to learn more about your thoughts and experiences to help design better solutions. Feel free to share openly. This is a safe space."

2. Main Ouestions (20-30 min):

o Start broad and move toward specific questions using the topics above.

3. **Closing (2-3 min):**

- o Thank the interviewee for their time.
- Ask if they'd like to share contact details or know someone else who could participate.
- Ex: "Thank you so much for your time and insights. If you know anyone else who'd like to contribute to this study, please let me know!"