

Interview 1: Samira, 15 years old, Nairobi, Kenya

Introduction

Interviewer: Hi Samira, thank you for agreeing to this interview. My name is Raymond and I'm conducting research on teenagers' experiences with bullying, and I'd love to hear your thoughts. Everything you share will stay anonymous, so feel free to be honest.

Samira: Okay, sure.

Bullying Experience

Q: Can you describe a time when you witnessed or experienced bullying?

A: There was this girl in my class who wore old-fashioned clothes. Some students teased her in the hallway, calling her "granny." She just looked down and walked away.

Q: How did that make you feel, and what were your thoughts?

A: It was upsetting. I felt bad for her but didn't know how to help. I was scared they'd target me too.

Q: Why do you think the bullying happened in that situation?

A: I think they were trying to show off or look cool in front of others.

Coping Mechanisms

Q: How do you react when you're bullied or see someone being bullied?

A: When it happened to me, I stayed quiet. I didn't want to make it worse.

Q: Did you ever tell someone?

A: No, I didn't think anyone would do anything.

Q: What would have helped you or the victim?

A: If someone stood up for me or at least showed they cared.

Social Media

Q: Have you seen bullying happen online?

A: Yes, all the time. Someone made a fake profile of my friend and posted mean stuff about her.

Q: Why do you think people bully online?

A: They can hide behind fake names. It's easier to be cruel when you're not face-to-face.

Q: What could make social media safer?

A: Platforms need to block accounts faster when people report them.

School/Community Response

Q: *How does your school handle bullying?*

A: *We have an anti-bullying poster, but I don't think it helps.*

Q: *Do you feel comfortable reporting bullying?*

A: *No, because the bullies might find out and make things worse.*

Q: *What's one thing you'd change about how bullying is addressed?*

A: *Teachers should be more approachable, so we feel safe talking to them.*

Future Solutions

Q: *What would make you feel safer?*

A: *Having someone like a counselor we can talk to regularly.*

Q: *What could adults do differently?*

A: *Listen more and stop brushing things off as "kids being kids."*

Q: *If you could create an anti-bullying app, what would it do?*

A: *It would let you report bullying anonymously and give advice on what to do.*

Closing

Interviewer: *Thank you so much for your time, Samira. This was very helpful. Do you know anyone else who might want to share their experience?*

Samira: *Maybe my cousin. She's been through a lot.*