



IMPAKT - The Ontario Institute for Child and Youth Success

KT'ing Research to Clinical Care 2013

Presentation and Open Forum Discussion

Bullying Prevention for Children with Differences and Disabilities

December 9, 2013, 3:30 - 5:00pm

Main Auditorium - Hollywood Theatre

1st Floor Black Wing, Room 1249

The Hospital for Sick Children

with Research Expert on Bullying

Dr. Debra Pepler

Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology

LaMarsh Centre for Child and Youth Research, York University;

Senior Adjunct Scientist

Community Health Systems Resource Group, Psychiatry, The Hospital for Sick Children;

Scientific Co-Director of PREVNet

Topic: Children with differences and disabilities are bullied at a higher rate than their typically developing peers. Natural processes within children's groups move these children to the margins, where they are at increased risk for victimization. Children with differences and disabilities want and need healthy peer relationships as much as any other child. The healthy development of all children depends on healthy relationships. It is our role as adults involved in the lives of children to redirect natural peer processes to ensure that children with differences and disabilities are fully included in positive peer relationships. We will explore critical strategies for promoting healthy relationships and healthy development for children and youth including: adults' self awareness, building rapport with children and youth, scaffolding or coaching, social architecture, and systems change.

Dr. Debra Pepler is a Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology at York University and a Senior Adjunct Scientist at the Hospital for Sick Children. Her research focuses on aggression and victimization among children and adolescents, as well as children in families at risk. Together with Dr. Wendy Craig, Dr. Pepler leads a federally funded national network, **PREVNet** (Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network), that is Canada's Authority on Research and Resources for Bullying Prevention and a National Centre of Excellence Knowledge Mobilization Network. PREVNet's mission is to promote safe and healthy relationships and prevent bullying for children and youth. www.prevnet.ca Twitter: @prevnet