



HOW TO BREAK UP A FIGHT

1. Most fights can be stopped by a calm yet stern, authoritative voice. Give specific commands. Do not yell.
2. **Evaluate** the situation. How many students are involved? How big are they? Is there anyone around who can assist you? Are weapons present?
3. Identify yourself; call students by name (*if possible*).
4. Defer to rules, not personal authority.
5. Stay within your capabilities to protect. Do not become another victim.
6. Avoid physical contact, especially "grabbing." Specific **training** and certification are available through KEYS, if necessary.
7. Send another student for help.
8. Before going into a fight, remove your glasses.
9. Separate the aggressor and the victim. Use your body more than your hands.
10. Remove participants to a neutral location; dismiss the audience.
11. Obtain identification.
12. Get medical attention if necessary.
13. Provide protection and support for victims; provide counseling.
14. Report incident; debrief relevant teachers; describe the incident in writing; notify parents.



Materials provided in conjunction with **KEYS TO SAFER SCHOOLS.COM**, a Violence Prevention and Detection Program for educators.

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