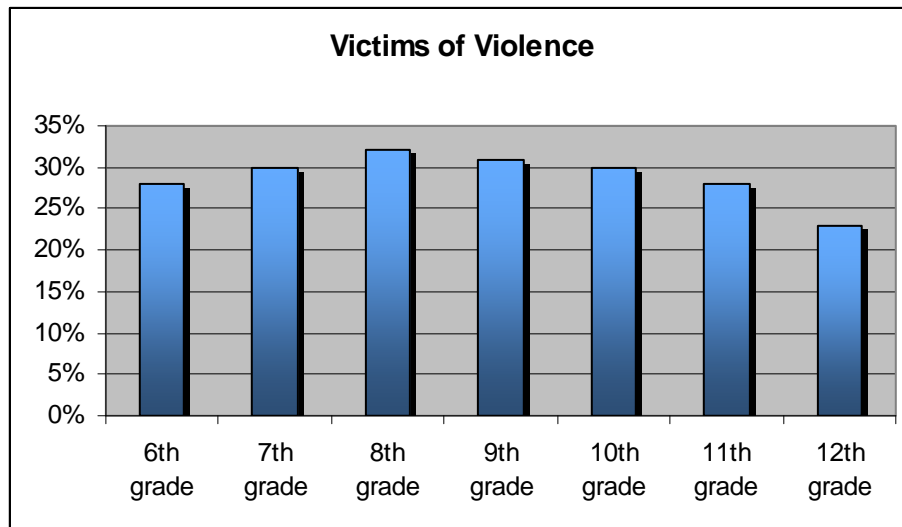




## Hot Topic: Bullying and Dating Violence

As Christians, we want to keep our kids safe. We don't want them to be bullied. We don't want them to be hit or hurt when they're dating. One out of three young people is a victim of violence, and they're more likely to stand up for themselves when they have Asset #28: Integrity and Asset #35: Resistance Skills.

Bullying and violence *increases* during the junior high years.



This table shows the percentage of kids in each grade that are victims of violence.

### Fast Fact

Boys are more likely to become victims of violence. While 25 percent of girls are bullied or victims of violence, 34 percent of boys are.

### Consider This

#### *Monitor Cyberbullying*

Your child can be bullied online. What are the three most common ways kids get harassed online?

- Receiving an upsetting email
- Getting an Instant Message (IM) that was upsetting
- Having something inappropriate posted on your teen's MySpace or Facebook page

**Try This!**

Ask your child: When have your feelings been hurt? Why? Then ask: When have you been teased? For what? Find out what your child sees happening to other kids his or her age. Don't overlook the questions about whether your child has teased someone who is different. This is harder for kids to admit, but it's important to be firm that it's important to be caring and accepting of all people.