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VISUAL: INT. BOARDROOM – EVENING

VISUAL: Six SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS (three male and female members in their 40s, 50s, and 60s), a MALE BOARD PRESIDENT, PRINCIPAL CHRISTINA LOPEZ (40s) and MITCH SIMS (late 30s), who wears a black suit, sit at a table. Folders in front of everyone.

VISUAL: Mitch angrily rises from his seat at the back end of the table.

MITCH: If his school had a football team, then my son's 'alleged' aggressiveness wouldn't be an issue.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: Mr. Sims, do you encourage Brad's behavior?

MITCH: Should I have brought my attorneys?

BOARD

PRESIDENT: (shakes head in disappointment and disbelief) Really?

MITCH: 'Alleged' behavior. Of course not. And just to be clear: my-son-is-not-a-bully.

VISUAL: Principal Lopez opens a folder. Holds up hand-written notes in children's handwriting.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: These are letters written by children who feel bullied – intimidated by your son.

VISUAL: Mitch cursory glances at the folder in front of him.

MITCH: They're jealous and ungrateful that his dad was generous enough to pay for the gymnasium.

BOARD

PRESIDENT: We made it clear that all donations are given without expectation of any favoritism or reciprocation.

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BOARD

MEMBER: (60s) We can hold fundraisers to pay you back with interest.

VISUAL: The other Board Members nod.

VISUAL: Mitch scoffs.

BOARD

PRESIDENT: We can go to your competitor to pay you back with interest.

MITCH: No. No, that won't be necessary.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: We want a safe environment for all the children...

MITCH: Brad can take care of himself.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: Mr. Sims, what if a new kid transferred to our school and he was bigger and stronger than Brad...

VISUAL: Mitch considers. Quickly glances at the children's letters.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: Board members, one child bullied or intimidated is one too many. I urge you to pass a 'No Tolerance' bullying policy at our – and every school in this district.

BOARD

PRESIDENT: Mr. Sims, will you please excuse us?

VISUAL: Mitch nods. Stands up. Puts the letters into the folder when he drops one that sways until it lands moments later on the floor. He picks it up and studies it.

CLOSE ON: A hand-drawn, red heart surrounds the note that reads: 'My daddy says we don't have to like everyone, but that we should love everyone.'

VISUAL: Mitch softens... a bit.

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VISUAL: EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND – EVENING

VISUAL: Children, including a handful of Bi-Racial, play.

VISUAL: A Bi-Racial GIRL (5), wearing a pink yarmulke with a red heart on it, makes red hearts on the asphalt while older KIDS play around her.

VISUAL: Mitch, wearing an untucked dress shirt and backwards baseball cap strides towards the gymnasium door with his Wife DENISE (late 30s) and their tall-for-his-age White son BRAD (9), (also wearing a backwards baseball cap).

VISUAL: Mitch pauses – transfixed at the chalk hearts.

VISUAL: The Girl looks up and catches Mitch’s eyes. She smiles – he can’t help but return the smile.

VISUAL: Brad pulls on his Dad’s hand.

BRAD: Daaad.

DENISE: Hon?

VISUAL: Mitch snaps out of his daze.

DENISE: Let’s get a good seat.

VISUAL: Mitch nods.

DISSOLVE TO:

VISUAL: INT. GYMNASIUM – EVENING

VISUAL: PARENTS of various ethnicities (including a number of mixed couples and their multi-racial kids), religions, sexual orientations, physical abilities and creeds sit in folding chairs as Principal Lopez stands at a mic. Brad sits between his parents in the front row.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: ...and starting now, we have a no tolerance bullying policy at our school.

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VISUAL: Claps from everyone as Principal Lope unveils American flag that has a black, brown, green, indigo, orange, pink, red, turquoise, white, violet and yellow peace sign in the left upper corner.

VISUAL: A Bi-Racial, short, chunky VIC ROSENBERG (7), wearing a yarmulke on his head, sitting in the back of the gym between his White Dad DAVID (early 40s and also wearing a yarmulke) in casual attire and Black Mom REBECCA (late 30s, wearing a head scarf and modest blue dress) claps along with everyone else, except – Mitch and his family.

VISUAL: Principal Lopez displays the COEXIST image in another American flag's corner: C (Islamic crescent moon in green) O (peace sign in rainbow colors: pink, turquoise, indigo, violet) E (male and female symbols, respectively in red, and yellow) X (Star of David in blue) I (orange pentagram for dot of the "I") S (brown-white yin-yang symbol) and T (black Christian cross).

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: In nineteen-ninety-three, bullies threw bricks through underserved citizens' windows in Billings, Montana. On December second, one brick was thrown through a window that displayed a Menorah and landed on six-year-old Isaac Schnitzer's bed.

VISUAL: GASPS from most in the audience.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: Thankfully, he was not in his bed at the time. Almost all of the non-Jewish citizens of Billings unified and put menorahs in their windows. The attacks ceased. With that in mind, I put a little something under your chair.

VISUAL: Everyone pulls out a 9 x 12 envelope from under their chair.

PRINCIPAL

LOPEZ: One world is enough, for every one of us.

VISUAL: They look into the envelopes without pulling out its contents. Expressions range from bewilderment, to smiles. Mitch rolls up his sleeves and stands –

MITCH: Kind of like this gym, which I graciously paid for, is big 'enough for all of us.'

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VISUAL: Mitch and Brad are the only ones who laugh – except for Mitch’s Wife Denise, who nervously laughs. Mitch turns around towards David.

MITCH: Of course, not all kids know how to use a gym, huh, Plentiful Bulk’s dad?

VISUAL: Gasps from the Audience.

VISUAL: David stands defiantly –

DAVID: Your generous contribution to this school isn’t a ‘stay-out-of-jail’ card for you or your spoiled son. You should put a leash on him or have him tested for rabies.

MITCH: Let’s go, cupcake!

DAVID: Anytime, anywhere!

PRINCIPAL
LOPEZ: Gentlemen, please. Take a breath.

VISUAL: David waves off Mitch.

MITCH: Think you can insult my son and get away with it, you (BEEP)!

VISUAL: Mitch starts his charge across the room towards David with Brad following.

MITCH: Let’s go, you (BEEEP)!

PRINCIPAL
LOPEZ: Language, please. We have children present.

VISUAL: David doesn’t flinch.

VISUAL: Mitch has difficulty forcing his way towards David as some of the other adults part way grudgingly and with some resistance – some almost as angry as Mitch, but at Mitch.

VISUAL: WOMAN (70s) with her arms extended, palms up...

WOMAN: (compassionately to Mitch) Mr. Sims, have a heart.

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VISUAL: Mitch waves her off. She shakes her head in disappointment.

VISUAL: Some children are caught in the “crossfire” as Mitch continues his way to David. Trying to get out of the way, a GIRL (9) brushes Mitch’s bare arm with her head.

FLASH CUT:

VISUAL: POV image of the Girl... on a sidewalk saying to her SISTER (7), “Nailed it!” while holding up a paper that has an “A+” on it. A hand thrusts down on the paper ripping it, Brad laughing while saying, “Nailed it!” – and running off.

SLAM CUT BACK TO PRESENT:

VISUAL: Mitch is momentarily taken aback, but continues his quest.

VISUAL: With his bare arm, Mitch brushes the face of a BOY (10).

FLASH CUT:

VISUAL: POV of the Boy... who is shoved into a locker.

BRAD: Better not tell anyone, Fat Jack.

VISUAL: BRAD slams the locker door shut. DARKNESS.

SLAM CUT BACK TO PRESENT:

VISUAL: Again, Mitch is momentarily taken aback, but continues towards David.

VISUAL: Mitch brushes the bare arm of a BOY (8) with his own arm.

FLASH CUT:

VISUAL: POV of the Boy... at in an unkempt park bathroom. He whimpers as he’s being held against the wall by Brad, who flicks him on his now-red nose. ‘Say hi to Santa... Rudolph.’

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SLAM CUT BACK TO PRESENT:

VISUAL: Mitch winces. He starts to turn towards Brad, but with mixed feelings of shock, disappointment, and shame, Mitch, conflicted, continues towards David.

VISUAL: As Mitch continues towards David, each of the parents, and kids, puts a Coexist logo hat or a multicolored peace sign in an American flag or yarmulke on their head – including women and those wearing crosses. Mitch becomes more and more serene.

VISUAL: Mitch becomes aware of the show of solidarity.

VISUAL: He looks around and seeing the reactions of the people in the crowd, many underserved citizens, who are disdainful of Mitch's attitude.

VISUAL: Anger winning, but just barely, Mitch reaches David. The Little Girl, who was drawing hearts on the play area, rises from her seat next to David. She offers her pink yarmulke, with a red heart on it, to Mitch.

VISUAL: Mitch's remaining anger drains like the Grinch's when the who's who of Whos discovers that Christmas (and dare we say, Hanukkah), perhaps, means a little bit more than presents and all the other trappings of the season!

VISUAL: Mitch lowers his eyes in remorse. Resigned and moments later, resolved, Mitch smiles.

VISUAL: Mitch takes off his baseball cap. Puts on the yarmulke.

VISUAL: Mitch nods in respect to David. David and... Mitch reach out and shake the other's hand.

VISUAL: Those around Mitch, pat his back – including Principal Lopez, who also wears a yarmulke.

VISUAL: Vic offers Brad a yarmulke. Brad hesitates. Takes off his hat. Puts the yarmulke on his head. Mitch contritely pats Brad's shoulders. Brad offer his baseball cap to Vic, who places it backwards over his yarmulke. The two boys smile. The little girl – Sarah – grins the widest.

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[Photo: In the upper left corner of an American flag: black, brown, green, indigo, orange, pink, red, turquoise, white, violet and yellow peace sign.]

“One World”

All Men are Created Equal... as well as Women, and Children!

It’s not a coincidence that “lying” is in the word “bullying.”

When we allow bullying,
we’re lying to ourselves and are essentially stating that not
all people are created equal and don’t deserve to be treated well.

Bullying includes: cyberbullying, physical, sexual, social, and verbal.

Bullying also includes hazing.

Take responsibility for creating a safe school, and workplace environment.

Those who do not take responsibility, could be subject to ramifications including:
write ups, psych evaluations, suspension, expulsion, arrest, prosecution, and a
class-action lawsuit.

Just remember the Golden Rule: “Do to others what you want them to do to you.”

In other words:

Treat others as you would like to be treated. Well.

Take a Stand. Stand together. For one another. Forever.

#OneWorld