

When I was in Jr. High I would ask my parents what high school was like for them. They would tell me about, sports, funny year books, fast cars, prom and long hair. So naturally that is what I expected high school would be like. Instead it soon became hell. Helena High was my first High school, with a population of about 2,000 students. Freshman year I walked in the front door without a care in the world, thinking I was going to have the time of my life. Soon I started hearing people yell, "Fagot, Queer, homo and freak" This progressed till I was hearing it every time I started down the hall to another class. Then this harassment led to shoving me into lockers, throwing me against walls, and pushing me. Which would happen typically 6 times or more each class change. One Friday night I went out with some friends to the bowling alley, not really for the bowling but for the music Dj we were standing there talking with our back turned away from the rest of the people and someone taps on my shoulder so I turn around and boom, I was knocked out, my nose had been broken, shattered. After the nose breaking incident I've had 4 extremely painful surgeries. Spanning nearly 3 years to correct it. After all this happened I realized I am not safe anywhere. I went to the Helena High administration and school police officers with the harassment and they had me write statements most the time. They made promises to keep me safe. So every time anything occurred, whether it be someone spiting on me or someone threatening to kill me in the parking lot, I would bring it to their attention or write a statement with a cop.

Nothing ever changed. I gave names of these students. Nothing changed. Soon things were getting so bad I was too scared and depressed to go to school, I became suicidal, got in with the wrong crowd and hard into drugs and alcohol. I left Helena High after freshman year. Went to a private Christian school. The harassment continued there too.

So after 3 months of that my parents enrolled me in an alternative school. This school consisted of mostly the drop-outs and bad kids sent from Helena & Capital high schools. Many of whom had beaten and verbally abused me in the past school year. So naturally it all started again. Beatings, constant verbal abuse. Hate day in - day out.

When people started vandalizing my car and using keys to write hateful words and threats in the paint, I dropped out for good. it was a week to the end of my sophomore year. I would have graduated in 2004.

No Student should be forced out of school or feel like they might be attacked on school grounds, at their home or place of work. As I have. Thank you.

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